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The Proverbs Series

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The Beginning of Wisdom

Proverbs 1:1-7 ¹These are the proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel, ²for gaining wisdom and discipline, for comprehending words of insight, ³and for receiving instruction in wise living and in righteousness, justice, and equity. ⁴To impart prudence to the simple and knowledge and discretion to the young, ⁵let the wise listen and gain instruction, and the discerning acquire wise counsel ⁶by understanding the proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A.** The book of Proverbs was written by **Solomon**, son of King David. V. 1
- B.** Proverbs are for helping us to live the life that God **intended**. V.2-4 Here are a few definitions that are important here. The goal is wise living.
 - 1. Wisdom** – the ability to accurately apply information when appropriately needed. V.2
 - 2. Discipline** – The ability to not give in to fleshly urges and to restrain imprudent behavior. V.2
 - 3. The Simple** – This is someone who is the opposite of being wise. They are someone who lacks wisdom. V.4
 - 4. Prudence** – The quality of being cautious. V.4
 - 5. Discretion** – The quality of speaking or behaving in such a way as to not to offend or to reveal harmful information to others. V.4
- C.** Proverbs are not just meant to be heard but to be **skillfully** applied. V.5
- D.** The beginning of living the way that God intended is to have a healthy, biblically sound fear of **YHWH**. V.7

II. What can we learn from this?

- A.** We live in a day and age of **fools**. The grownups have mostly died and there is a need to get back to basics. It needs to start with us!
- B.** It is not enough to know Scripture. We must be **wise** in our application and use of it.
- C.** The **Fear of the LORD**, YHWH, has got to be our number one motivating factor in every aspect of our life. We will someday have to give account for everything we did or said.

II Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive his due for the things done in the body, whether good or bad. BSB