

PROVERBS – CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FOOLISH

I. THE FOOLISH ARE UNRECEPTIVE.

- A. They do not pursue wisdom (Prov. 10:21; 17:16; 24:7; 26:7, 9).
- B. They do not heed instruction (Prov. 1:7, 22; 15:5, 14; 17:7, 24; 29:9; Eccl. 4:13).
- C. They do not integrate teaching (Prov. 1:32; 12:15; 14:3; 15:21; 26:12).
 - 1. They think their way is right (Prov. 12:15). They are arrogant (Prov. 14:3). They want the easy way (Prov. 15:21). They believe they are wise (Prov. 26:12). They trust their own inclinations (Prov. 28:26). They are stupid (Prov. 12:1).

II. THE FOOLISH ARE UNMANAGEABLE.

- A. They do not submit to God (Prov. 19:3; Ps. 14:1; 53:1; 74:18, 22).
- B. They do not submit to authority (Prov. 10:8; 15:5, 20).
- C. They do not submit to correction (Prov. 16:22; 17:10; 27:22).
 - 1. Correction must start early if it is to be effective (Prov. 22:15).

III. THE FOOLISH ARE UNDISCIPLINED.

- They cannot keep from showing what they are (Prov. 14:33; Eccl. 10:2-3).
- A. They do not control their emotions (Prov. 12:16; 14:16-17; 20:3; 27:3).
 - B. They do not control their tongues (Prov. 10:14; 12:23; 15:2, 7, 14; 18:2, 7; Eccl. 10:12-14; 5:3).
 - C. They do not control their actions (Prov. 10:10; 13:16; 26:11; Eccl. 4:5).

IV. THE FOOLISH ARE UNRIGHTEOUS (PROV. 30:2-3).

- A. They love evil (Prov. 10:23; 13:19; 14:9).
- B. They are callused to conviction (Eccl. 5:1).
- C. They are stubborn (Prov. 14:16).
- D. They are rebellious (Prov. 19:1).
- E. They are deceitful (Prov. 14:18).
- F. They are slanderous (Prov. 10:18).
- G. They are untrustworthy (Prov. 26:6).

VI. THE FOOLISH ARE UNWORTHY.

- A. They are destructive.
 - 1. They bring ruin and loss to others (Prov. 9:13-18; 13:20; 14:1; 17:12; 21:20).
 - 2. They bring sorrow and disgrace to their parents (Prov. 10:1; 17:21, 25; 19:13).
- B. They are disgraceful.
 - 1. They are unworthy of honor (Prov. 26:1, 8).
 - 2. They are unworthy of success (Prov. 19:10).
 - 3. They receive punishment (Prov. 19:29; 26:3).
 - 4. They are judged by God (Prov. 26:10 KJV, NKJV).
- C. They are to be avoided (Prov. 14:7; 26:10; 27:22).

VII. THE FOOLISH CAN BE DELIVERED (PS. 107:17-22).

PROVERBS – CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WISE

I. THE WISE ARE RECEPTIVE.

- A. They pursue wisdom (Prov. 18:15).
- B. They heed instruction (Prov. 12:15).
- C. They integrate teaching (Prov. 9:9).

II. THE WISE ARE MANAGEABLE.

- A. They submit to God (Prov. 9:10).
- B. They submit to authority (Prov. 10:8).
- C. They submit to correction (Prov. 9:8; 15:32; 19:25).

III. THE WISE ARE DISCIPLINED.

- A. They control their emotions (Prov. 12:16; 14:29; 19:11; 29:11).
- B. They control their tongues (Prov. 10:19; 16:23).
 - 1. What they say (Prov. 10:13). How they say it (Prov. 10:32). The propriety of what they say (Prov. 15:2, 7). The strategy of what they say (Prov. 15:28).
- C. They control their actions (Prov. 11:12; 27:12).
 - 1. They are well motivated (Prov. 11:2 - humble; Prov. 11:12 - peaceful; Prov. 15:21 - upright; Prov. 24:23-25 - impartial).
 - 2. They are discreet (Prov. 2:10-15; 15:21; 23:19-23; 27:12).

IV. THE WISE ARE RIGHTEOUS.

- A. They esteem the Lord (Prov. 9:10).
- B. They forsake evil (Prov. 13:14; 14:16; 15:24).
- C. They obey the Lord (Prov. 28:7).
- D. They are blessed by the Lord (Prov. 24:13-14).
 - 1. Blessings - Serenity (Prov. 3:13-18); Confidence (Prov. 3:21-26); Longevity (Prov. 4:10-13); Favor (Prov. 8:33-35); Knowledge (Prov. 14:18); Happiness (Prov. 16:20); Satisfaction (Prov. 19:23); Victory (Prov. 21:22).

V. THE WISE ARE CONSTRUCTIVE

- A. They bring benefit and profit to others (Prov. 10:20-21; 13:20).
 - 1. Benefits - Spiritual life (Prov. 11:30); Healing (Prov. 12:18; 29:8); Knowledge (Prov. 18:4); Well-being (Prov. 21:20); Security (Prov. 24:3-4).
- B. They are a joy to their parents (Prov. 15:20; 23:15-16, 24-25; 29:3).

VI. THE WISE ARE WORTHY.

- A. They are commendable (Prov. 12:8; 22:29).
 - 1. They inherit glory (Prov. 3:35). They receive honor (Prov. 4:7-9; 13:18). They are rewarded (Prov. 14:35; 17:2).