

Proverbs 1:5-6. “A wise man will hear and increase learning. A man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles.” (read vs. 5-6)

What is a person willing to do to know the truth? The answer to that question determines his wisdom, and ultimately his eternal destiny. The truth is often buried in words, in science, in philosophy – the opinions of men. How does one distinguish truth from error? It takes a man (or a woman) who will keep learning until he or she understands. Proverbs is in the poetry section of the Bible. Poetry touches our feelings, when other genres reach only our minds. Proverbs speaks to the whole man. Each proverb is designed to make us think, and feel, and wonder, and respond. God’s wisdom is revealed in poetical sayings of inspired men in order to lead us to Himself. God desires to reveal Himself in the deepest recesses of our psyche, and He uses inspired poetry to do it. To ignore Proverbs is to shun God’s revelation of Himself to the deepest part of our being. The “wise man” is an intelligent man. The “man of understanding” is one who separates or distinguishes truth from error. That is not always as easy as it may seem. Every proverb is a parable. It is an “enigma” or a “riddle.” If you are serious about knowing truth you will “hear and increase learning” of these dark sayings. If you won’t do that, you are a pretender. Here’s a proverb for you, and it’s pretty straight forward. “You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t force him to drink.” The Book of Proverbs will lead you to the truth, but it is up to you to hear and continue to learn. Only the wise will do that. And they will get wiser.