

# Proverbs Series

## Lesson #005

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbible.org](http://www.deanbible.org)

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**Prov. 14:12, “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.”**

## ***Proverbs***

### **Guide for Skillful Living**

**“What Kind of Fool  
Am I”**

**Prov. 1:20–33**

## **10 Lessons on Wisdom – Proverbs 1:8–9:18**

- 1. Challenge to listen to the father's guidance and reject the influence of your peers, 1:8–19**  
**Comment: Wisdom rebukes the simple, the naïve, the open minded, 1:20–33**
- 2. Protect yourself from the wicked, 2:1–22**
- 3. The promise of the Lord and the son's responsibility, 3:1–12**
- 4. The value of wisdom, 3:13–15**
- 5. The importance of following the path of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, 4:1–9**

## **10 Lessons on Wisdom – Proverbs 1:8–9:18**

- 6. Instruction on how to run well, and seize life, and stay off the human viewpoint road, 4:10–19**
- 7. Warning against swerving from the right road, 4:20–27**
- 8. The emptiness of free sex; the wisdom of marriage, 5:1–23**

**Insight: Three patterns you don't want to imitate, 6:1–19**

**9. The high cost of a promiscuous wife, 6:20–35**

**10. The promiscuous wife's seductive tactics,  
7:1–27**

**Two closing appendices:**

**a. Wisdom's appeal to the open minded, 8:1–36**

**b. The conflict between the wise and the fools, 9:1–18**

## **The Folly of the Fool: Self-destruction**

**Prov. 1:17, “Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird;**

**Prov. 1:18, “But they lie in wait for their own blood,  
They lurk secretly for their own lives.”**

## **The Concluding Lesson:**

**Prov. 1:19, “So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain;  
It takes away the life of its owners.”**



- I. Wisdom's loud, ubiquitous invitation to all: 1:20–21**
- II. Wisdom's sermon: rebuke addressed to naive, obtuse, stubborn youths: 1:22–27**
  - A. Wisdom's rebuke of the unresponsive naive: 1:22–23**
  - B. Wisdom's denunciation: 1:24–27**
    - 1. Wisdom accuses them of rejecting her counsel: 1:24–25**
    - 2. Wisdom will reject them at the time of their judgment: 1:26–27**
- III. Wisdom's reflections on her sermon: 1:28–33**
  - A. The certainty and finality of their judgment: 1:28–31**
    - 1. Its finality: 1:28–29**
    - 2. Its certainty: 1:30–31**
  - B. Summarizing reflection on the destinies of fools and the wise: 1:31–33**

**Prov. 1:20, “Wisdom calls aloud outside;  
She raises her voice in the open squares.**

**Prov. 1:21, “She cries out in the chief concourses,  
At the openings of the gates in the city  
She speaks her words:”**

**Psa. 19:1, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.**

**Psa. 19:2, “Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge.**

**Psa. 19:3, “There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.**

**Psa. 19:4, “Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,”**

**Rom. 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,**

**Rom. 1:19, “because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.”**

**Rom. 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,**

**Rom. 1:21, “because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

**Rom. 1:22, “Professing to be wise, they became fools,”**

**Prov. 1:20, “Wisdom calls aloud outside;  
She raises her voice in the open squares.**

**Prov. 1:21, “She cries out in the chief concourses,  
At the openings of the gates in the city  
She speaks her words:”**

**Prov. 1:22, “How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity?**

**For scorners delight in their scorning,  
And fools hate knowledge.”**

## **The “simple,” 14× in Proverbs**

***Petah*, “open,” open to seduction and enticement to evil.**

**The “naive, gullible, open-minded” is the least of the fools.**

**Intellectually flawed, yet changeable.**

**The simple fool is immature, believes anything, needs to be taught and understand wisdom.**

**Prov. 1:4, “To give prudence to the simple,  
To the young man knowledge and discretion—”**

**Prov. 7:7, “And saw among the simple,  
I perceived among the youths,  
A young man devoid of understanding,”**

**Prov. 7:7, “And saw among the simple,  
I perceived among the youths,  
A young man devoid of understanding,”**

**Prov. 9:4, “ ‘Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!’  
As for him who lacks understanding, she says to  
him,”**

**Prov. 9:16, “ ‘Whoever is simple, let him turn in here;’  
And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to  
him,”**

**Prov. 14:15, “The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps.”**

**Prov. 14:18, “The simple inherit folly, But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.”**

**Prov. 19:25, “Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary;  
Rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge.”**

**Prov. 21:11, “When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise;  
But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.”**

**Prov. 22:3, “A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself,  
But the simple pass on and are punished.”**

**Prov. 27:15, “A continual dripping on a very rainy day  
And a contentious woman are alike;”**

**Prov. 7:7, “And saw among the simple,  
I perceived among the youths,  
A young man devoid of understanding,”**

**Prov. 7:21, “With her enticing speech she caused him  
to yield,  
With her flattering lips she seduced him.**

**Prov. 7:22, “Immediately he went after her, as an ox  
goes to the slaughter,  
Or as a fool to the correction of the stocks,”**

**Prov. 22:15, “Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;  
The rod of correction will drive it far from him.”**

# The Tale of Two Fools

כְּסִיל *kesil* fool 30× in Proverbs

אָוִיל *'ewil* fool 19× in Proverbs

“The 'ěwîl is obtuse by virtue of his moral perversion,” and the kesîl is, or probably will become, “morally perverse by reason of his obtuseness.”

**Prov. 10:8, “The wise in heart will receive commands,  
But a prating fool will fall.”**

**Prov. 10:14, “Wise people store up knowledge, But  
the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.”**

**Prov. 12:15, “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.”**

**Prov. 15:5, “A fool despises his father’s instruction, But he who receives correction is prudent.”**

**Prov. 16:22, “Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly.”**

**Prov. 27:22, “Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain, Yet his foolishness will not depart from him.”**

# Mockers, Scorners, Scoffers

לֵץ *letz* scoffer

**Prov. 3:34, “Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives  
grace to the humble.”**

**Prov. 9:7, “He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself.**

**Prov. 9:8, “Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.”**

**Prov. 13:1, “A wise son heeds his father’s instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.”**

**Prov. 15:12, “A scoffer does not love one who corrects him, Nor will he go to the wise.”**

**Prov. 19:25, “Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary; Rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge.”**

**Prov. 24:9, “The devising of foolishness is sin, And the scoffer is an abomination to men.”**