

{3:34} Ipse deludet illusores, et mansuetis dabit gratiam.

{3:34} He will ridicule those who ridicule, but he will bestow grace upon the mild.

<sup>34</sup> He mocks those who mock, but accords his favour to the humble.

{3:35} Gloriam sapientes possidebunt: stultorum exaltatio, ignominia.

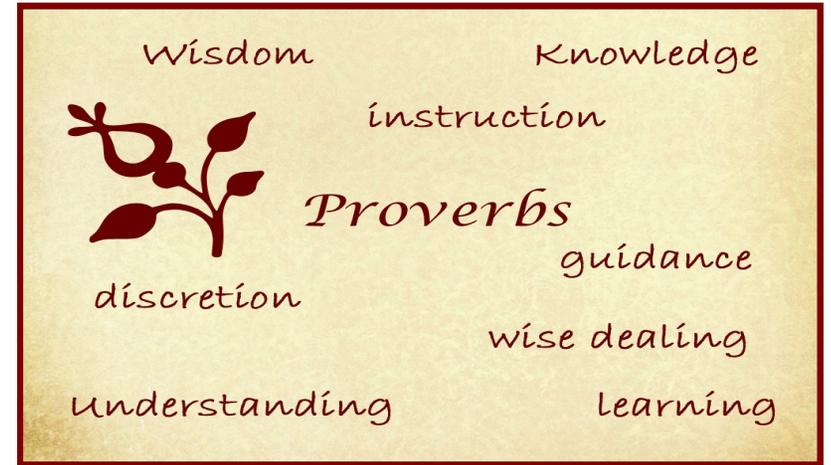
{3:35} The wise will possess glory. The exaltation of the foolish is disgraceful.

<sup>35</sup> Glory is the portion of the wise, all that fools inherit is contempt.

### *End of Proverbs 3*

# *Proverbs*

*(Those who choose wisdom and follow God will be blessed in numerous ways.)*



## *Proverbs 3*

*My son, forget not my teaching, keep in mind my commands;  
For many days, and years of life, and peace,  
will they bring you.  
Let not kindness and fidelity leave you;  
bind them around your neck;  
Then will you win favor and good esteem before God and man.*

*Proverbs 3:1-4*

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*Knowledge is an accumulation of raw facts, but wisdom is the ability to see people, events, and situations as God sees them. In the Book of Proverbs, the mind of God is revealed in matters high and lofty and in common, ordinary, everyday situations as well. It appears that no topic escapes attention. Summarizing the Book of Proverbs is difficult for unlike many other books of Scripture, there is no particular plot or storyline found in its pages; nor are there any principal characters found in the book. It is wisdom that takes center stage— a grand, divine wisdom that transcends the whole of history, peoples and cultures. The theme of wisdom and its necessity in our lives finds its fulfillment in Christ. In Proverbs we are exhorted that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

*Both the Latin and English translation of each line of the verse will be outlined, along with a brief Catholic explanation of that line of the verse.*

### **Proverbs 3**

{3:1} Fili mi, ne obliviscaris legis meæ, et præcepta mea cor tuum custodiat.

{3:1} My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart guard my precepts.

<sup>1</sup> My child, do not forget my teaching, let your heart keep my principles,

{3:2} Longitudinem enim dierum, et annos vitæ, et pacem apponent tibi.

{3:2} For they shall set before you length of days, and years of life, and peace.

<sup>2</sup> since they will increase your length of days, your years of life and your well-being.

{3:3} Misericordia, et veritas te non deserant, circumda eas gutturi tuo, et describe in tabulis cordis tui:

{3:3} Let not mercy and truth abandon you: encircle them around your throat, and inscribe them on the tablets of your heart.

<sup>3</sup> Let faithful love and constancy never leave you: tie them round your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

{3:4} et invenies gratiam, et disciplinam bonam coram Deo et hominibus.

{3:4} And so shall you discover grace and good discipline, in the sight of God and men.

<sup>4</sup> Thus you will find favour and success in the sight of God and of people.

{3:29} Ne moliaris amico tuo malum, cum ille in te habeat fiduciam.

{3:29} Do not undertake evil against your friend, even though he has trust in you.

<sup>29</sup> Do not plot harm against your neighbour who is living unsuspecting beside you.

{3:30} Ne contendas adversus hominem frustra, cum ipse tibi nihil mali fecerit.

{3:30} Do not contend against a man without cause, even though he has done no evil to you.

<sup>30</sup> Do not pick a groundless quarrel with anyone who has done you no harm.

{3:31} Ne æmuleris hominem iniustum, nec imiteris vias eius:

{3:31} Do not rival an unjust man, and do not imitate his ways.

~ Or, 'Do not compete with an unjust man,' or, 'Do not rival an unjust man.'

<sup>31</sup> Do not envy the man of violence, never model your conduct on his;

{3:32} quia abominatio Domini est omnis illusor, et cum simplicibus sermocinatio eius.

{3:32} For everyone who ridicules is an abomination to the Lord, and his communication is for the simple.

<sup>32</sup> for the willful wrong-doer is abhorrent to Yahweh, who confides only in the honest.

{3:33} Egestas a Domino in domo impii: habitacula autem iustorum benedicentur.

{3:33} Destitution in the house of the impious is from the Lord. But the habitations of the just shall be blessed.

<sup>33</sup> Yahweh's curse lies on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the upright.

{3:23} Tunc ambulabis fiducialiter in via tua, et pes tuus non impinget:

{3:23} Then you shall walk confidently in your way, and your feet will not stumble.

<sup>23</sup> You will go on your way in safety, your feet will not stumble.

{3:24} si dormieris, non timebis: quiesces, et suavis erit somnus tuus.

{3:24} When you slumber, you shall not fear. When you rest, your sleep also will be sweet.

<sup>24</sup> When you go to bed, you will not be afraid; once in bed, your sleep will be sweet.

{3:25} Ne paveas repentino terrore, et irruentes tibi potentias impiorum.

{3:25} Do not fear unexpected terror, nor the power of the impious falling upon you.

<sup>25</sup> Have no fear either of sudden terror or of attack mounted by wicked men,

{3:26} Dominus enim erit in latere tuo, et custodiet pedem tuum ne capiaris.

{3:26} For the Lord will be at your side, and he will guard your feet, so that you may not be seized.

<sup>26</sup> since Yahweh will be your guarantor, he will keep your steps from the snare.

{3:27} Noli prohibere benefacere eum, qui potest: si vales, et ipse benefac:

{3:27} Do not prevent him who is able from doing good. When you are able, do good yourself too.

<sup>27</sup> Refuse no kindness to those who have a right to it, if it is in your power to perform it.

{3:28} Ne dicas amico tuo: Vade, et revertere: cras dabo tibi: cum statim possis dare.

{3:28} Do not say to your friend: "Go away, and then return. Tomorrow I will give to you." When you are able to do so, give in the present.

<sup>28</sup> Do not say to your neighbour, 'Go away! Come another time! I will give it you tomorrow,' if you can do it now.

{3:5} Habe fiduciam in Domino ex toto corde tuo, et ne innitaris prudentiæ tuæ.

{3:5} Have confidence in the Lord with all your heart, and do not depend upon your own prudence.

<sup>5</sup> Trust wholeheartedly in Yahweh, put no faith in your own perception;

{3:6} In omnibus viis tuis cogita illum, et ipse diriget gressus tuos.

{3:6} In all your ways, consider him, and he himself will direct your steps.

<sup>6</sup> acknowledge him in every course you take, and he will see that your paths are smooth.

{3:7} Ne sis sapiens apud teipsum: time Deum, et recede a malo:

{3:7} Do not seem wise to yourself. Fear God, and withdraw from evil.

<sup>7</sup> Do not congratulate yourself on your own wisdom, fear Yahweh and turn your back on evil:

{3:8} sanitas quippe erit umbilico tuo, et irrigatio ossium tuorum.

{3:8} Certainly, it shall be health to your navel, and refreshment to your bones.

<sup>8</sup> health-giving, this, to your body, relief to your bones.

{3:9} Honora Dominum de tua substantia, et de primitiis omnium frugum tuarum da ei:

{3:9} Honor the Lord with your substance, and give to him from the first of all your fruits,

<sup>9</sup> Honour Yahweh with what goods you have and with the first-fruits of all your produce;

{3:10} et implebuntur horrea tua saturitate, et vino torcularia tua redundabunt.

{3:10} and then your storehouses will be filled with abundance, and your presses shall overflow with wine.

<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled with corn, your vats overflowing with new wine.

{3:11} Disciplinam Domini, fili mi, ne abiicias: nec deficias cum ab eo corripis:

{3:11} My son, do not discard the discipline of the Lord, and do not fall away when you are corrected by him.

<sup>11</sup> My child, do not scorn correction from Yahweh, do not resent his reproof;

{3:12} quem enim diligit Dominus, corripit: et quasi pater in filio complacet sibi.

{3:12} For whomever the Lord loves, he corrects, and just as a father does with a son, he wins him over.

<sup>12</sup> for Yahweh reproves those he loves, as a father the child whom he loves.

{3:13} Beatus homo, qui invenit sapientiam, et qui affluit prudentia:

{3:13} Blessed is the man who finds wisdom and who advances to prudence.

<sup>13</sup> Blessed are those who have discovered wisdom, those who have acquired understanding!

{3:14} melior est acquisitio eius negotiatione argenti, et auri primi et purissimi fructus eius:

{3:14} Her acquisition is better than trading in silver, and her fruit is better than the first and purest gold.

<sup>14</sup> Gaining her is more rewarding than silver, her yield is more valuable than gold.

{3:15} pretiosior est cunctis opibus: et omnia, quæ desiderantur, huic non valent comparari.

{3:15} She is more precious than all riches, and all that can be desired cannot prevail in comparison to her.

<sup>15</sup> She is beyond the price of pearls, nothing you could covet is her equal.

{3:16} Longitudo dierum in dextera eius, et in sinistra illius divitiarum, et gloria.

{3:16} Length of days is at her right hand, and at her left hand is wealth and glory.

<sup>16</sup> In her right hand is length of days; in her left hand, riches and honour.

{3:17} Viæ eius viæ pulchræ, et omnes semitæ illius pacificæ.

{3:17} Her ways are beautiful ways, and all her paths are peaceful.

<sup>17</sup> Her ways are filled with delight, her paths all lead to contentment.

{3:18} Lignum vitæ est his, qui apprehenderint eam: et qui tenuerit eam, beatus.

{3:18} She is a tree of life to those who overtake her, and he who shall take hold of her is blessed.

<sup>18</sup> She is a tree of life for those who hold her fast, those who cling to her live happy lives.

{3:19} Dominus sapientia fundavit terram, stabilivit cælos prudentia.

{3:19} The Lord founded the earth on wisdom. He secured the heavens with prudence.

<sup>19</sup> In wisdom, Yahweh laid the earth's foundations, in understanding he spread out the heavens.

{3:20} Sapientia illius eruperunt abyssi, et nubes rore concreverunt.

{3:20} By his wisdom, the abyss erupted and the clouds increased with dew.

<sup>20</sup> Through his knowledge the depths were cleft open, and the clouds distil the dew.

{3:21} Fili mi, ne effluant hæc ab oculis tuis: Custodi legem atque consilium:

{3:21} My son, let not these things move away from your eyes. Preserve law as well as counsel.

<sup>21</sup> My child, hold to sound advice and prudence, never let them out of sight;

{3:22} et erit vita animæ tuæ, et gratia faucibus tuis.

{3:22} And so shall there be life in your soul and grace in your voice.

<sup>22</sup> they will give life to your soul and beauty to your neck.