

Proverbs Pondered

May 17, 2020

1:1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: **2** For learning wisdom and discipline; for understanding insightful sayings; **3** for receiving prudent (_____) instruction in righteousness, justice, and integrity; **4** for teaching shrewdness to the inexperienced, knowledge and discretion (_____) to a young man— **5** let a wise person listen and increase learning, and let a discerning (_____) person obtain guidance— **6** for understanding a proverb or a parable, the words of the wise, and their riddles. (CSB translation)

Wise, Sage, Sapient, Judicious, Sensible, Sane mean having or showing sound judgment.

Wise suggests great understanding of people and of situations and unusual discernment and judgment in dealing with them. *wise beyond his tender years*

Sage suggests wide experience, great learning, and wisdom. *the sage advice of my father*

Sagacious suggests wisdom, penetration, and farsightedness. *sagacious investors got in on the ground floor*

Sapient suggests great sagacity and discernment. *the sapient musings of an old philosopher*

Judicious stresses a capacity for reaching wise decisions or just conclusions. *judicious parents using kindness and discipline in equal measure*

Prudent suggests the exercise of restraint guided by sound practical wisdom and discretion.

a prudent decision to wait out the storm

Sensible applies to action guided and restrained by good sense and rationality.

a sensible woman who was not fooled by flattery

Sane stresses mental soundness, rationality, and level headedness.

remained sane even in times of crises

Shrewd mean acute in perception and sound in judgment. SHREWD stresses practical, hardheaded cleverness and judgment. *a shrewd judge of character*

Perspicacious implies unusual power to see through and understand what is puzzling or hidden. *a perspicacious counselor saw through the child's facade*

Astute suggests shrewdness, perspicacity, and diplomatic skill.

an astute player of party politics

Fear of the Lord

1:7 The fear of the Lord (_____) is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and discipline. (How much do you _____ the _____?)

1:28 Then they will call me, but I won't answer; they will search for me, but won't find me. **29** Because they hated knowledge, didn't choose to fear the Lord, **30** were not interested in my counsel, and rejected all my correction, **31** they will eat the fruit of their way and be glutted with their own schemes. **32** For the apostasy of the inexperienced will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them. **33** But whoever listens to me will live securely and be undisturbed by the dread of danger."

2:6 For the Lord () gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. **7** He stores up success for the upright; He is a shield for those who live with integrity **8** so that he may guard the paths of justice and protect the way of his faithful followers. **9** Then you will understand righteousness, justice, and integrity—every good path. **10** For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will delight you. **11** Discretion will watch over you, and understanding will guard you.

8:13 To fear the Lord () is to hate evil. I hate arrogant pride, evil conduct, and perverse speech.

Contrary, Perverse, Restive, Bulky, Wayward mean inclined to resist authority or control.

Contrary implies a temperamental unwillingness to accept orders or advice. *a contrary child*

Perverse may imply wrongheaded, determined, or cranky opposition to what is reasonable or normal. *a perverse, intractable critic*

Restive suggests unwillingness or inability to submit to discipline or follow orders. *tired soldiers growing restive*

Bulky suggests a refusing to proceed in a desired direction or course of action. *a balky witness*

Wayward suggests strong-willed capriciousness and irregularity in behavior. *a school for wayward youths*

9:10 “The fear of the Lord () is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

10:27 The fear of the Lord () prolongs life, but the years of the wicked () are cut short. **28** The hope of the righteous () is joy, but the expectation of the wicked will perish. **29** The way of the Lord is a stronghold for the honorable, but destruction awaits evildoers. **30** The righteous will never be shaken, but the wicked will not remain on the earth.

14:2 Whoever lives with integrity fears the Lord, but the one who is devious () in his ways despises him.

14:26 In the fear of the Lord one has strong confidence and his children have a refuge.

27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning people away from the snares of death.

15:3 The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, observing the wicked and the good.

15:16 Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure with turmoil.

15:33 The fear of the Lord is what wisdom teaches, and humility comes before honor.

16:6 Iniquity is atoned for by loyalty () and faithfulness (), and one turns () from evil by the fear of the Lord.

Before the sermon this morning how would you have described the fear of the Lord to someone?

After reading some of the Proverbs and the sermon how would you now described the fear of the Lord to someone?

Ask yourself does the fear of God turn me from evil? Or do I go into evil?

Ask God to redirect your thoughts when you find yourself thinking of evil, worry, grumbling, lustful, prideful, low self-esteem, hopeless and un-submitting thoughts.

Then spend some time being thankful.