

Proverbs 2:1 ¶ My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

Proverbs 2:2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, *and* apply thine heart to understanding;

Proverbs 2:3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, *and* liftest up thy voice for understanding;

Proverbs 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as *for* hid treasures;

Proverbs 2:5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth *cometh* knowledge and understanding.

Solomon is urging his son to heed his teaching and respect his commands to the point of hiding them in his heart, memorizing them. He wants him to pay attention to wisdom and seek to reason with skill and understanding. He urges him to desire wisdom with the same type of diligence he would use to gain riches and search for hidden treasure. If he will do this, he will understand what it means to fear the LORD and gain discernment and understanding of God and His word. The LORD is the source of wisdom. His word is the source of true knowledge and understanding.

I liked this quote from Ironside: "Reading books about the Bible is very different from searching the Word for oneself. Notes and expositions may be helpful. But these works of uninspired men must not be permitted to take the place of the sure Word of God. Such one-sided study will cause men to draw their thoughts from one another instead of from God. This will result in dry intellectuality rather than fresh, vigorous spirituality."

Proverbs 2:7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

Proverbs 2:8 He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

The LORD reserves understanding of His word for the righteous, those that are seeking to follow Him in obedience. He protects those that live with moral integrity. He guards and observes (from Hebrew for "keepeth") those that obey His law and follow Him in faith.

We know from the teaching of Jesus that it is the Holy Spirit who gives us understanding of God's word.

John 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Proverbs 2:9 Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

In summary, if he obeys his father and follows the LORD in obedience according to His word, he will gain a good understanding of righteousness, justice and morality. He will know how to make good and wise choices that will result to his benefit.

Proverbs 2:10 ¶ When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

Proverbs 2:11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

When one makes wisdom a part of his being and that knowledge brings you joy, your choices will reflect discernment and good conduct through self-control. The ability to reason skillfully with wisdom will protect you from the consequences of evil choices.

In the following verses, Solomon identifies three ways his son will benefit from wisdom.

Proverbs 2:12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil *man*, from the man that speaketh froward things;

Proverbs 2:13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;

Proverbs 2:14 Who rejoice to do evil, *and* delight in the frowardness of the wicked;

Proverbs 2:15 Whose ways *are* crooked, and *they* froward in their paths:

First—He will be spared the consequences of the man that chooses evil and speaks perversely, hoping to turn people away from what is right. The evil man has willfully chosen to walk in the ways of wickedness. They take delight in their own wickedness and the wickedness of others.

As I read verse 13, I couldn't help but think of this verse.

John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

Proverbs 2:16 To deliver thee from the strange woman, *even* from the stranger *which* flattereth with her words;

Proverbs 2:17 Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.

Proverbs 2:18 For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.

Proverbs 2:19 None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.

Second—He will be spared the consequences of consorting with an adulterous woman. These women are very good at using flattery to seduce their prey. They have forsaken their husbands and rejected the marriage covenant made before God. Those who choose to consort with her follow a path that leads to their destruction.

The Hebrew for “strange” makes reference to being adulterous, but also applies to one who is foreign and profane (ungodly, wicked).

Good quote from Guzik on verse 18: “*This is an important part of wisdom’s protection, to see where a path **leads**. Time with the flattering **seductress** seems wonderful, but wisdom helps us to understand where it **leads** – and that is **down to death**.*”

And on verse 19: “As with many statements in the Proverbs, this is not an absolute promise, but a true principle. Solomon had seen many go down the path of **death** with an immoral woman, never to **return** to the way of wisdom.”

Thought-provoking quote from Ironside: “Could there be a secondary meaning in these many warnings concerning the strange woman? In the evil man we saw independence from God—rationalism gone wild. Whereas the strange woman represents false religion that eventually will be headed up in “Babylon the great, the mother of harlots” (Revelation 17:5). How devious are her ways! How subtle and deceptive her solicitations! And how truly can it be said that “her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.”

Proverbs 2:20 That thou mayest walk in the way of good *men*, and keep the paths of the righteous.

Third—He will be able to pursue a way of life that will cause him to prosper and provide joy as he lives the life of a righteous man.

Proverbs 2:21 For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.

Proverbs 2:22 But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

Summary—The upright man that strives to live in obedience to the LORD will be blessed with life. The wicked man will be destroyed.

As in chapter 1, we end with the law of reaping what you sow.

Galatians 6:7–8 “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”