

The Book of Proverbs

Godly Wisdom for Everyday Life

SSBC Proverbs Bible Study # 7

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Proverbs 30:5 - 6

Sermon Date: November 11, 2007

The LORD's Word is Perfect.

For the last several weeks we have been looking at various aspects of having a proper understanding of the phrase "the fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom". We have learned that this word "fear" DOES NOT MEAN that we should have a trembling fear of dread and doom but that we should have a perspective of reverence and awe for the Lord. This reverence and awe is due the Lord because he is sovereign, he is omniscient, and wise beyond our comprehension.

This week we are studying another attribute on the road to wisdom in the Lord and that is the perfection of the "word of God". Our memory verse for this week says that "every word of God is flawless". Have you ever stopped to think about what that means? Can we literally look at the body of writing that we call the Bible and say that it is "flawless" and "perfect"?

Let's take a look at this concept together and discover the truth about it.

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the following charts to note your observations and any questions you have. The first verse below is the key verse for this study. Keeping this verse in mind, read each of the subsequent verses and note how each provides further insight into the meaning of this key verse.

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p>Key Verse Proverbs 30:5 (NIV)</p> <p>^{30:5} Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.</p> <hr/> <p>^{30:6} Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.</p>	

2. Next, use this chart to interpret some key observations.

- a. From the chart on the previous pages, select a few of your observations & questions that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and then interpret and apply each of them using the columns to the right.

- b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father,? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it Say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

3. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- ◆ **S**ins to avoid
- ◆ **P**romises to believe
- ◆ **E**xamples to follow (remember “SPECK”)
- ◆ **C**ommands to obey
- ◆ **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them — listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application
How do I apply what it means?

4. Proverbs 30:5 says that every word of God is flawless. This is a very controversial statement in today's society. What is the basis of our belief that the Word of God can be trusted? Consider 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Psalm 19:7—10.

5. How do we know that the words spoken by the prophets in the Old Testament are the word of God? Consider 2 Peter 1:19-21.

6. In the second half of Proverbs 30:5, it tells us that God is a shield unto any who put their trust in him. How does God become our shield if we trust in Him? Consider II Samuel 22:31-37 and Psalm 91.

7. How does a person who trusts in the Lord know that they are under the Lord's shield? Consider John 15:1-8 and Colossians 3:12-17. How have you personally experienced the Lord as your shield?

8. Proverbs 30:6 warns us not to add anything to God's word lest he rebuke us. Why is God so protective of his holy word? Consider 2 Timothy 2:14-19 and Revelation 22:18—19.
9. How can we, as a believer, be sure that we are not adding anything to God's word as we study it and teach it to others? Consider John 16:5-15.
10. How can you take what you have studied today and make in real in your life?

Memory Verse

Proverbs 30:5

Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

When I think of this week's theme, "The Lord's Word is perfect", I cannot help but think of John Chapter 1 and specifically, John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Then we can look further down in John chapter 1 to verse 14 where it says: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." What beautiful thoughts these are and what an amazing God we have. What an example of perfection we have in these verses as they point us to our Lord Jesus Christ, who was the perfect Lamb of God, the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

What an example of our sovereign God, who in his wisdom, sent his perfect Son to die for us. If you have not yet committed you life to following Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, take a moment right now and ask him into your life. You will never regret it and you will be on the road to gaining wisdom that we have been talking about the last seven weeks of our study of Proverbs.

These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact studieditor@southshorebaptist.com

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