

**Psalms, Proverbs,  
Ecclesiastes, The Song Of  
Songs  
The Wisdom Literature**

**Fast Facts About The Psalms**

- At least seventy-three Psalms have King David's name as the writer.
- The middle of the entire Bible is in the Psalms.
- The middle chapter of the Bible is Psalm 118.
- "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." (Psalm 118:8)
- The shortest chapter (and shortest Psalm) of the Bible is Psalm 117.
- The longest chapter of the Bible is Psalm 119.

<http://www.biblestudy.org/basicart/psalm-construction.html>

**The Style Of Psalm 119**

- The Psalm is divided into eight verses per section
- Each section begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- There are 22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet
- It is the longest Psalm at 176 verses
- It is designed to learn Hebrew at the same time learning the Word of God
- Most Hebrew children are required to memorize Psalm 119

**The Theme Of Psalm 119**

- This Psalm sheds light on to God's Word
- What is the Word of God?
- What does the Word of God do for us and to us?
- How we should walk in light of God's Word?
- What are the benefits of knowing God's Word?
- It is Scripture describing Scripture

### **Psalm 119 Is An Alphabet For The Spiritual Life**

- It describes a worldview on how to see the world
- It describes a way of living that brings order to a person's life
- It describes a standard of living to strive for bringing meaning to life
- It describes a relationship between God and the believer through God's Word

### **Some Questions**

- What would your Christian life be like if you did not have the Word of God?
- What is the Word of God supposed to do for our lives?
- How do we know that we can rely on the Bible to guide our lives?

### **Who Wrote Proverbs?**

- Solomon
- "The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel"--Proverbs 1:1
- Solomon had prayed for wisdom and the Lord said to him:
- "...I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you."--- 1 Kings 3:12

### **The Nine Reasons The Book Of Proverbs Was Written**

1. "To Know wisdom and instruction..."v.2
2. "To perceive the words of understanding..."v.2
3. "To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity..."v.3
4. "To give prudence to the simple..."v.4

5. "To the young man knowledge and discretion..."v.4

6. "A wise man will hear and increase learning.."v.5

7. "A man of understanding will attain wise counsel.."v.5

8. "To understand a proverb and an enigma.."v.6

9. To understand, "the words of the wise and their riddles."v.6

### **The Six People To Whom The Book Of Proverbs Addresses**

1. The wise and understanding man
2. The simple person
3. The foolish person
4. The Mocker
5. The righteous person
6. The wicked person

### **How To Gain Wisdom:**

- Accept God's word (Proverbs 2:1)
- Store up His commands. (2:1)
- Develop an "ear" for wisdom (2:2).
- Set your heart to get understanding (2:2).
- Call out, cry aloud for understanding (2:3)
- Search for it as if it were a treasure (2:4)

### **The Seven Things God Hates:**

- A proud look (Proverbs 6:17)
- A lying tongue (Proverbs 6:17)
- Hands that shed innocent blood (Proverbs 6:17)
- The heart that devises wicked imaginations (Proverbs 6:18)
- Feet that are swift in running to mischief (Proverbs 6:18)
- A false witness who speaks lies (Proverbs 6:19)
- One that sows discord (Proverbs 6:19)

### **Key Verses For The Book Of Proverbs**

"Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." Proverbs 3:3-6

### **Who Wrote Ecclesiastes?**

- Solomon
- "The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem."-- Eccl 1:1
- "The Preacher": In Hebrew, this translates the word *Koheleth* (or, *Kobellet*). The idea is of someone who might gather, lead, or speak to a group of people – a congregation.
- I wonder how big Solomon's church would be with a sermon like Ecclesiastes?

### **Life Is Vanity:**

- Vanity in striving after pleasure
- Vanity in striving after wisdom
- Vanity in success
- Vanity in hard work
- Vanity in learning and study
- Vanity in religion
- Vanity in children
- What is his conclusion?

### **Ecclesiastes. 12:13-14**

" Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil."

### **"Eternity In Their Hearts"**

- "He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also **He has put eternity in their hearts**, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."--Eccl 3:11
- Every man has a deep sense and longing for God that He placed there that only He can fill.
- Any attempt to fill it with something or someone other than God will be meaningless.

Don Richardson in his book **Eternity In Their Hearts** describes that almost every aboriginal culture has traditions, customs, or ways of thinking that reflect basic Biblical truth that supersedes an encounter with missionaries and allows them to explain the gospel story to the evangelized people group

### **Enjoy Life's Good Time's As Gifts From God's Hand**

"I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor — **It is the gift of God**."--- Eccl 3:12-13

### **Who Wrote Song of Songs?**

- Solomon
- "The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.-- Song 1:1
- Love poetry at its finest
- Solomon would know he had 700 wives and 300 hundred concubines

### **Themes Of The Song**

- Romantic Attraction
- Dating and Courtship
- Intimacy
- Conflict
- Romance
- Commitment