

PROVERBS TO LIVE BY

Part 1

The Value of Wisdom

Job's question

Job 28:12 But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?

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Solomon's answer

Pro 1:1,2 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

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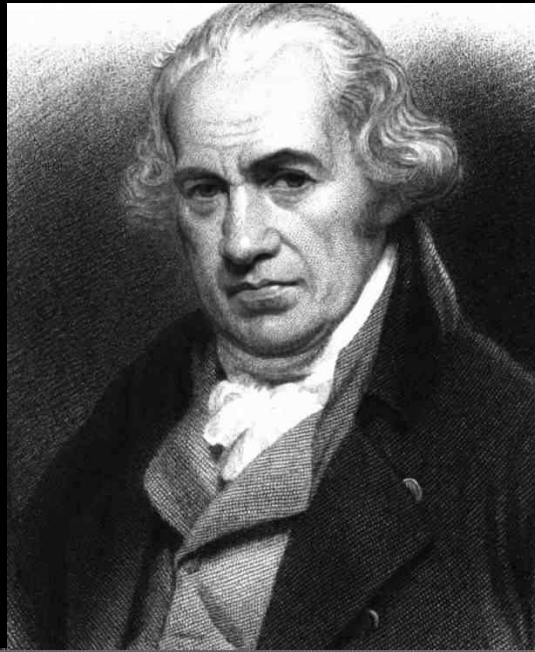
Solomon's answer

Pro 1:1,2 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know **wisdom** and instruction; to perceive the words of **understanding**;

What is wisdom?

- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Wisdom

James
Watt

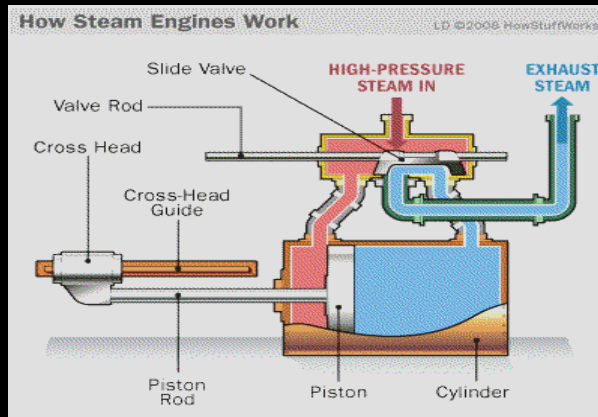




KNOWLEDGE
– gained by observation



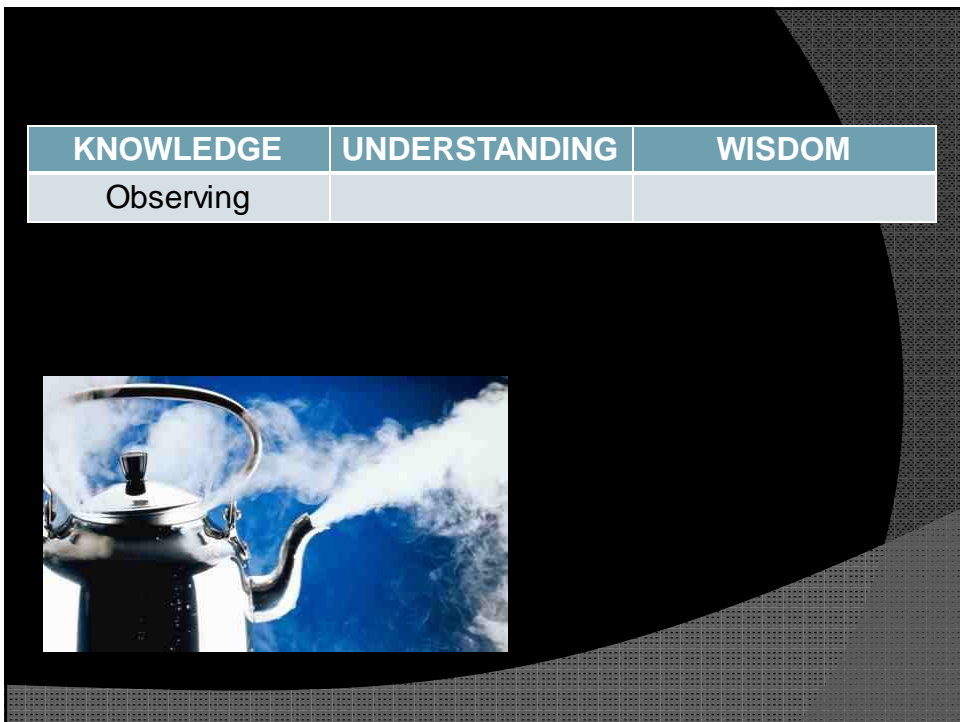
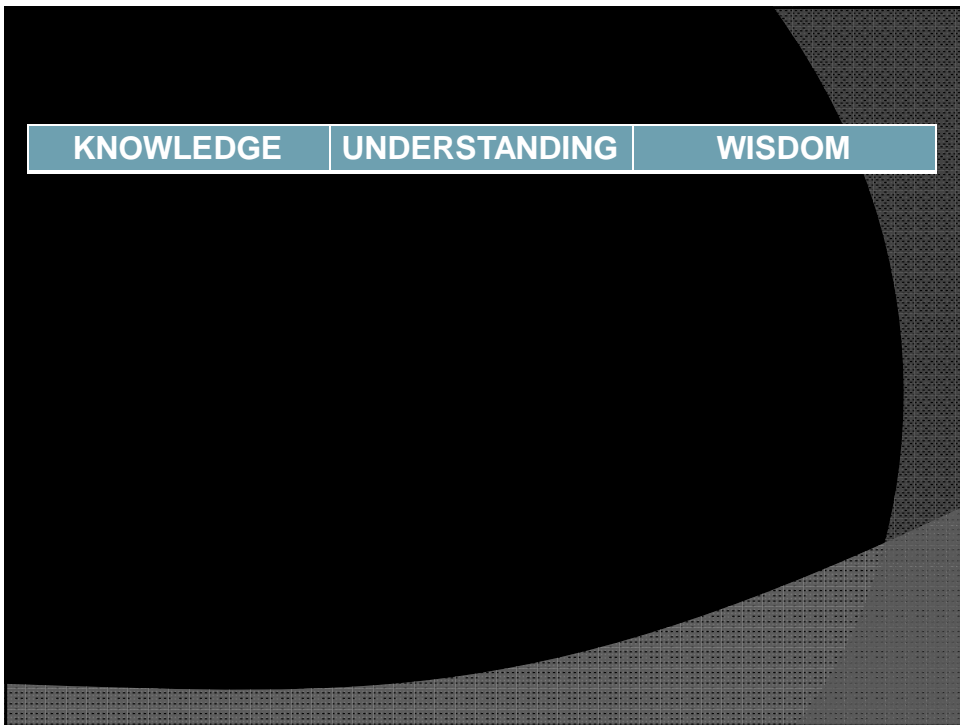
UNDERSTANDING
– by searching it out



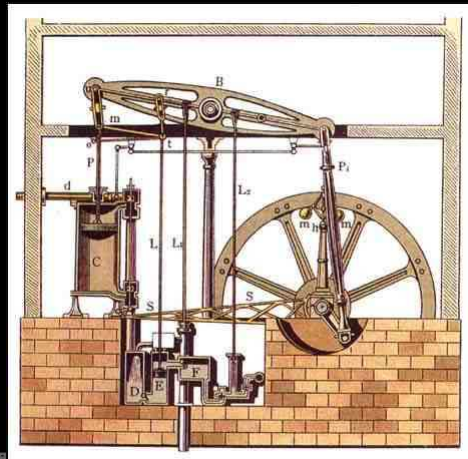
WISDOM
– by applying it



WISDOM
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KNOWLEDGE	UNDERSTANDING	WISDOM
Observing	Searching it out	



KNOWLEDGE	UNDERSTANDING	WISDOM
Observing	Searching it out	Applying



KNOWLEDGE	UNDERSTANDING	WISDOM
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KNOWLEDGE	UNDERSTANDING	WISDOM
Observing	Searching it out	Applying
Knows something	Understand what he knows	Applies it in living

The Parable of the Sower

Mat 13:23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

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The wise builder

Mat 7:24 Therefore whosoever
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Pro 15:24

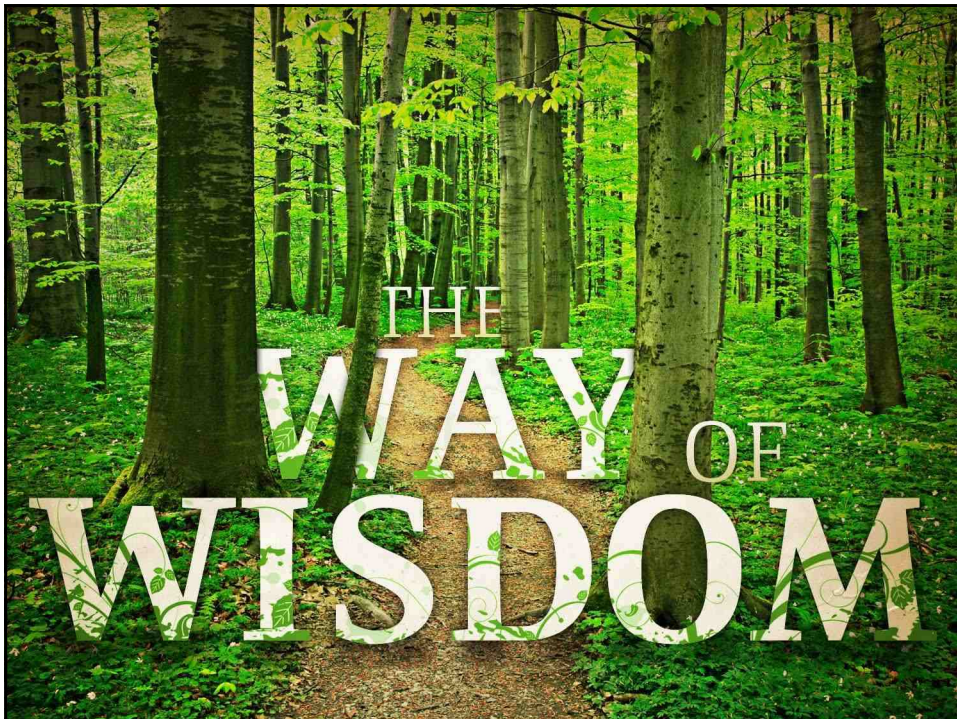
The way of life *is* above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath

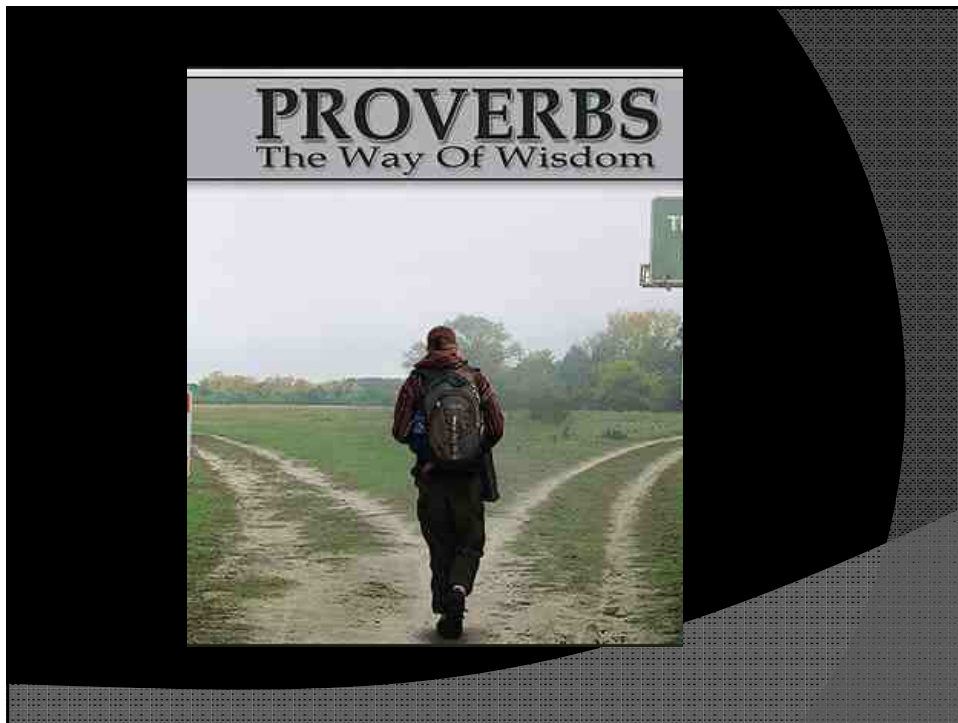
Pro 15:24 AV

The way of life *is* above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath

Pro 15:24 NET

The path of life is upward for the wise person, to keep him from going downward to Sheol





Pro 21:16

The one who wanders from the way
of wisdom
will end up in the company of the
departed

- 1 The Proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel;
- 2 To know wisdom and instruction,
to perceive the words of understanding;
- 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom:
justice, and judgement, and equity;
- 4 To give subtilty to the simple,
to the young man knowledge and discretion;
- 5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning,
and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise
counsels;
- 6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation,
the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
- 7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
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Author

- Solomon
- Agur
- Lemuel
- “Wise Men”



Solomon's Jerusalem



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The First Principle of Wisdom

- ⦿ The fear of the LORD
is the beginning of wisdom



Proverbs 1v7
Ecclesiastes 12v13
Psalm 111v10
Job 28v28

Because there are 2 things necessary for the attainment of wisdom

- The humbling of ourselves
- The stirring of the that desire to get wisdom

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"With humility comes wisdom" 11v2

"The fear of the LORD provides wise instruction, and before honour comes humility" 15v33

Pro 21:30

There is no wisdom and there is no understanding,
and there is no counsel against the LORD

Title, Introduction and Motto	1:1-7
A Father's praise of wisdom	1:8 – 9:18
Proverbs of Solomon	10:1 – 22:16
Words of the Wise Men	22:17 – 24:22
Further Words of the Wise Men	24:23 – 34
Further Proverbs of Solomon	25:1 – 29:27
Words of Agur	30:1 – 33
Words of King Lemuel	31:1 – 9
An Alphabet of Wifely Excellence	31:10 – 31

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A Father's praise of wisdom	30%
Proverbs of Solomon	
Words of the Wise Men	
Further Words of the Wise Men	60%
Further Proverbs of Solomon	
Words of Agur	
Words of King Lemuel	6%
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(Hezekiah's Collection)	
Words of Agur (v15-33 Numerical sayings)	30:1 – 33
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Lecture 2: The path to wisdom	2:1-22
Lecture 3: The wisdom of piety	3:1-12
Lecture 4: The wisdom of honesty	3:21-35
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Lecture 6: The two paths	4:10-19
Lecture 7: The straight path	4:20-27
Lecture 8: Stick to your own wife	5:1-23
Lecture 9: Adultery kills	6:20-35
Lecture 10: Beware of the seductress	7:1-27

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PROVERBS TO LIVE BY

Part 2

Wise Listening & Wise Talking

Proverbs arranged by theme

4 umbrella themes

- ⦿ The wise and righteous life
- ⦿ Economic life
- ⦿ Social life
- ⦿ Overarching ideas

The Wise and Righteous Life

- ◉ The wisdom of virtue
- ◉ Wise speech
- ◉ Wise listening
- ◉ Guidance and God's sovereignty
- ◉ The wisdom of fidelity and purity

Economic Life

- ◉ Money, wealth and poverty
- ◉ Work and laziness
- ◉ The wisdom of honest business

Social Life

- ⦿ Family and household
- ⦿ Political life
- ⦿ Neighbours and friends

Overarching Ideas

- ⦿ The value of wisdom (and the consequence of folly)
- ⦿ The fates of the wicked and the righteous
- ⦿ The wise and fools in life
- ⦿ The fear of the LORD

Wise Listening

Limitations of proverbial sayings

- It achieves only a slice of reality
- The truth of a saying usually needs another saying to counterbalance it
- An individual proverb is not the final word on the subject

Wise Talking

Pro 13:3

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life:

but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction

What God hates (6:16 – 19)

- Haughty eyes
- A lying tongue
- Hands that shed innocent blood
- A heart that devises wicked plans
- Feet that hurry to run to evil
- A lying witness who testifies falsely
- One who sows discord in a family

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What Lady Wisdom hates (8:13)

- Pride
- Arrogance
- The way of evil
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ATTITUDE

THOUGHT

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What God hates (6:16 – 19)

- Haughty eyes ATTITUDE
- A lying tongue SPEECH – lies unofficial
- Hands that shed innocent blood
- A heart that devises wicked plans THOUGHT
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| ○ A lying tongue | SPEECH |
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| ○ A heart that devises wicked plans | THOUGHT |
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“Haughty eyes and a proud heart,
the lamp of the wicked,
are sin”

Prov.21v4 RSV

“Haughty eyes and a proud heart,
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are sin”

Prov.21v4 RSV

“The lamp of the wicked
will be put out”

Prov.24v20 RSV

“Haughty eyes and a proud heart,
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Prov.21v4 RSV

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Prov.24v20 RSV

The wages of sin is death

Pro 12:22

The LORD abhors a person who lies,
but those who deal truthfully are his
delight.

Pro 12:19

The one who tells the truth will endure forever,
but the one who lies will last only for a moment.

Pro 19:9

A false witness will not go unpunished,
and the one who spouts out lies will perish.

Pro 30:7-9

Two things I ask from you;
do not refuse me before I die:
Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
do not give me poverty or riches,
feed me with my allotted portion of bread,
lest I become satisfied and act
deceptively
and say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I become poor and steal
and demean the name of my God.

Pro 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the
tongue,
and those who love its use will eat its fruit

The Power of Words

Words have 2 qualities which give them this power

1. Penetrating
2. Spread

Pro 12:18

Speaking recklessly is like the thrusts of a sword,
but the words of the wise bring healing.

Pro 18:8; 26v22

The words of a gossip are like choice morsels (AV wounds); they go down into the person's innermost being.

Pro 11:9

With his speech the godless person destroys his neighbor, but by knowledge the righteous will be delivered

Pro 16:24

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul and healing to the
bones.

Pro 6:19 *what God hates*

a false witness who pours out lies,
and a person who spreads discord
among family members

Pro 16:27-28

A wicked scoundrel digs up evil,
and his slander is like a scorching fire.

A perverse person spreads dissension,
and a gossip separates the closest
friends.

Pro 12:14

A person will be satisfied with good from
the fruit of his words,
and the work of his hands will be
rendered to him.

Pro 10:11

The teaching of the righteous is a fountain of life,
but the speech of the wicked conceals violence.

Pro 15:4

Speech that heals is like a life-giving tree,
but a perverse tongue breaks the spirit.

The Marks of Good Words

1. They will be honest
2. They will be few
3. They will be calm
4. They will be apt

They will be honest

Pro 16:13

The delight of kings is righteous counsel,
and they love the one who speaks
uprightly.

They will be honest

Pro 29:5

The one who flatters his neighbor
spreads a net for his steps.

They will be honest

Pro 28:23

The one who reproveth another will in the end find more favor than the one who flatters with the tongue.

They will be honest

Pro 24:26

Like a kiss on the lips is the one who gives an honest answer.

They will be few

Pro 17:28

Even a fool who remains silent is considered wise,
and the one who holds his tongue is deemed discerning.

They will be few

Pro 10:19

When words abound, transgression is inevitable,
but the one who restrains his words is wise.

They will be few

Pro 13:3

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: *but* he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

They will be few

Pro 11:12 - 13

The one who denounces his neighbor lacks wisdom,
but the one who has discernment keeps silent.

The one who goes about slandering others reveals secrets,
but the one who is trustworthy conceals a matter.

They will be calm

Pro 17:27

The truly wise person restrains his words,
and the one who stays calm is discerning.

They will be calm

Pro 18:13

The one who gives an answer before he
listens —
that is his folly and his shame.

Pro 29:20

Do you see someone who is hasty in his
words?
There is more hope for a fool than for
him.

They will be calm

Pro 15:1

A gentle response turns away anger,
but a harsh word stirs up wrath.

They will be calm

Pro 25:15

Through patience a ruler can be
persuaded,
and a soft tongue can break a bone.

They will be apt

Pro 15:23

A person has joy in giving an appropriate answer,
and a word at the right time — how good it is!

They will be apt

Pro 25:11

Like apples of gold in settings of silver,
so is a word skillfully spoken.

Consider

Pro 15:28

The heart of the righteous considers how to answer,
but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

Consider

Pro 20:15

There is gold, and an abundance of rubies,
but words of knowledge are like a precious jewel.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 12:13

The evil person is ensnared by the transgression of his speech, but the righteous person escapes out of trouble.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 14:3

In the speech of a fool is a rod for his back, but the words of the wise protect them.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 17:20

The one who has a perverse heart does not find good,
and the one who is deceitful in speech falls into trouble.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 10:14

Those who are wise store up knowledge,
but foolish speech leads to imminent destruction.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 21:23

The one who guards his mouth and his tongue
keeps his life from troubles.

The words we use decide our lives

Pro 18:6 - 7

The lips of a fool enter into strife,
and his mouth invites a flogging.
The mouth of a fool is his ruin,
and his lips are a snare for his life.

The words we use decide our lives

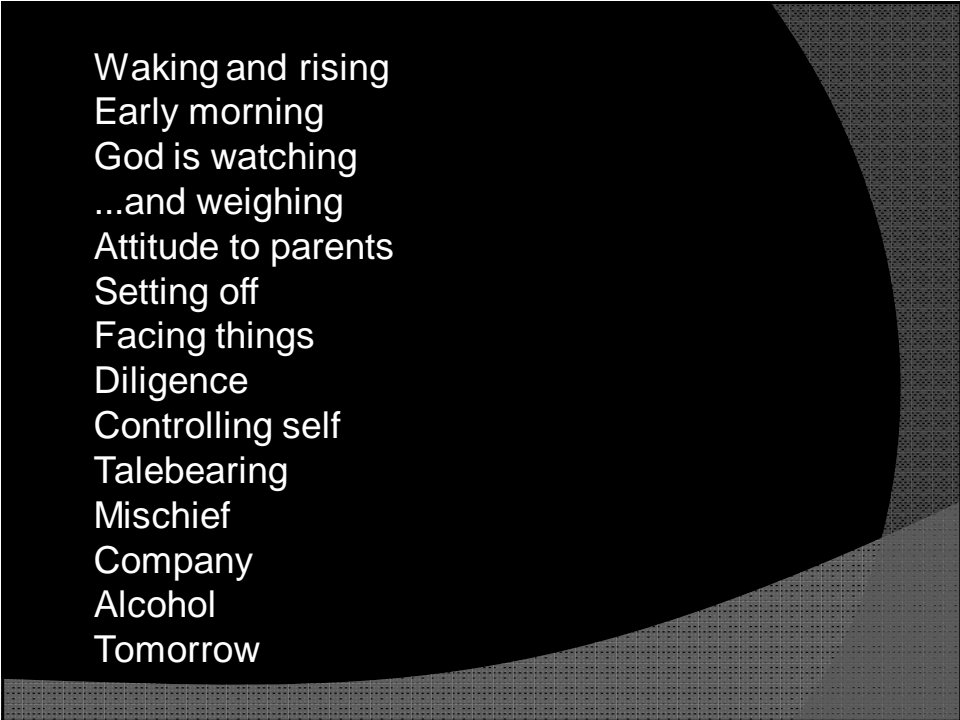
Pro 8:35 - 36

For the one who finds me finds life
and receives favor from the LORD.
But the one who does not find me brings
harm to himself;
all who hate me love death

PROVERBS TO LIVE BY

Part 3

A Day Lived by Proverbs



Waking and rising
Early morning
God is watching
...and weighing
Attitude to parents
Setting off
Facing things
Diligence
Controlling self
Talebearing
Mischief
Company
Alcohol
Tomorrow