

married to his hypotheses, so he doesn't go through the pangs of divorce when one is proven wrong."

Proverbs 9 puts a high premium on such readiness to see one's error and admit it. It describes a wise man as one who wants to learn from his mistakes. When challenged, he resists the urge to get his back up like a threatened tomcat. Instead, correction becomes a faithful friend and a necessary means to improvement (v.9). On the other hand, when a "scoffer" is rebuked, he responds with anger and hate (v.8). Because of his overinflated ego, he won't listen when told he has erred.

We always need to follow the path of wisdom by giving heed to words of reproof. To be truly wise, we must remember that at times we too have played the fool! —MRDII

*If criticism comes your way,
Welcome its intent;
It may be that some truth from God
Through it is being sent. —DJD*

The one who refuses to hear criticism has no chance to learn from it.



Pastor:

wayne.robilliard@gmail.com

Wayne Robilliard

17 Woodland Ave, Hazelbrook

Ph: 4758 8778.

0404 804 778

Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

www.mountainsbaptist.org.au

Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Welcome Criticism

A fool despises his father's instruction, but he who receives correction is prudent. —Proverbs 15:5

A number of years ago I read an interesting article about cancer researcher Dr. Robert Good. He was described as a hard-driving individual with an enormous faculty for new ideas and the ability to make use of any information that came to him. I was most impressed, however, with a statement that credited him with a willingness to recognise an error in his theories and abandon them faster than anyone else in medical research. An associate said, "Dr. Good never gets





Our Home

Reaching the Rebel

Understanding the Rebel I

Psalm 1

Proverbs 1:22

Proverbs describes 3 levels of rebellion against God:

1. The _____, Proverbs 1:22, 32

(Psalms 19:7) "... The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;"

(Proverbs 9:4-6) "'Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!' As for him who lacks understanding, she says to him, {5} 'Come, eat of my bread And drink of the wine I have mixed. {6} Forsake foolishness and live, And go in the way of understanding.'

(Proverbs 14:15) "The simple believes every word, ..."

(Proverbs 22:3) "A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished."

(Proverbs 7:7-10) "And saw among the simple, ..., A young man devoid of understanding, {8} Passing along the street near her corner; And he took the path to her house {9} In the twilight, ... {10} And there a woman met him, With the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart."

(Proverbs 14:18) "The simple inherit folly, ..."

(Proverbs 7:27) "Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death."

(Proverbs 21:11) "When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise; ..."

- (Proverbs 8:5-7) "O you simple ones, understand prudence, ... {6} Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, And from the opening of my lips will come right things; {7} For my mouth will speak truth; ..."



(1 Timothy 2:9-10) "in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, {10} but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works."

(Romans 16:19) "... I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil."

2. The _____, Prov 1:22, 32

(Psalms 92:5-6) "O LORD, how great are Your works! Your thoughts are very deep. {6} A senseless man does not know, Nor does a fool understand this."

(Psalms 94:7-8) "Yet they say, 'The LORD does not see, ...' {8} Understand, you senseless among the people; And you fools, when will you be wise?"

(Proverbs 15:20) "... a foolish man despises his mother."

(Proverbs 17:21) "... the father of a fool has no joy."

(Proverbs 17:25) "A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her who bore him."

(Proverbs 23:9) "Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words."

(Proverbs 8:5) "... you fools, be of an understanding heart."

(Proverbs 17:10) "Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool."

- (Proverbs 26:3) "A whip for the horse, A bridle for the donkey, And a rod for the fool's back."

(Proverbs 26:12) "Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

(Proverbs 28:26) "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, ..."

(Proverbs 14:16) "A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool 'rages' and is self-confident."

(Proverbs 12:23) "... the heart of fools proclaims foolishness."

(Proverbs 14:33) "... what is in the heart of fools is made known."

(Proverbs 18:6) "A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calls for blows."

(Proverbs 29:11) "A fool vents all his feelings, ..."

(Proverbs 13:20) "... the companion of fools will be destroyed."

(Proverbs 26:10) "The great God who formed everything Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages."

(Proverbs 3:35) "... shame shall be the legacy of fools."

(Proverbs 26:5) "Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes."

(Proverbs 26:1) "As snow in summer and rain in harvest, So honor is not fitting for a fool."



3. The _____, Prov 1:22

(Proverbs 14:9) "Fools mock at sin, ..."

(Proverbs 20:1) "Wine is a mocker, .. And whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

(Proverbs 21:24) "A proud and haughty man; 'Scoffer' is his name; He acts with arrogant pride."

(Proverbs 22:10) "Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave; ..."

(Proverbs 24:9) "... the scoffer is an abomination to men."

(Proverbs 3:34) "Surely He scorns the scornful, ..."

(Proverbs 9:7-8) "'He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself. {8} Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; ..."

(Proverbs 13:1) "... a scoffer does not listen to rebuke."

(Proverbs 19:29) "Judgments are prepared for scoffers, ..."

(1 Timothy 1:13) "although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I



did it ignorantly in unbelief."

