

## Message #50

## Proverbs 15:1-7

**WISDOM OR FOLLY WILL BE EVIDENCED BY SPEECH, ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS IN VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES OR SITUATIONS OF LIFE.**

God's wisdom is not a dissertation of abstract thought; it is very plain and concrete. God's wisdom is designed to be evidenced on your job, in a store, in a home or in a classroom.

**Way #1** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's verbal response during a tense situation. **15:1**

It is obvious that we have described for us a very heated situation. This proverb describes the potential that a person has for either cooling down a hostile situation or heating it up. Robert Alden said that this proverb clearly teaches that a person can either stir up an argument or defuse an argument by the type of response or answer he gives (p. 117).

**Way #2** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's accuracy of communicating knowledge. **15:2**

The words “wise” and “fools” are plural in Hebrew so it is a contrast between people who are wise and those foolish. One who is wise is one that uses knowledge in a good, honest, right, pleasing, accurate way. One who is foolish gushes forth his foolishness, a word that speaks of a very strong, powerful, preeminent type of communication.

**Way #3** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's recognition of the omnipresence of God. **15:3**

This proverb clearly states that God is the scrutinizing critic of all of life. The participle “watching” or “beholding” is interesting because it is a word that means God sees everything with accurate observation. Nothing clouds His vision. Drs. Keil and Delitzsch say that this reality of universal inspection by God should have an alarming side and a comforting side. It comforts the wise person and should alarm the fool.

**Way #4** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's verbal influence over others. **15:4**

A wise communicator is a “tree of life” to people, which means he brings refreshment and life in its fullness.

**Way #5** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's attitude toward instruction. **15:5**

One who is willing to listen to corrective instruction is a very wise person; one who doesn't is a fool.

**Way #6** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's tranquility in wealth. **15:6**

Righteous people are wealthy people. There is great treasure in the home of one righteous, but in one wicked there is nothing but trouble.

**Way #7** – Wisdom or folly may be determined by a person's speech. **15:7**

Notice the irony, what is in the heart eventually comes out through the mouth.