

Protection From Deception — The Proverbs

I. The Grand Invitation—

Proverbs 1:1-6 (Msg®)

¹ These are the wise sayings of Solomon, David's son, Israel's king— ² Written down so we'll know how to live well and right, to understand what life means and where it's going;

³ **A manual for living, for learning what's right and just and fair;** ⁴ To teach the inexperienced the ropes and give our young people a grasp on reality.

⁵ There's something here also for seasoned men and women, still a thing or two for the experienced to learn— ⁶ Fresh wisdom to probe and penetrate, the rhymes and reasons of wise men and women.

II. Which Doors to Choose—

A. The Myth Exposed—No Easy Choices!

B. The Great Search; **Choose to Be a "God Learner"**

Proverbs 1:20-21 (NIV®)

²⁰ Wisdom **calls aloud** in the street, she **raises her voice** in the public squares;

²¹ at the head of the noisy streets **she cries out,**
in the gateways of the city **she makes her speech**

III. The Choices

Proverbs 1:23-30 (NIV®)

²³ **If you had responded** to my rebuke, **I would have poured out my heart to you & made my thoughts known to you.**

²⁴ "since you rejected me"

²⁵ "you ignored all my advice"

²⁵ "would not accept my rebuke"

²⁸ "they hated knowledge"

³⁰ "spurned my rebuke"

Proverbs 1:27-31 (NIV®)

When calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you. ²⁸ "Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me.

²⁹ Since they hated knowledge and **did not choose to fear the Lord,** ³⁰ since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, ³¹ they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes.

Proverbs 1:33-2:4 (NIV®)

³³ **whoever listens to me** will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."

³³ "whoever listens will live"

¹ "accept my words"

¹ "store up my commands"

² "apply your heart to understanding"

³ "call out for insight"

⁴ "look for it as for silver"

⁴ "search for it as hidden treasure"

Proverbs 2:9-11 (NIV®)

⁹ **Then you will understand what is right and just**
and fair--every good path.

¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

¹¹ Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.

IV. What if You Could Know...**The Answers—**

Proverbs 2:1-2, 9, 12, 16, and 20 and Proverbs 3:1 (NIV®)

My son, **if** you **accept** my words and **store up** my commands within you, ² turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,

⁹ **Then** you will understand . . . **every good path.**

¹² Wisdom will save you from **the ways of wicked men.**

¹⁶ It will **save you** also **from the adulteress.**

²⁰ Thus you will **walk in the ways of good men.**

¹ **They will prolong your life** many years & **bring you prosperity.**

Proclamation...

Adapted from — Proverbs 3:5-10 (NIV®)

I am learning to trust in the Lord with all my heart & lean not on my own understanding; in all my ways I acknowledge Him, and He will make my paths straight.

I choose not to be wise in my own eyes; To fear the Lord and shun evil. God will bring health to my body and nourishment to my bones.

I will honor the Lord with my wealth, with the first fruits of all I have;
then my barns will be filled to overflowing, and my vats will brim over with new wine.