



# PROVERBS

*Wisdom for Living As Disciples*

# RECAP...

❑ The **fear of the LORD** is the beginning of knowledge & wisdom.

(Proverbs 1:7a ; Proverbs 9:10)

❑ Pastor Dylan's helpful definition of fear =

*"a profound **reverence and awe toward God** coupled with  
a **healthy awareness of the danger brought about by our sin**"*

❑ We see **two main voices** in the proverbs, **the voice of wisdom** and  
**the voice of folly/foolishness.**



# PROVERBS

*Wisdom for Living As Disciples*

WISDOM FOR  
HUMILITY





## **Mac Davis - It's Hard to Be Humble**

**Oh Lord, it's hard to be humble  
When you're perfect in every way.  
I can't wait to look in the mirror  
'Cause I get better looking each day.  
To know me is to love me  
I must be a hell of a man.  
Oh Lord, It's hard to be humble  
But I'm doing the best that I can.**

# WHAT OUR CULTURE VALUES?

## Our modern western culture

- ☐ Celebrates & champions the individual.
- ☐ Drives us to see ourselves as most important.
- ☐ Is increasingly concerned about popularity, money & fame.
- ☐ Often sees humility as a threat to our self-worth and self-identity.

# **1. Arrogance & pride is the way of foolishness & sin.**

**Proverbs 30:32 (ESV)**

**If you have been foolish, exalting yourself,  
or if you have been devising evil,  
put your hand on your mouth.**



# **1. Arrogance & pride is the way of foolishness & sin.**

**Proverbs 21:24 (ESV)**

**“Scoffer” is the name of the arrogant, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride.**

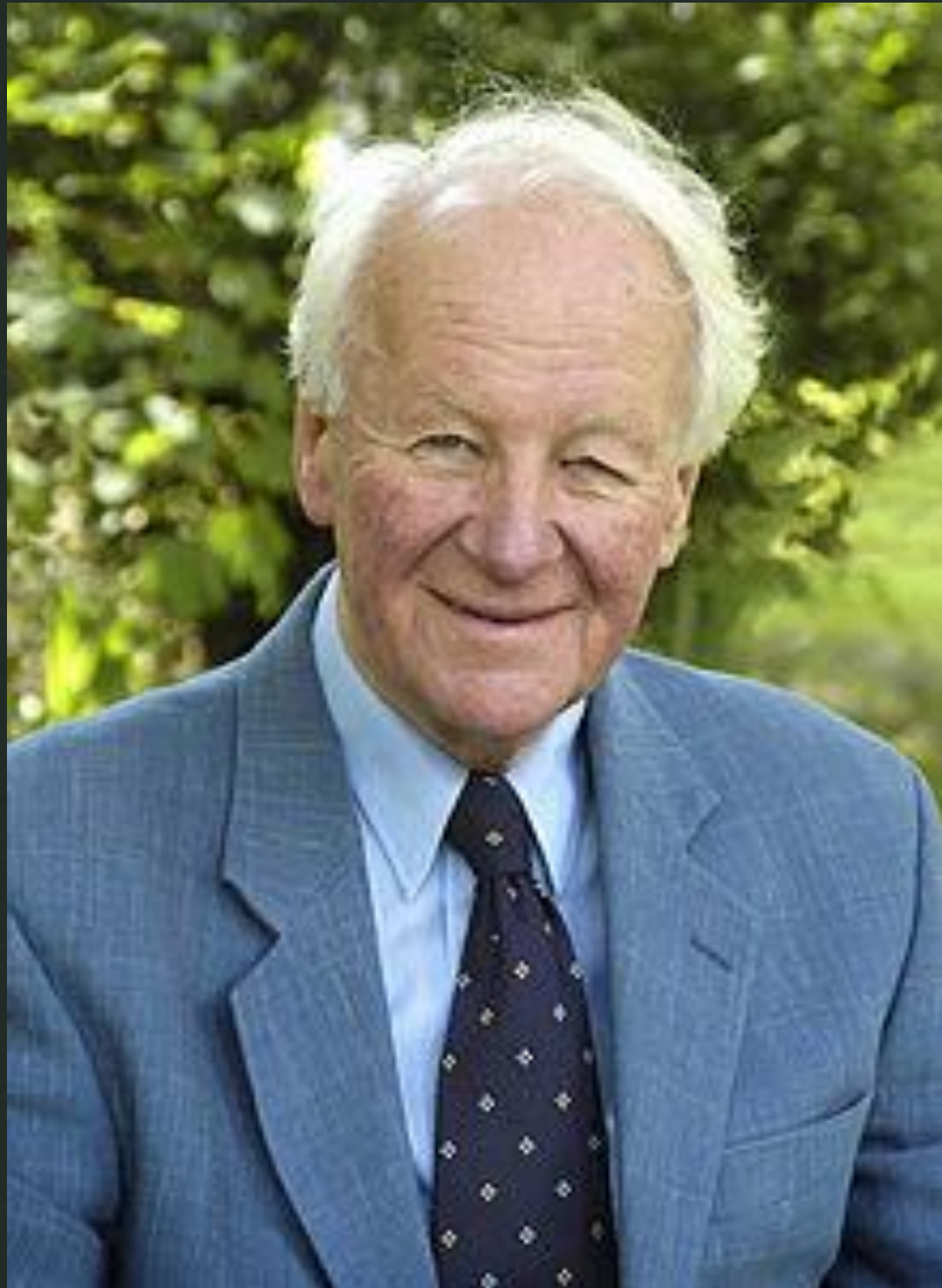
# **1. Arrogance & pride is the way of foolishness & sin.**

**Proverbs 21:4 (ESV)**

**Haughty eyes and a proud heart,  
the lamp of the wicked, are sin.**



# **1. Arrogance & pride is the way of foolishness & sin.**



**“At every stage of our Christian development and in every sphere of our Christian discipleship, pride is the greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend.”**

**- John Stott -**

## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

**Proverbs 16:5 (ESV)**

**Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an  
abomination to the Lord;  
be assured, he will not go unpunished.**

## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

Isaiah 48:11 (ESV)

**For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it,**

**for how should my name be profaned?**

**My glory I will not give to another.**

## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

**Proverbs 16:18 (ESV)**

**Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit  
before a fall.**



## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

Proverbs 16:18 (ESV)

Pride goes **before destruction**, a haughty spirit  
before a fall.







## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

**Proverbs 15:25 (ESV)**

**The Lord tears down the house of the proud  
but maintains the widow's boundaries.**

## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

**Proverbs 11:2 (ESV)** When pride comes, then comes disgrace,  
but with the humble is wisdom.

**Proverbs 18:12 (ESV)** Before destruction a man's heart is  
haughty, but humility comes before honor.

**Proverbs 28:13 (NIV)** Whoever conceals their sins does not  
prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds  
mercy.



## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

**Proverbs 29:23 (ESV)**

**One's pride will bring him low,**

**but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.**

## **2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**

### **Examples in the Bible:**

- ☐ Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4)**
- ☐ King Herod (Acts 12)**
- ☐ Lucifer/Satan/The Devil (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:13-17)**
- ☐ Haman (Esther 3-7)**
- ☐ The Builders of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)**

# **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

Proverbs 22:4 (ESV)

**The reward for humility and fear of the Lord  
is riches and honor and life.**

# **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

Proverbs 22:4 (ESV)

The reward for **humility** and **fear of the Lord**  
is riches and honor and life.



# **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

## **Proverbs 3:5-8 (ESV)**

**<sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;**

**<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.**

**<sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the Lord and shun evil.**

**<sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.**

# **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

Proverbs 3:5-8 (ESV)

- 5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;**
- 6 in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.**
- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the Lord and shun evil.**
- 8 This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.**

# 3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 3:5-8 (ESV)

- <sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;
- <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.
- <sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the Lord and shun evil.
- <sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.

# 3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 3:5-8 (ESV)

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on **your own understanding**;

<sup>6</sup> in all your ways **submit to him**,  
and he will make your paths straight.

<sup>7</sup> Do not be **wise in your own eyes**;  
fear the Lord and shun evil.

<sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.



# **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

Judges 21:25 (ESV)

**“In those days there was no king in Israel.**

**Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”**

### **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

☐ Pride says: “**I am big** - God is small”

☐ I don't need anyone else!

### **3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**

☐ Humility says: **God is big** - I am small”

☐ I need only to depend on Him!

# 3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 3:5-8 (ESV)

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;

<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

<sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the Lord and shun evil.

<sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.

**4. The path of humility is always better – in every way!**

**Proverbs 3:34 (ESV)**

**Toward the scorers he is scornful,  
but to the humble he gives favor.**



# 4. The path of humility is always better – in every way!

Proverbs 18:12 (ESV) Before destruction a man's heart is haughty,  
but humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 22:4 (ESV)

The reward for humility and fear of the Lord  
is riches and honor and life.

Proverbs 29:23 (ESV)

One's pride will bring him low,  
but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.

# **4. The path of humility is always better – in every way!**

## **Proverbs 12:9 (NIV)**

**Better to be a nobody and yet have a servant  
than pretend to be somebody and have no food.**

## **Proverbs 16:19 (NIV)**

**Better to be lowly in spirit along with the oppressed  
than to share plunder with the proud.**

# **God's Wisdom for Humility...**

- 1. Arrogance & pride is the way of foolishness & sin.**
- 2. God hates arrogance & pride: He will punish it!**
- 3. Humility is shaped by the fear of the Lord.**
- 4. The path of humility is always better – in every way!**

# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

**☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)**

**<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.**

**<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus**

# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ **Take the lower spot** (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)

## **Proverbs 25:6-7 (ESV)**

- <sup>6</sup> Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,  
and do not claim a place among his great men;
- <sup>7</sup> it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"  
than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.



# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ **Take the lower spot** (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)
  - What might this look like at work, school, home etc.?
  - What might this look like at church on Sunday's?

# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ Take the lower spot (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)
- ☐ **Practice thankfulness** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
  - do this often / always.
  - start with just one thing (if you are struggling).

# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ Take the lower spot (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)
- ☐ Practice thankfulness (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
- ☐ **Confess regularly – keep short accounts with God**  
(1 John 1:8-9; Psalm 51:4)



# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ Take the lower spot (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)
- ☐ Practice thankfulness (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
- ☐ Confess regularly (1 John 1:8-9; Psalm 51:4)
- ☐ **Listen well – to God and others.** (Proverbs 18:12-13;  
Proverbs 10:8; Proverbs 13:13)

# **So what? How to cultivate humility as disciples of Jesus...**

- ☐ Follow Christ's example (Philippians 2:3-11)
- ☐ Take the lower spot (Proverbs 25:6-7; Luke 14:8-11)
- ☐ Practice thankfulness (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
- ☐ Confess regularly (1 John 1:8-9; Psalm 51:4)
- ☐ Listen well (Proverbs 18:12-13; 10:8; 13:13)
- ☐ **Don't sing your own praise** (Proverbs 27:2, 21)



# PROVERBS

*Wisdom for Living As Disciples*

WISDOM FOR  
HUMILITY