



Proverbs

Old

Testament

β 20th book of the Bible (out of 66)

β 2.94% of the verses in the Bible

β Quite a lot was written by Solomon.

For most people, having a picture in your mind helps to both understand a concept and to remember it. After all, a picture is worth a thousand words! Too many cooks, the early bird, two heads are, you can lead a horse to water and the grass is always greener all convey some aspect of truth which many people want to follow. These fairly modern proverbs (and the shorter idioms that are like them) are very similar to what we find in the thirty one chapters of this Book.

It's excellent to know facts, but this Book reminds us that we need to apply these facts to our lives. Knowledge without wisdom doesn't take us very far in day-to-day relationships. We are encouraged to be

Facts: Many of these proverbs would have been written in the 10th century BC by Solomon, with 1 Kings 4:32 saying that he wrote 3,000 proverbs. Other writers include "the wise," Agur (Chap 30) and King Lemuel (Chap 31). The "fear of the LORD" is a common theme. There is a great deal of figurative language used.

holy and wise, to work hard, honour others, be disciplined and show justice.

It's often good to reflect on our beliefs and behaviour. This Book gives practical illustrations for us to take action with, rather than to only purely think about.

Reading just a few verses in an unhurried way will cause us to ponder on the timeless truths this book contains. Act once you've been stimulated!

Aim to read the whole book over the next two weeks.