



JOURNEY
— THROUGH THE —
OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson 4
The Poetical and
Wisdom Books

**To truly understand these books
you need to understand the
types of literary genres that
existed in that culture and how
they understood them...**

OT Proverbs were pithy wisdom sayings, they were not promises, and were never understood as such by OT Jews

What Proverb 22:6 means is that in general when parents raise their children in a godly environment, expose them to the power and presence of God's spirit, and instruct them in the ways of the Lord, usually their children will grow up to serve God

**1. HUMANITY'S APPEAL TO GOD
(Job, Psalms)**

Job: Perseverance in Suffering

**The point of Job is that...
"He persevered in his faith!"**

**That's what God asks us to do
in suffering whether we
understand or not...**

The study of the question of “Why God permits evil” is called Theodicy, which attempts to vindicate God in response to the problem of evil that militates against the existence of an omnipotent and benevolent deity.

**Theodicy literally means,
“Justifying God.”**

**Suffering exists because God's
plan is not yet complete!**


**God allows people to be tried
and tested because it grows us,
purifies our faith and teaches
us valuable lessons that help us
walk in our destiny...**

**We live in an environment
where sin exists and has
corrupted the way God
intended things to be...**

**Sin is the cause of bad
things, NOT God!**

**The book is designed to show
how we should respond to
adversity...by keeping faith!**

**As believers need to exercise
both/and thinking rather than
either/or thinking...**



Psalms
Israel's Hymn and Prayer Book

Synonymous Parallelism

This type occurs most often and is the most well known. It's the repetition of the same thought in two different phrases...

Antithetic Parallelism

This type expresses the same thought twice but from two opposite perspectives

Synthetic Parallelism

This is where the second line completes or supplements a thought the first line leaves incomplete...

Chiasm

This is one of the most frequently found categories. Chi in Greek is the letter X. This is where two successive lines of poetry reverse the order in which a theme appears, criss-crossing each other...

Book 1 (Ps. 1-41), theme Humans and Creation, parallels Genesis.

Book 2 (Ps. 42-72), theme is Deliverance and Redemption, parallels Exodus.

Book 3 (Ps. 73-89), theme is Worship and the Temple, parallels Leviticus.

Book 4 (Ps. 90-106), theme is The Desert and the Ways of God, parallel is Numbers.

Book 5 (Ps. 107-150), theme is God's Word and Praise, parallels Deuteronomy

Categories of Psalms

Hymns

Laments

Thanksgiving

Confidence

Wisdom

Kingship



2. DIVINE APPEALS TO HUMANITY
(Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs)

**The purpose of the Proverbs
was to promote wisdom,
understanding and discipline.
To encourage people to do
what is right, just and fair**

**The title of the book in Hebrew is
“Qoheleth” which means...
“one who calls a group together
and speaks to them.”**

**The most empty, meaningless thing
of all in life is to live without God**

The writer shows that without God nothing truly satisfies the cravings of the human spirit...not wealth, power, possessions or companionship.

The Song of Songs Interpretations

- A book about the beauty of sexual intimacy in marriage
- The book was symbolic of God's love for Israel.
- The Bride in the book is symbolic of the church

RESOURCES

“Solomon on Sex” by Joseph Dillow

www.mikebickle.org and click the tab on the left side that says Intimacy with God and then click Song of Songs and you can download his complete teaching on the Bridegroom Paradigm

When we abdicate our responsibility to talk about sex, it leaves the door wide open for the world to put its spin on human sexuality and pervert this beautiful gift God gave to humans...