

Lesson 1
The Book of Proverbs
A Background

I. Authorship and Date

A. Authorship

1. Several authors

- The book was written at _____ and including _____.

2. Identity of the authors

- Solomon wrote _____.

- Proverbs 22:17-24:34 was written by wise men that _____.

- Proverbs 25-29 were written by Solomon and compiled by _____.

- Proverbs 30-31 were written by _____.

B. Date

- There is no possible way to _____ the book of Proverbs since it was written at various times.

II. The Value of Proverbs

- Proverbs concentrates on _____.

- Proverbs teaches what might be called “_____.”

- Proverbs provides a collection of _____.

- There is _____ that all will go well.

- Proverbs provides a contrast between the life of _____ and the life of _____.

III. The Nature of Proverbs

- Proverbs do not state everything about truth, but _____.

- Proverbs must be understood _____ and taken on _____.

IV. Reading and Understanding Proverbs

- Proverbs is must often abused in _____.

A. Three common mistakes in reading Proverbs

1. Partially Read

- Proverbs are often read _____.

2. Misunderstanding of wisdom terms

- The wisdom terms of Proverbs are _____.

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 14:7 (NKJV)

Question: What is this verse saying?

Question: Who is a foolish man?

3. Failing to see the overall picture

- People often fail to follow _____ in Proverbs.

B. Guidelines for reading Proverbs

1. Proverbs are often _____, pointing beyond themselves.

2. Proverbs are _____, not theoretically _____.

3. Proverbs are worded to be _____, not _____.

4. Proverbs are not designed to support _____.

5. Proverbs reflecting the ancient culture need _____.

6. Proverbs are not guarantees from God, but guidelines for _____.

7. They give good advice concerning life, but they are not exhaustive in their coverage.

8. Proverbs may use _____ to make their point.

9. Wrongly used, Proverbs may justify a _____.

Rightly used, Proverbs will provide _____.