**Lesson 6- Wisdom Literature**

Introduction: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. Goal is to get: (1) A general understanding of each book, (2) Where we see Christ, and (3) An understanding of how to read/interpret the book.

1. Job
2. Oldest book written in the Bible and one of the oldest in antiquity.
3. Jesus referred to Job as a real man that existed.
4. Written in a poetic manner.
5. Job was blameless before God.
6. Satan afflicts him twice and ultimately, Job maintains his integrity choosing to praise God.
7. Job 1:21- “The Lord gives and the Lord takes away, blessed be the name of the Lord.”
8. Three friends attempting to explain the problem of evil. Why is Job suffering? They have different answers.
9. God is completely sovereign.
10. Where is Christ?
11. Job 9:33 Job cries out for a mediator between God and man. One who could lay His hand on both God and man.
12. Job 19:25-27 Job prophecies the resurrection of the dead when Christ returns.
13. Job 33:23-24 Job prophecies Christ as a mediator who, as a ransom, delivers those with faith from going down to the pit.
14. Job 16:19-21- Job again cries out for a mediator that might plead to God for him.
15. Psalms
16. 150 Psalms. 5 separate books. Most of them are written by David, but not all of them.
17. Types of Psalms
18. Praise and Thanksgiving
19. Psalms of Lament
20. Psalms of Repentance
21. Imprecatory Psalms
22. Royal or Messianic Psalms
23. Wisdom Psalms
24. Psalms of Ascent
25. How do we read Psalms?
26. Instruction manual for worship
27. Prayer blueprints
28. Prophetic (Acts 2:30)
    1. Psalm 8:2
    2. Psalm 118:22
    3. Psalm 110:1
    4. Psalm 1
    5. Psalm 2
    6. Psalm 16:10
    7. Psalm 22
    8. Psalm 34:20
    9. Psalm 40:7-8
    10. Psalm 41:9
    11. Psalm 45:6-7
    12. Psalm 68:18
    13. Psalm 69:21
    14. Psalm 78:2
    15. Psalm 118:26
    16. Countless more!
29. Proverbs
30. Mainly written by King Solomon, but also include some Proverbs from others.
31. Wisdom and folly.
    * + 1. Wisdom is presented as walking in God’s precepts. Knowing the word of God and choosing it.
        2. Folly is seen in two ways (1) Someone who knows better and still blatantly chooses to sin anyway (Pro 26:11) and (2) Someone who never takes the time to bother to learn what is right or wrong. Summed up, a fool is someone who does not fear the Lord.
32. Proverbs are not intended to be guarantees.
33. So how do you read Proverbs? Obey.
34. Where is Christ?
35. Proverbs 8
36. Proverbs 30:4
37. Ecclesiastes
38. “Meaningless” or “Vanity.” A picture of fruitlessness. “Futile.”
39. Life “under the sun” with no God would be futile.
40. Ecc 12:13-14 summarizes by showing that life is far from futile because we will all give account of ourselves to God.
41. Where is Christ?
42. Ecc 7:20
43. Song of Solomon
44. Sometimes called “Song of Songs.”
45. Primarily two great benefits
46. Marriage and sex within marriage is a blessed thing
47. A picture of how Christ loves His church.
48. Allegory should focus only on already clear and plain doctrines taught elsewhere in a straightforward manner. Allegory is not a license to make up whatever we want with no other scriptural support.
49. Where is Christ?
50. A loving husband and a loved bride (Ephesians 5)
51. 2:16- Christ is our beloved. We are His, and He is ours.
52. 8:6-7- An unquenchable love.
53. 4:7- Flawless in Christ.

**Bible Study Discussion Questions**

1. In Job 1:21, how does Job's response to tragedy reveal his deep understanding of God's sovereignty and his unwavering trust in Him despite suffering?
2. Consider Job's declaration in Job 19:25-27. How does his expression of hope in a redeemer and resurrection anticipate the ultimate fulfillment in Christ's victory over death? Compare this to John 5:24-30 and explain how this relates to Job’s hope. **(Job cried out for a redeemer and knew he would see Him on this earth in the flesh. Jesus said that everyone will raise from the graves when they hear His voice. This is the resurrection of the dead at Christ’s return)**
3. Reflect on the various types of Psalms mentioned. Choose one type (e.g., Psalms of Lament, Messianic Psalms) and discuss how it provides insights into human experience or anticipates the work of Christ.
4. Read Psalm 2 and discuss:
5. 2:1-2- Who are the nations rebelling against? (**God and His anointed [Christ])**
6. 2:3- Why are they rebelling? How does this sound similar to the end times theology that the whole world will follow the Beast? (**They do not want to have to obey Him)**
7. 2:4-6- What is God’s response to their rebellion? Who is His King? What does it mean that He is set on the holy hill of Zion (consider that Zion represents the strength of the kingdom of David) (**He laughs and focuses the attention on the Son of God)**
8. 2:7-9- What do these verses teach us about Christ?
9. 2:10-12- Who are the people of the earth warned to respect and put their trust in?
10. Read Psalm 22 together and discuss:
11. Are there any verses that stood out to you as powerfully testifying of Christ?
12. 22:2- Where do we see these words in the New Testament? (**The cross)**
13. 22:6-8- Where do we see this in the New Testament?
14. 22:9-10- What does this say about the truly human aspect of Jesus, even though we know that as truly divine He knew and sustained all things even during His incarnation.
15. Compare lady wisdom of Proverbs 9:1-12 and the harlot folly of Proverbs 9:13-18. What does this teach us?
16. Reflect on Ecclesiastes 12:13-14. How does the conclusion of Ecclesiastes emphasize the ultimate purpose of life and the necessity of accountability before God?
17. Explore the allegorical interpretation of Song of Solomon in Ephesians 5:25-32. How does this passage illustrate the profound love and sacrificial nature of Christ's relationship with the Church?