

The Book of Proverbs

The book of practical wisdom

PRUDENCE THROUGH PRECEPT

BOOK 1. SONNETS EXTOLLING WISDOM (i.–ix.).

15 SONNETS. Introduction (i.1-9); Enticements of Sinners (i. 10-19); Wisdom the Deliverer (ii. 1-22); The Reward of Piety (iii. 1-10); Wisdom the Supreme Prize (iii. 11-20); Wisdom and Security (iii. 21-6); Wisdom and Perversity (iii. 27-35); Tradition of Wisdom (iv. 1-9); The Two Paths (iv. 10-19); Wisdom and Health (iv. 20-7); The Strange Woman (v. 1-23); Suretyship (vi. 1-5); The Sluggard (vi. 6-11); The Discord Sower (vi. 12-19); Adultery (vi. 20-35); House of Wisdom verses that of Folly (a sonnet quartette: ix).

2 MONOLOGUES. Wisdom's Warning (i. 20-33); Wisdom and the Strange Woman (vii.-viii).

BOOK 2. MAXIMS ENJOINING PRUDENCE (x.-xxiv.).

375 PROVERBS or aphorisms in the form of contrastive or completive or comparative couplets (x. 1-xxii. 16).

16 EPIGRAMS. Introduction (xxii. 17-21); Mixed Epigrams (xxii. 22-29); Awe before Appetite (xxiii. 1-3); Fleetingness of Riches (xxiii. 4-5); Evil Hospitality (xxiii. 6-8); Mixed Epigrams (xxiii. 9-18); Gluttony (xxiii. 19-21); Three Sayings (xxiii. 22-5); Whoredom (xxiii. 26-8); Wine and Woe (xxiii. 29-35); Mixed Epigrams (xxiv. 1-10); Duty of Rescue (xxiv. 11-12); Wisdom and Honey (xxiv. 13-14); Four Epigrams (xxiv. 15-22); Respect of Persons (xxiv. 23-5); Three Sayings (xxiv. 26-9); The Field of the Slothful (xxiv. 30-4).

BOOK 3. MORE MAXIMS ON PRUDENCE (xxv.-xxxi.).

7 EPIGRAMS and Proverb-clusters. The King (xxv. 1-7); Various (xxv. 8-xxvi. 2); On Fools (xxvi. 3-12); The Sluggard (xxvi. 13-16); Social Pests (xxvi. 17-26); Various (xxvi. 27-xxvii. 22); Good Husbandry (xxvii. 23-7).

55 PROVERBS or aphorisms in the form of contrastive or completive or comparative couplets (xxviii.–xxix.).

THE THIRTEEN SAYINGS OF AGUR (xxx.).

THE ORACLE OF LEMUEL'S MOTHER (xxxi. 1-9)

THE ACROSTIC ON THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN
(xxxi. 10-31).

I. Heavenly Wisdom for Earthly Life

John 10:10

Grounded in Fear of Lord 1:7

Key to understanding

Maxims and promises

II. Maxims and Promises

<u>Maxim</u>	<u>Promise</u>
3:1-2	1:7
10:4	1:24-26
11:10	12:1
11:15	12:25
11:28	13:12
12:8	

<u>Maxim</u>	<u>Promise</u>
15:1 (1 Samuel 25:19, 23, 32)	2:1-6 (James 1)
24:6	15:3
24:21-22 (Ben Franklin)	21:3 (Amos)

Proverbs 27:14

III. Proverbs

1. Mostly true
2. Easy to see
3. Examine the canon
4. Smart way to live