

Message #68**Proverbs 18:13-16**

God has given us a magnificent book when He gave us, in print, the book of Proverbs. It is designed to give us the information we need to become wiser and wiser.

GOD'S WISDOM IS DESIGNED TO BE GAINED AND LIVED OUT IN THIS LIFE AND THOSE WHO ARE WISE MAKE CHANGES IN ORDER TO GAIN AND LIVE OUT THAT WISDOM.

WISDOM TEACHING #1 – A fool verbally responds before he mentally understands. **18:13**

The word “answer” refers to any type of verbal discourse, not just an answer to a question. The word “hear” means to listen to something to the point where there is understanding. It is foolish and shameful for a person to give a verbal response before he understands what he is talking about. The word “folly” gives insight as to what motivates a person to do this—the person wants preeminence.

WISDOM TEACHING #2 – The most important part of the person is the immaterial part.
18:14

The word “spirit” which is used twice in this verse, refers to the intellect, emotion and will of a person. This proverb is teaching the great significance of seeing to it that the immaterial part of a person is strong.

WISDOM TEACHING #3 – The wise person has an insatiable appetite for Biblical knowledge.
18:15

The wise person is one who is continually after the acquisition of Biblical knowledge. The second part of the proverb indicates that one of the ways that the wise person seeks after or searches after this knowledge is by listening.

WISDOM TEACHING #4 – Wise people know that gifts open doors. **18:16**

The words “makes room” is a Hebrew word that means opens wide, expands or makes spacious. The word “great” is a word that refers to men of great magnitude or large standing. The point is that the person who uses gifts is a person who will have doors opened wide and will be brought into the presence of those who are great. Giving people will become getting people.

Wise people will make proper changes now in order that they might gain in the future. Wise people live out God's wisdom in this life in order to have a rich life in the next. Fools do not learn and they do not change.