



**TRUE WISDOM**  
- FOR -  
**TRUE LIVING**

# Proverbs 2

# LIVING RIGHT IN THE WRONG WORLD



# Proverbs 2

## OUTLINE

1. Definitions
2. Characters
3. Fear of the Lord
4. The Lord



# KNOWLEDGE

Proverbs 2:1, “My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands...”

- Reality
- Truth
- Grasping/approximating the truth

Making maps of reality – “our mind”

- Listen → intuitive/programmed
- Call out → explorative/instructions
- Seek like silver → effort (revelation)



# UNDERSTANDING

Proverbs 2:2, “...directing your heart to understanding...”

- Compassion
- The emotional mind
- Investing in and experiencing the reality with our emotions

Making emotional maps of our reality. “Our heart”

- Directing your heart
- Lift your voice
- Search for hidden treasure



# WISDOM (“hakma”-skill, prudence, shrewdness)

- Movement/action. Connected to four Hebrew synonyms
  - “derek” – the way
  - “orhot” – the path
  - “magal” – track
  - “netiha” – byway
- The will
- The focus of wisdom is taking the right path in the right way. The right path with the right emotion.



# The rewards

- Proverbs 2:7 “Then you will understand righteousness, justice and integrity – every good path.”
- Understanding: heart/emotion word
- Righteousness:
  - Doing the right thing
  - Being on the right path
  - What Jesus referred to as “blessed”
- Harmony with your destiny



# JUSTICE

- Paying your "debts" to others
- Doing what is "fair to others"

Giving those around you what they are owed.

- Harmony with others



# SHALOM (in harmony, at peace)

- Proverbs 2:9 “Then you will understand righteousness, justice and integrity – every good path.”
- Integrity
  - Mind agrees with your heart and both are in harmony with your actions.
  - Opposite of hypocrisy
- My self at war

# The reward

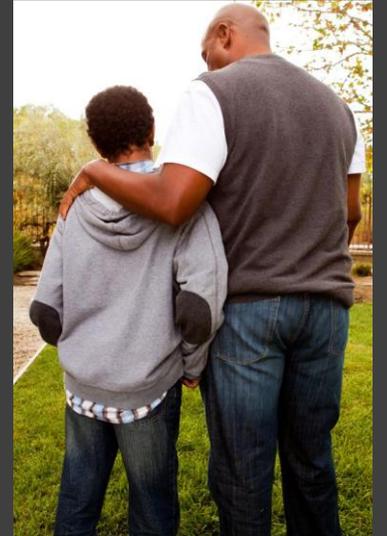
Proverbs 2:10-11 “For wisdom will enter (abide) your mind.”

- The right actions will stabilize your thinking – give it peace and knowledge will delight your heart.
- To know the map allows the heart to experience its own beauty. Like a map on a trip to the forest.
- Discretion will watch over your (knowledge, good) and understanding will guard you (the right feeling).
- Rescuing you from the way of evil – from the one who...
- All working in balance to help keep you on the right way.

# FOUR CHARACTERS: Father to son (masculine)

Three interpretations

1. God to man.  
Not likely.  
There is already a separate God character in Proverbs.  
Limits God who is beyond this.
2. Programmed knowledge with us. We are born knowing.  
Proverbs 2:1 “my son, if you accept my words...”  
see Romans 1:18-21
3. Built into reality by God  
God’s “signature” in all of reality.  
Resonance



LIFE'S GOAL IS CHARACTER

# FOUR CHARACTERS: The fool (masculine)

- Psalm 14:1 “The fool says in his heart there is no God.”
- Two words in Proverbs
- “Ewil” (25x) – “idiot”. Rejects all truth – there is no mind – no truth
- “Kesil” (67x) – “fathead”. Ignorantly asserts that all truth is good and his is fine for him. We create our own.
- Both are anti-wisdom, anti-knowledge

LIFE'S GOAL IS FREEDOM

# FOUR CHARACTERS: Wisdom (feminine)

- Greek translation of wisdom: Sophia
- The personification of being – connectedness.  
Feminine in character.
  - True heartfelt understanding
  - Emotional connectedness

LIFE'S GOAL IS HARMONY

# FOUR CHARACTERS: The seductress (feminine)

- The call to pleasure
  - The rejection of all that is negative or painful
  - “It can’t be wrong if it feels so right.”

LIFE’S GOAL IS PLEASURE

- Happiness is pleasure over pain.

# THE PROBLEM

- There is truth
- There is love/life
- There is a way
- BUT in this broken, fallen world...
  - Lies and liars often get further
  - Pleasure and its pursuits seem to give a better life
  - The wicked succeed and go unpunished

# THE ANSWER: Fear of the Lord

- Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”
- 2:5 “then you will understand the fear of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God...”
- 3:7 “...fear the Lord and turn from evil..”
- 9:10 “...fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

# THE ANSWER: Fear of the Lord

“iyra”:

- Terror
- Dread
- Reverence
- Respect



# THE LAND

Proverbs 2:18-19 “... for her (the seductress) house sinks down to death and her ways to the land of departed spirits. None return who go to her; none reach the paths of life.”

# THE LAND

Proverbs 2:20-21

“So follow the way of good people and keep the paths of the righteous. For the upright will inhabit the land and those with integrity will remain in it.”



# THE LAND

Proverbs 2:22 “...but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the treacherous uprooted from it.”

- “sheol” = grave (nothingness)  
→ lake of fire “torment”

