
BOOK OVERVIEW

Proverbs

Author: most of the proverbs were written by King Solomon

Date: 970–930 B.C.

Recipient: probably Solomon's son Rehoboam, with a broad application to all

Key words: wise, wisdom, wisely (119 times); my son (22 times); instruction, instruct (26 times); fear of the Lord (14 times)

Summary: Godly wisdom for how to live in a sin-cursed world.

Key verses: Proverbs 1:4; 9:10

Notes:

Understanding the book depends upon an understanding of the difference between *knowledge*, the gathering of information, and *wisdom*, the appropriate application of information.

Agur, chapter 30, and King Lemuel, chapter 31, may have been other names for King Solomon.

I Kings 4:32 says that Solomon spoke 3,000 proverbs and composed 1,005 songs.

In spite of his wisdom, in the latter part of his life Solomon strayed from God. His son, Rehoboam followed his example rather than his instruction.

In Jewish tradition husbands quote Proverbs 31:10-31 to their wives on sabbath evenings.

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