



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

PROVERBS 3:1-12

LESSON: TRUST THE LORD

August 17, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

Wisdom is the principal theme of this book. Wisdom keeps us in harmony with the principles and purposes that the Lord had built into His world, so that as we obey God, everything works for us and not against us. King Solomon is the author of the Book of Proverbs. ¹King Solomon ruled the nation of Israel for 40 years. He brought peace and wealth to the nation. When he was young, Solomon obeyed God. He asked God for wisdom, and God gave it to him (1 Kings 3:9, 12). Solomon learned and wrote many proverbs (wise words). He spoke 3000 proverbs (1 Kings 4:32), and his songs were a thousand and five. The Book of Proverbs contains many wise sayings about the practical affairs of everyday life.

God wants His people to be wise. Two kinds of people portray two contrasting paths of life. **The fool** is the wicked, stubborn person who hates or ignores God. **The wise** person seeks to know (have a relationship) and love God by obeying Him.

LESSON:

I. PROVERBS 3:1-4

3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: "*My son*" tells us who this message is to. Solomon encourages his son to appreciate wisdom so that it would direct him. "**The law**" would be God's divine instructions, which is what Solomon followed. Learn the law first so you won't forget it. In order **not to forget** the Word, keep it in your heart. How does one **keep it in his heart**? He can't take it for granted, but he would truly and sincerely observe the commandments daily. With the Word of God in your heart, it shows that you are applying what you've learned. As the child does this, he grows to depend on God instead of others. Our children need guidance from their parents but the parents are not to be their gods, No, the children are to be dependent upon the Lord.

3:2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. When we don't forget about what we've been taught, and when we've kept what we've learned in our heart, we've got to know that all of this is not for nothing! What do we get? We will get: • Length of days • Long life • Peace. This is a threefold blessing to them that keep God's Commandments. This seems to cover life on earth, and throughout all eternity in heaven, crowned by "*peace*," which is the Hebrew word "*Shalom*"; a peace of mind; a peace to stabilize us.

3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: ²"*Mercy*" shows love to the utmost, for God and for man. "*Truth*" cannot be underestimated. It is beyond compromise. Do not forfeit these, but live up to them, and preserve interest in them. If a person could have the two most important strengths of character, it would be mercy and truth. Having mercy and truth are action words towards others. This "*binding them about the neck*", I believe, just means to treasure them highly, and don't lose them somewhere along the way. "*Write them upon the tables of thine heart*" has to do with the heart dictating a

¹ <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/proverbs1-9-lbw.htm>

² <http://www.lovetheLord.com/books/proverbs/03.html>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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person's actions. It isn't enough for a believer to carry the bible in their hands; they must let the Holy Spirit write it on their hearts where the Word will come up at any and all times.

3:4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. When we keep "**mercy**" (lovingkindness) in our outward demonstration and "**truth**" in our inward heart, we will "**find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.**" What that says to me is that you will begin to seek God's wisdom and in the time of crisis, you will not be frustrated because you didn't forsake mercy and truth. You rendered mercy and truth to others. You showed respect by not trying to compete in others' failure. And mercy and truth with good understanding will always be good in God's sight. The door of favor is always open. However, our understanding about making intelligent choices comes from knowing God is in charge of this favor, and He allows the door of favor to be opened with Himself and man.

II. PROVERBS 3:5-10

3:5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

"**Trust**" is the conviction of knowing who God is, and what God can do; your dependency is in nothing else but the Lord. It means that you have prayed about the situation, and God has given wisdom to believe. Trust is not supposed to come from the head or what you think, but from what God had placed in your **heart**. In verse 4, "**good understanding**", shall you find, and in verse 5 we are not to put our **own understanding** before believing God's wisdom. There is a danger when leaning to our own understanding; we will miss God's Will— something better in which we haven't thought of. What little knowledge that we do have is because of God's generosity towards us. We can do nothing of our own selves without God who should be the head of our lives.

3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. To succeed, said Solomon, we must put God first in our lives. Jesus emphasized this same truth; "**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness**" Matt.6:33. "**Acknowledge**" means to recognize God first; go to God first in prayer to be directed. When you are aware of, and have fellowship with God, he directs. The word, "**direct**" means to make smooth or straight. If God's truth is in the heart, you will definitely lean to it, and walk in a smooth, and straight path. Praise God!

3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. When we become wise in our own eyes, we're then heading for trouble. Wisdom suggests that we take notice of God which is in opposition of the efforts of man; that we humbly recognize Him as that "**One**" who can best control the affairs of our lives. The one who "**fears the Lord**" (reverence and is in awe of Him) walks not in vanity of self-conceit, but "**departs from evil**" (shun, avoid, and abstain evil).

3:8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. In our right approach to life, it will have an effect of producing "**health to the navel**," which is the lifeline of the body for one who is in a state of dependency. Just like the navel is the means by which the child receives life and nourishment from the mother while in the womb, so when we have a fear and reverence for God we will depart from evil ways and habits gives life as a child of God. Our commitment and dependency on God will show us how to have relief causing no dryness in our bones. No human life can be imagined without the frame that upholds the body, and the nervous system that is contained in the bone marrow. ³"**Marrow to thy**

³ http://www.searchgodsword.org/com/geb/view.cgi?book=pr&chapter=3&verse=8#Pr3_8
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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"bones" or, **"watering"** them is that which irrigates and moistens the bones, and makes and keeps them strong and solid. Marrow is literally watering, refreshing, and moistening to the bones symbolizing physical strength, while God provides both physical and spiritual strength. Bones will be continuously refreshed as a man trusts in Yahweh (Job 21:24) and commits to God's wisdom. What marrow is to the bones, then wisdom, or the fear of God is to the souls of men, establishing and strength against sin, and the snares and temptations, as we do the will and work of God.

3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:— It did not say honor wealth, but **"honor the Lord with our substance"**; give of your best to the Lord. Many people give their leftovers. However, trusting God will always be proven in the area of a man's stewardship of their material wealth. Stewardship is not an attempt to bribe God and ensure our own wealth. It is a committed response to the God who never forgets the needs of His people. ⁴There are various ways that we can honor the Lord. We can honor the Lord by living a pure life, a holy life, by worshiping Him, by proclaiming His truth. But one very significant and important way to honor the Lord is with our wealth. The tithe ($\frac{1}{10}$) is paid after the money is made.

It is better to give God the first part of our income. For example, when it comes to money, before making any further financial decisions, know that putting God first means that God, who is the first and best, must have the first and best of everything. I give the tenth of my gross not my net. The first fruits belong to the Lord (Deut.18; 4; 26:2). The first fruits are paid in anticipation of what will come. First fruits will be a faith offering. This demonstrates that God, not possessions, has the first place in our lives. If we are stingy, if we withhold the Lord's portion, if we don't give when the Holy Spirit prompts us to give, then we are dishonoring the Lord. Giving to God first helps us conquer greed, helps us properly manage God's resources, and opens us to God's special blessings. It shows that God's people can count on His blessings when they honor Him with their offerings.

3:10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. **"Barns"** are the storehouses. **"Presses"** are the vats of a Roman vineyard, into which the wine flowed through a pipe from the wine-press. Therefore, the honoring of God leads to our material prosperity being filled. Those that do good with what they have shall have more to do more good as God leads. The result of such faithfulness to honor God is prosperity and satisfaction. I believe our **"barns"** today are the banks and our **"presses"** are the CD's and investments shall be filled with plenty and burst with newness.

III. PROVERBS 3:11-12

3:11 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:— God is our Father who wants to teach us the wise path of life. Since even the wisest of God's children are subject to sin, and bring dishonor to God, there is a necessity of God's fatherly discipline to increase wisdom and blessing. Such correction should not be resisted because it keeps us on the right track.

3:12 For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth. Man is born in sin and practices the art of sinning before he meets the God of grace. Thus, the Lord's hand of correction is often found upon us to shepherd us away from sin. And because God delights in us, we must not be weary of His hand upon us or despise His gentle and persistent presence; a presence that is always grounded in His faithfulness. It is a sign of both His displeasure of sin, and His

⁴ <http://healtheland.wordpress.com/2008/01/22/ways-to-honor-god-proverbs-39-10/>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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love for His children. An humble submission is an essential addition to our growth in spiritual truth (Pt.5:6).

SUMMARY:

This is fatherly counsel to his son. This would be advice you would give to your son or daughter.

1. ⁵Be faithful (Forget Not; Keep the Commandments) (**3:3-4**)
2. Trust the Lord's Guidance (**3:5-8**)
3. Honor with Giving (**3:9-10**)
4. Accept discipline; Correction (**3:11-12**)

When you are **faithful**, you won't forget what you've been taught. I know a lot of times when leaving our parents house, we choose not to follow all the things they've said. But there are some things that you kept in your heart you will always follow and not forget. Those are the things that sticks and will always benefit you! They will in turn yield length of days, long life, and peace. If a person could have the two most important strengths of character, it would be mercy and truth to which God is faithful. A merciful, kind person cares for others in his heart. A truthful, loyal person acts responsibly and faithfully and finds favor, and good understanding in the sight of God and man (**3:1-4**).

Trust is a word that speaks to all of us—children and adults. My acronym for **TRUST** is **The Real Underlying Stable Truth**. Who do we trust, and how far are we to trust? We are to trust the Lord with all our heart. **How do we trust?** We trust by not depending on our own understanding; we put ourselves wholly at the mercy of another (that is, God); and we don't try to figure out everything on our own, because by acknowledging God in all our ways as the one we truly trust, He then makes our paths smooth; He keeps us on track.

A person cannot grow when he gets the attitude of pride. We then can't assume to know it all, we have to listen to God, and our reverence to God will turn us from evil. The fear of the Lord will take away all arrogance and pride. There is a connection between physical health, and spiritual, and emotional health, and that is trusting in God. Our body will glow with health and our bones will vibrate with life because we didn't follow evil but followed God's wisdom.

Giving of our material wealth honors the Lord. It really shows God where our heart lies. It also shows that God's people can count on His blessings when we honor Him with our offerings. Whatever our best is, God deserves it (**3:5-10**).

Accept discipline because it is out of love that God gives it. By not despising God's discipline or chastening, we grow. If there is no discipline, there is no love (**3:11-12**).

APPLICATION:

The instruction for today is to live life wisely, not with fleshly understanding but building upon the foundation of God's wise, and profound Word that will keep you in the right attitude and behavior.

⁵ http://www.biblebc.com/bbi/Courses/OT_Survey/Old%20Testament%20Survey%20-%20Student%206.pdf
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>

