



## STRUCTURAL INSIGHTS: PROVERBS 1:8-19



**Pr 1:8** My son,

**hear** the instruction of your father,  
And do not forsake the law of your mother;

**Pr 1:9** For they will be a graceful ornament on your head,  
And chains about your neck.

**Pr 1:10** My son,

if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

**11** If they say,  
"Come with us,

Let us lie in wait to shed blood;

Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;

**12** Let us swallow them alive like Sheol,

And whole, like those who go down to the Pit;

**13** We shall find all kinds of precious possessions,  
We shall fill our houses with spoil;

**14** Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse"—

**Pr 1:15** My son,

do not walk in the way with them,  
**Keep** your foot from their path;

**16** For their feet run to evil,  
And they make haste to shed blood.

**17** Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird;

**18** But they lie in wait for their own blood,

They lurk secretly for their own lives.

**19** So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain;  
It takes away the life of its owners.

## BACKGROUND "MY SON" 20x in Proverbs

1. Listen to Dad & Mom (1:8-9)
2. Don't be Enticed by Sinners (1:10-14)
3. Don't Walk in the Way of Sinners (1:15-19)
4. Treasure Wisdom (2:1-22)
5. Don't Forget the Law (3:1-10)
6. Receive the Lord's Chastening (3:11-20)
7. Study and Apply God's Word (3:21-35)
8. Wisdom is a Priority (4:1-9)
9. Know there is a Right and Wrong Path (4:10-19)
10. Control Your Speech (4:20-27)
11. Control your Body, P1 (Sexuality) (5:1-23)
12. Control Your Wealth (6:1-19)
13. Control your Body, P2 (Sexuality) (6:20-35)
14. Control your Body, P3 (Sexuality) (7:1-27)
15. Don't Envy Sinners (23:15-18)
16. Beware of Substance Abuse, P1 (23:19-25)
17. Beware of Substance Abuse, P2 (23:26-35)
18. Guard against Hating Your Neighbor (24:13-20)
19. Be wise toward the authorities (24:21-22)
20. Learn about Prudence (27:11-27)

## EXPLANATION

Solomon loves his son by teaching about righteousness, justice, and equity by revealing the unrighteous, unjust, and inequity way of sinners.

### I. Priority of Parents (Proverbs 1:8-9)

**Pr 1:8** My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; **9** For they *will be* a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.

- a. Father → Hear (command to listen) → instruction (tied to discipline, correction, chastening)

- i. Father

1. **Leadership:** Implies the Father has the leading role of instructing the family in the Word and Wisdom for character and conduct, but he does not do this apart from his wife.

2. **Unhypocritical:** Not perfection, but is "practicing what he preaches" and confesses his sin to his family when he fails.
3. **Church Model:** The Elder/Pastor Model in the Church
  - a. **1 Ti 3:1** This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. **2** A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; **3** not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; **4** one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence **5** (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); **6** not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the *same* condemnation as the devil. **7** Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

ii. Instruction

1. Positive & Negative

- a. **Mt 3:17** And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven (God the Father) , saying, "This is My beloved Son (Jesus), in whom I am well pleased."
  - b. **2 Ti 4:2** Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince (bring to light), rebuke (strongly admonish), exhort (plead), with all longsuffering and teaching.
- b. Mother → Do not forsake (abandon, pay no attention, ground lie fallow) → Law (teaching tied to the God's word and authority delegated to her)

i. Mother

1. **Supporting Leadership:** Reveals an active role in shepherding the children in character and conduct as well.
2. Wives Connected to Church Leadership
  - a. **1 Ti 3:11** Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. **12** Let

deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

3. **Generational Impact:** (Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Mary)

- a. **2 Ti 1:5** when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.
- b. **Tt 2:3** the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—**4** that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, **5** *to be* discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
- c. Blessing → graceful wreath (head/health) & ornaments (neck/prosperity)
  - i. **Contrast: Dt 21:18** "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and *who*, when they have chastened him, will not heed them, **19** then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his city. **20** And they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' **21** Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death with stones; so you shall put away the evil from among you, and all Israel shall hear and fear.

**Additional Thoughts: Church As A Family**

- **1 Th 5:12** And we urge you, brethren, to **recognize** those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, **13** and to **esteem** them very highly in love for their work's sake. **Be at peace** among yourselves. **14** Now we **exhort** you, brethren, **warn** those who are unruly, **comfort** the fainthearted, **uphold** the weak, **be patient** with all. **15** See that **no one renders evil for evil** to anyone, but always **pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all**. **16 Rejoice** always, **17 pray** without ceasing, **18** in everything **give thanks**; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **19 Do not quench the Spirit**. **20** Do

**not despise prophecies. 21 Test all things; hold fast what is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil.**

- **Implication:** Must separate **Biblical Principles** from **Personal Preferences** in your parenting. Be sensitive to generational differences.
- **Implication:** Process! Setup for success, leave room for failure, know when, where, and what the appropriate consequence; and always, always, parent motivated by love, and not anger!

### Perspective

- **Ps 127:3** Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. **4** Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth. **5** Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.
- **Question:** How are your parenting and grandparenting going? What changes and improvements could you make today to parent with more godly wisdom?
- **Challenge:** Be willing to acknowledge your failures to your kids, even if years have gone by and they are now adults. It is NEVER TO LATE to seek reconciliation.

## II. Peril of Peers (Proverbs 1:10-19)

- **1 Co 15:33** Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."
  - a. **Command of your Father:** "Do not consent" - the original "Just say no" (Proverbs 1:10)
    - **Pr 1:10** My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.
      1. *Entice:* Lure, persuade, invite, deceive
      2. *Do not consent:* refuse, do not submit, say no
    - **Implication:** Don't even open the door!
  - b. *Call of the Wicked...*Come with us...(Proverbs 1:11-12)
    - **Pr 1:11** If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait for blood, Let us ambush the innocent without cause; **12** Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, Even whole, as those who go down to the pit;

- i. *Scheme: Come with us (Walk/Go with us!)*
  - 1. *Sneak: Let us lie in wait to *shed* blood*
  - 2. *Surprise: Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;*
  - 3. *Slay: Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, Even whole, as those go down to the Pit*
- **Illustration: Ge 4:7** If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

c. *Coveting* of the wicked...WE will/WE shall (Proverbs 1:13-14)

- **Pr 1:13** We will find all *kinds* of precious wealth, We will fill our houses with spoil; **14** Throw in your lot with us, We shall all have one purse,"
  - i. Find (Seek) – all *kinds* of precious possessions
  - ii. Fill (Satisfy) – our houses with spoil
  - iii. Fellowship
    - 1. Cast in your lot with us → Joint venture
    - 2. Let us all have one purse → Joint reward
- **Warning: 1 Jn 2:16** For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

- **Question:** What will be the final outcome of a relationship whose foundation is lust, lies, and licentiousness?
- **10<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Ex 20:17** "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *is* your neighbor's."
- d. *Counsel* of the Wise Father (Proverbs 1:15-16)
  - **Pr 1:15** My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path; **16** For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood.
    1. Character of the Righteous
      - a. Do not walk in the way with them
      - b. Keep (command) your feet from their path
    2. Character of the Wicked
      - a. Their feet run to evil
      - b. They make haste to shed blood
- **Implication:** There are only two paths: righteous or wicked. The deception is believing the evil path is not "so evil!"
- **Implication:** The sinners say "come," your Father and Mother say "run!"
- e. **Captured in their sin (Proverbs 1:17-18)**
  - **Pr 1:17** Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird; **18** But they lie in wait for their own blood, They lurk secretly for their own lives.
    1. Spreading a baited net in front of any bird is useless
      - a. Insight: The bird sees the snare and departs
    2. But the sinner in bondage can't see they are ambushing their own lives

a. Irony: They can't see the snare they have set for themselves

- **Principle of the Fool:** Blind to their Bondage

f. **Conclusion of their Wicked Ways (Proverbs 1:19)**

- **Pr 1:19** So *are* the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners.

1. Final outcome: death

a. **Ga 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

- **JESUS: Lk 2:51** Then He (Jesus) went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject (obedient) to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.

- Temptation of Christ in the Wilderness

- **Lust of the Flesh (Bread/Hungry): Lk 4:4** ... "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "
- **Lust of the Eyes (Kingdoms/See Authority & Glory): Lk 4:8** ... For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "
- **Pride of Life (Life/Protection): Lk 4:12** ... "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' "

**PRACTICAL: Prayer:** Ask the Lord to open opportunities this week to speak into our kids' lives and grandkids where appropriate on choosing the right kinds of friends.