

Introduction: Some claim the Bible book of Proverbs has little to say about God, but, a cursory look at any given chapter of Proverbs proves this thinking to be false. While God is not introduced or explained, per se; He is assumed. God is the underlying assumption of Solomon's collection of wise sayings. In this lesson we will uncover several qualities of God in Proverbs. Knowing God brings the Christian victory.

VICTORY PLAN #1 - TEACH THE TRUTH TO YOUTH

VICTORY PLAN #2 - KNOW GOD

Proverbs is very practical. Easy to understand instructions make the book a favorite of many, for good reason. Before you pick and choose proverbs that suit your tastes or speak to your life, remember, a wise Bible student will give God the respect He deserves in each portion of scripture. Look for Him. Listen to Him. Understand Him. What does Proverbs 9:10, tell us that the knowledge of God ("the holy") brings?

- What word in Proverbs 3:6 would you guess suggests "knowing" God? What is the result of knowing Him?

"The better acquainted we are with God, the more we become like Him and acquire the skills we need for life and service . . . The Book of Proverbs reveals to us the wonderful God whom we should trust, obey, love, and get to know in a deeper way. As we grow in our intimacy with God, we will develop the wisdom and skills we need to be successful in making a life." -Wiersbe

- I. **God is Holy** — The word translated “holy” means “utterly different, wholly other.” God’s very nature is holy. Because God is holy, how does He feel about sin? (Proverbs 6:17-19)

What one word is used to describe how God feels about the perverse (“froward”) man, the proud man, liars, cheaters, hypocrites, and the unjust? (**Proverbs 3:32**; 11:1, 20; 12:22; 15:8; 16:5; 17:15)

- II. **God is Sovereign** — Because God is holy and just we can be sure His righteous principles govern the universe and His dealings with us. What did God make to fulfill His purposes? (Proverbs 16:4)

What will always ultimately prevail? (Proverbs 19:21)

Why were all things created? (Colossians 1:16)

God expects us to study, think, weigh possibilities, and make decisions, but we dare not “lean on _____” (3:5). We have a responsibility to our Sovereign God. We must make plans, but ultimately trust God. Write out Proverbs 16:9.

What does our Sovereign God see? (Proverbs 5:21; 15:3)

What does He measure? (Proverbs 17:3; 21:2; 24:12)

III. **God is Compassionate** — God's care can be seen in His compassion to the poor and needy. Widows and orphans in Israel were especially vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. What is God's response toward abusers of the poor? (Proverbs 14:31)

How will God vindicate the poor? (Proverbs 22:22-23)

What do rich and poor have in common? (Proverbs 22:2)

A gift to the poor is also a gift to Who? (Proverbs 19:17)

Who else does God say He will protect? (Proverbs 18:10; 30:5)

IV. **God is Wise** — The wisdom of God can be described, "God has the perfect ability to accomplish His perfect purposes." How is God's wisdom seen in His creation? (Proverbs 3:19-20)

How is God's wisdom observed in history? (Proverbs 21:30)

Providence doesn't mean that God simply "foresees" what lies ahead and "adjusts" Himself accordingly. God alone knows and controls future events. The Baptist theologian Augustus Hopkins Strong calls providence, "that continuous agency of God by which he makes all the events of the physical and moral universe fulfill the original design with which he created it."

Who does God want to share His wisdom with? (Proverbs 2:6-7)

God desires that we seek His wisdom and gain His direction. What are the conditions we must meet to gain God's direction and wisdom? (Proverbs 3:5-6; 4:18-19)

Knowing God brings wisdom, and the wise will seek to know and understand God. Knowing God brings victory for daily living.

Conclusion: Just For Fun . . . Skim through the Book of Proverbs and jot down twelve references to the work or characteristics of God.

Reference

God Is/Does

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