

What is a Proverb?

In many ways, our lives are like a plant. Without something strong and straight in our life we would grow out of control. And, as a Christian, our lives need to be tied to God's Word, to each individual promise and proverb.

The new birth is not enough, in our daily life, to guarantee success. We should take heed to God's Word after we are born again.

Jesus told the Jews who had just believed in Him, "*If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.*" (John 8:31). God is not looking only for converts. He is looking for disciples, those who not only begin in His word, but will continue.

The Hebrew word for "proverb" means *a rule or standard*. The book of Proverbs is filled with wise standards that will prosper you. It is that which does not change. One Hebrew commentary compared a proverb to a piece of wood, a stick which you drive beside a new, young plant. Without the stick of wood, the plant would not grow up strong and straight. It would grow out of control and onto the ground. The plant is tied to the stick so it can grow up straight and strong.

Hopefully, the book of Proverbs will take on a new meaning in your life. Take this challenge with me. Read and study a chapter out of Proverbs each day. Not only read it, but study it from other translations. (My favorite translation for Proverbs is the Amplified Bible).

I like to think of the book of Proverbs as a daily dose of spiritual and natural health. There are thirty one chapters in Proverbs, one for each day of the month. If you read a chapter of Proverbs each day, you will go through the book twelve times in a year. Each time you cover a verse and a chapter, you will learn something new.

If you are like me, I read a proverb I have read before and say "I don't remember reading that one". It is because it is new each time you read it. Each proverb has a new meaning for each day.

We often think of the book of Proverbs as the sum total of all the proverbs Solomon wrote. He wrote many more than what is found in our Bible. *“And he spake three thousand proverbs, and his songs were a thousand and five”* (1 Kings 4:32).

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