



# “LADY WISDOM’S TEXT APPEAL: BE A LISTENER OR A LAUGHING STOCK”

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PROVERBS 1:20-33 BIBLE STUDY

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CONTEXT  
THE PURPOSE OF PROVERBS



- The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel. (Pr 1:1, AT)



## CONTEXT

### THE PURPOSE OF PROVERBS

- 2 To learn wisdom and discipline,  
To understand words of insight
  - 3 To acquire the discipline of good judgment,  
righteousness, justice, and fairness
  - 4 To give prudence to the **naïve**,  
knowledge and discretion to the young
- (Pr 1:2-4, AT)
- 



CONTEXT  
THE PURPOSE OF PROVERBS



5 The wise will listen and increase in learning,  
the one who understands will get guidance

6 To understand proverb and parable,  
the sayings of the wise and their riddles

(Pr 1:5-6, AT)





CONTEXT  
THE MOTTO OF PROVERBS



The fear of the LORD [YHWH] is the beginning of knowledge,  
but **wisdom** and discipline fools despise.

(Pr 1:7, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE IN TO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



8 **Listen** [שָׁמָע | *šāma* '], my son, to the discipline of your father,  
and do not forsake the instruction of your mother.

9 For they are a graceful garland for your head,  
and necklaces for your neck.

(Pr 1:8-9, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE INTO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



10 My son, if sinners entice you,  
do not consent.

11 If they say, "Come with us!  
Let's lie in wait for blood;

Let's hide to ambush an innocent person without reason!

12 Let's swallow them alive like Sheol,

and whole, like those who go down to the Pit! (Pr 1:10-12, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE INTO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



13 We'll get all kinds of valuable possessions;  
we'll fill our houses with plunder!

14 Throw in your lot with us;  
it will be one purse for us all!

(Pr 1:13-14, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE INTO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



15 My son, do not walk with them on their way;

Keep your foot from their paths.

16 For their feet run to evil;

they are hasty to shed blood.

(Pr 1:15-16, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE INTO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



17 For in vain is the net spread  
in the sight of any bird.

18 But they lie in wait for their own blood;  
They ambush their own lives.

(Pr 1:17-18, AT)





CONTEXT  
DON'T GIVE INTO SIN;  
BEWARE OF THE SNARE



Such are the pathways of all who pursue unjust gain;  
It takes the lives of its possessors.  
(Pr 1:19, AT)





PROVERBS 1:20-21  
WOMAN WISDOM'S  
WAKE-UP CALL



20 Wisdom cries out in the street;

In the public squares, she raises her voice.

21 At the head of the noisy [paths], she calls;

At the entrances of the city gates, she says her sayings:

(Pr 1:20-21, AT)





PROVERBS 1:20-21  
WOMAN WISDOM'S  
WAKE-UP CALL



13 **Blessed** are those who **find wisdom**,  
those who **gain understanding**,

14 for she is **more profitable than silver**  
and yields **better returns than gold**.

15 She is **more precious than rubies**;  
**nothing you desire can compare with her**.

(Pr 3:13-15, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:20-21  
WOMAN WISDOM'S  
WAKE-UP CALL



**16 Long life is in her right hand;  
in her left hand are riches and honor.**  
(Pr 3:16, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
HOW LONG?



“How long will you naïve ones love naivete,  
and mockers [  $\Upsilon^{\text{L}}$  | *lēs* ] delight in mockery,  
and foolish ones hate knowledge?

(Pr 1:22, AT)





PROVERBS 1:22  
HOW LONG?



1 **How long, LORD [YHWH]?** Will you forget me forever?

**How long** will you hide your face from me?

2 **How long** must I wrestle with my thoughts  
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

**How long** will my enemy triumph over me?

(Ps 13:1-2, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



He mocks proud mockers [  $\Psi\text{?}$  | *lēs* ]

but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.

(Pr 3:34, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



7 Whoever corrects a **mockers** [  $\text{לֵשׁׁר} | lēṣ$ ] invites insults;  
whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse.

8 Do not rebuke **mockers** [  $\text{לֵשׁׁר} | lēṣ$ ] or they will hate you;  
rebuke the wise and they will love you.

(Pr 9:7-8, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



- 15 “If your brother or sister **sins**, go and **point out their fault**, just **between the two of you**. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of **two or three witnesses**.’ [Dt 19:15] 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. (Mt 18:15-17, NIV)
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PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



- For where **two** or **three** gather in my name, there am I with them.”  
(Mt 18:20, NIV)
- 



PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



- Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should **restore that person gently**. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. (Gal 6:1, NIV)
- 



PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



- 19 My brothers and sisters, if one of you should **wander from the truth** and someone should **bring that person back**, 20 remember this: **Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins. (Jas 5:19-20, NIV)**
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PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



**Whoever rebukes a person will in the end gain favor  
rather than one who has a flattering tongue.**

**(Pr 28:23, NIV)**





PROVERBS 1:22  
MOCKERS SCOFF  
AT REBUKE



The proud and arrogant person—“**Mocker**” [  $\Psi^{\text{L}}$  |  $l\bar{e}s$  ] is his name—  
behaves with insolent fury. (Pr 21:24, NIV)

**Mockers** [  $\Psi^{\text{L}}$  |  $l\bar{e}s$  ] resent correction,  
so they avoid the wise. (Pr 15:12, NIV)

A wise son heeds his father’s instruction,  
but a **mocker** [  $\Psi^{\text{L}}$  |  $l\bar{e}s$  ] does not respond to rebukes. (Pr 13:1, AT)







PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



The fear of the LORD [YHWH] is the beginning of knowledge,

but wisdom and discipline fools [ **אִילְוִיָּל** | *'ěwîl*] despise. (Pr 1:7, AT)

The discerning heart seeks knowledge,

but the mouth of a **fool** [ **קֶסֶל** | *kesîl*] **feeds on folly**. (Pr 15:14, NIV)

The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge,

but the **mouth** of the **fool** [ **קֶסֶל** | *kesîl*] **gushes folly**. (Pr 15:2, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



**Fools** [ לִּזְמוּנִים | *kesîl*] find **no pleasure in understanding** but delight in **airing their own opinions**. (Pr 18:2, NIV)

**6** The **lips of fools** [ לִּזְמוּנִים | *kesîl*] bring them **strife**, and their **mouths** invite a **beating**.

**7** The **mouths of fools** [ לִּזְמוּנִים | *kesîl*] are their **undoing**, and their **lips** are a **snare** to their very **lives**. (Pr 18:6-7, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



The wise fear the LORD [YHWH] and shun evil,  
but a **fool** [ כִּסְיִל | *kesîl*] is **hotheaded** and yet feels secure.

(Pr 14:16, NIV)

**Fools** [ כִּסְיִל | *kesîl*] give full vent to their rage,  
but the wise bring calm in the end.

(Pr 29:11, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



Better for a man to meet a bear robbed of her cubs

than a **fool** [ כֶּסֶל | *kesîl*] in his foolishness. (Pr 17:12, NIV)

A **fool** [ כֶּסֶל | *kesîl*] finds pleasure in **wicked schemes**,

but a person of understanding delights in wisdom. (Pr 10:23, NIV)

All who are prudent act with knowledge,

but **fools** [ כֶּסֶל | *kesîl*] expose their folly. (Pr 13:16, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul,  
but **fools** [ כְּסִיל | *kesîl*] **detest turning from evil.**

(Pr 13:19, NIV)

As a **dog** returns to its **vomit**,  
so **fools** [ כְּסִיל | *kesîl*] **repeat their folly.**

(Pr 26:11, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:22  
FOOLS HATE  
KNOWLEDGE



He who **trusts** in his **own heart** is a **fool** [ ל'ֹזֵל | *kesîl*],  
But he who walks wisely will be delivered.

(Pr 28:26, NASB)

**Trust** in the LORD [YHWH] with **all your heart**,  
and on your own insight do not lean.

(Pr 3:5, AT)





PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



Repent at my rebuke!

Behold, then, I will pour my spirit [of wisdom] on you;  
I will make my words known to you.

(Pr 1:23, AT)





PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!

But it is the **spirit** [ רוּחַ | *rûaḥ*] in a person,  
the breath of the Almighty, that gives them **understanding**.

(Job 32:8, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



- 1 Then the LORD [YHWH] said to Moses, 2 “See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the **Spirit** [ רֹּחַ | *rûah*] of God, with **wisdom**, with **understanding**, with **knowledge** and with **all kinds of skills**—4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, 5 to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts (Ex 31:1-5, NIV)
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PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



2 The **Spirit** [ רוּחַ | *rûaḥ*] of the LORD [YHWH] will rest on him—  
the **Spirit** [ רוּחַ | *rûaḥ*] of **wisdom** and of **understanding**,  
the **Spirit** [ רוּחַ | *rûaḥ*] of counsel and of might,  
the **Spirit** [ רוּחַ | *rûaḥ*] of the knowledge and **fear of the LORD** [YHWH]—  
3 and he will delight in the **fear of the LORD** [YHWH].

(Is 11:2-3a, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



- 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way **no one knows the thoughts of God** except **the Spirit of God**. 12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. (1 Cor 2:11-12, NIV)
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PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



- 13 This is what we speak, **not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.** 14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but **considers them foolishness**, and cannot understand them because they are **discerned only through the Spirit.** (1 Cor 2:13-14, NIV)
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PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



- 29 Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must **obey God rather than human beings!** 30 The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. 31 God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to **repentance and forgive their sins.** 32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the **Holy Spirit**, whom **God has given to those who obey him.**” (Ac 5:29-32, NIV)
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PROVERBS 1:23  
REPENT!  
RECEIVE MY SPIRIT!



- Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the **forgiveness of your sins**. And you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**. (Ac 2:38, NIV)
- 



PROVERBS 1:24-25  
NO ONE  
PICKED UP



24 But since I called and you refused,  
stretched out my hand and no one paid attention,  
25 and you disregarded all my counsel,  
and did not **consent** to my rebuke,  
(Pr 1:24-25, AT)





PROVERBS 1:26-27  
LADY WISDOM  
GETS THE LAST LAUGH



26 I, in turn, will laugh at your disaster,  
I will mock when your dread comes,  
27 when your dread comes like a storm,  
and your disaster arrives like a whirlwind,  
when trouble and tribulation come upon you.

(Pr 1:26-27, AT)





PROVERBS 1:26-27  
LADY WISDOM  
GETS THE LAST LAUGH



The One enthroned in heaven **laughs**;  
the Lord **scoffs** at them.

(Ps 2:4, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:28  
ROLES  
REVERSED



Then they will call me but I will not answer;  
They will seek me but will not find me.  
(Pr 1:28, AT)





PROVERBS 1:28  
ROLES  
REVERSED



- 9 Then the LORD [YHWH] said to me, “There is a conspiracy among the people of Judah and those who live in Jerusalem.  
10 They have returned to the sins of their ancestors, who **refused to listen to my words**. They have followed other gods to serve them. Both Israel and Judah have broken the covenant I made with their ancestors. 11 Therefore this is what the LORD [YHWH] says: ‘I will bring on them a **disaster** they cannot escape. **Although they cry out to me, I will not listen to them.** (Jer 11:9-11, NIV)



PROVERBS 1:28  
ROLES  
REVERSED



Then they will **cry out to the LORD [YHWH],**  
**but he will not answer them.**

At that time he will hide his face from them  
**because of the evil they have done.**

(Mic 3:4, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:28  
ROLES  
REVERSED

The LORD [YHWH] detests the sacrifice of the wicked,  
but the **prayer of the upright pleases him.** (Pr 15:8, NIV)

The LORD [YHWH] is **far** from the **wicked**,  
but he **hears the prayer** of the **righteous.** (Pr 15:29, NIV)

If anyone turns a **deaf ear** to my instruction,  
even their **prayers are detestable.** (Pr 28:9, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:29-30  
YOU MISSED YOUR  
YOUR CHANCE!



29 because they hated knowledge,  
and did not choose the fear the LORD [YHWH].

30 They did not consent to my counsel;  
They despised my rebuke.

(Pr 1:29-30, AT)





PROVERBS 1:31  
YOU REAP  
WHAT YOU SOW



They will eat the fruit of their way,  
and have their fill of their own schemes.  
(Pr 1:31, AT)





PROVERBS 1:32  
FORSAKE INSTRUCTION  
FORSAKE PROTECTION



For the turning away of the naïve will slay them,  
and the carelessness of the foolish will destroy them.  
(Pr 1:32, AT)





PROVERBS 1:32  
FORSAKE INSTRUCTION  
FORSAKE PROTECTION



Do not forsake wisdom, and **she will protect you;**  
**love her, and she will watch over you.**

(Pr 4:6, NIV)





PROVERBS 1:33  
TWO DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS,  
TWO DIFFERENT DESTINATIONS



But the one who listens to me will live securely  
and be at ease, without the dread of evil.

(Pr 1:33, AT)

