

Questions on Proverbs Chapter 9

1. Wisdom is again personified in this chapter. What is wisdom depicted as doing (or *preparing*) in verses 1-5?
 - a. Interestingly, what other woman was previously described as offering a meal (actual meal) to a simple person? (see Prov. 7:5, 14)
 - b. To what did Jesus compare “bread” in Matthew 4:4?
 - c. What “bread” did Jesus expect his disciples to eat in John 6:51 and 63? (*note that verse 63 defines the bread*)
2. As we saw in the beginning of our study (1:22 & 32), the “simple” (naive) ones are again mentioned. What are they here invited to do? (v. 4)
 - a. What does Proverbs 9:4 teach us about what the simple person is capable of doing?
 - b. What two people will later be described as “simple”? (verses 13, 16)
 - c. Why do the simple need wisdom according to Prov. 14:15?
3. We have already seen the word “scoffer” (scorner) in the book of Proverbs (3:34). According to verses 7 & 8, what happens to a person who tries to correct a scoffer?
 - a. How is the scorner described in Prov. 21:24?
 - b. Conversely to verses 7-8, what happens when one gives instruction to a wise man? (v. 9)

4. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of _____ (v. 10)
 - a. What was the fear of the Lord “the beginning of” according to Prov. 1:7?

5. Verse 12 describes wisdom as being “for” oneself. That is, to one’s own benefit. What benefits of wisdom did we see mentioned in Prov. 3:16-18 and 4:22?

6. Along with the following context, being “boisterous” identifies the “foolish” woman of verse 13 with what previous woman? (see Prov. 2:16; 7:5; **7:11**)
 - a. We have already seen that the seductive woman uses flattery, beauty, clothing, food, and other enticements to attract men. How does she solicit men according to verses 14 and 15?

7. Verse 17 speaks of “stolen” water and “secret” bread? What is stolen in this passage?
 - a. As we saw in Prov. 5:15-20, where are sexual desires lawfully satisfied?
 - b. Though “stolen” and “secret,” what does Solomon also acknowledge about illicit sex in verse 17?
 - c. What did the Hebrew writer acknowledge about sin in Hebrews 11:25?

8. What ultimately happens to the “guests” of the seductress?