

## WISDOM LITERATURE

**Read:** Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, Song of Songs, Psalms 1,32, 34, 37, 49, 112,128  
Ecclesiasticus, & Wisdom of Solomon  
Anderson, chapter 17

**Your Paper on Isaiah is due at this meeting.**

### Questions for Class Discussion

There are two types of wisdom literature. What are they? Give some examples.

What is the tension between the individual and the community? How does the Old Testament reflect this tension. How does the church reflect this tension? What are the implications for ministry?

What is peculiar about Wisdom Literature and how does it relate to Torah?

How do Prophet, Priest & Sage differ.

Why is the Song of Songs a part of Scripture? What is it about anyway?

What is the source of true wisdom?

Matthew 5:22 (Jesus said) “But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘**You fool,**’ you will be liable to the hell of fire”

Why is it so terrible to call someone a “fool”? What is a “fool”?

For learning about wisdom and instruction  
for understanding words of insight,  
<sup>3</sup>for gaining instruction in wise dealing,  
righteousness, justice, and equity;  
<sup>4</sup>to teach shrewdness to the simple,  
knowledge and prudence to the young—  
<sup>5</sup>let the wise also hear and gain in learning,  
and the discerning acquire skill,  
<sup>6</sup>to understand a proverb and a figure,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.  
<sup>7</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

*Proverbs 1:2-7 NRSV*