

## **A Perspective on The Book Of Proverbs**

Rev. Tom Williams - 2015 Oct 4

Hokhma - wisdom;  
Hinah - understanding;  
Musar – discipline

Tradition of Elders passed on to youth; moral formation

Wisdom leads to success; Folly leads to destruction

There are limits to wisdom in the midst of ambiguities and mysteries of life;  
there is no wisdom that prevails against the Lord's whose work is mysterious and  
definitive

### **Chapter 3**

Six admonitions concerning conduct that leads to prosperity

- 1 - Do not forget my teaching
- 2 - Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you
- 3 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight  
( humility)
- 4 - Honor the Lord with all your substance
- 5 - Do not despise the Lord's discipline  
( suffering is a discipline, a sign of divine love; example, Job )
- 6 - Happy are those who find wisdom

Admonition and Prohibitions

- 1 - Do not be afraid of sudden panic or of the storm that strikes the wicked
- 2 - Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due
- 3 - Do not say to your neighbor - Go and come again, and tomorrow I Will  
give it to you
- 4 - Do not plan harm against your neighbor
- 5 - Do not quarrel with anyone without cause
- 6 - Do not envy the violent and do not choose any of their ways

Summary-

The wisdom of Proverbs, the way to live life with understanding and sensitivity, is praised as a gift from God. The God of Proverbs may not necessarily be intervening miraculously in people's lives from hour to hour, but in a hidden way God touches them in every moment. The chief ingredient in wisdom is the sense of God—a reverence for the God who made us the way we are and the world the way it is.