

Today, we'd like to study the title of “Love covers” in *Proverbs 9:1-10:12*

To Online Word's people, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions:

Q1. In 9:1, “Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars;” what does it mean?

Q2. In 9:10, ““The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding,” what does it mean?

Q3. In 10:12, “Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.” what does it mean?

**(Background)**

Solomon instructed with contrast:

Chapter 9 contrasts Wisdom (verses 1 to 12) with Foolishness (verses 13-18). Each personified with a woman.

<p><b>9</b> <u>1</u>Wisdom has built <u>her house</u>,  <u>She has hewn out her seven pillars</u>;  <sup>2</sup>She has <u>slaughtered her meat</u>,          She has <u>mixed her wine</u>,          She has also <u>furnished her table</u>.  <sup>3</sup>She has <u>sent out her maidens</u>,          She <u>cries out from the highest places of the city</u>,  <sup>4</sup>“<u>Whoever is simple</u>, let him turn in here!”  <u>As for him who lacks understanding</u>, she says to him,  <sup>5</sup>“Come, <u>eat of my bread</u>          And <u>drink</u> of the wine I have mixed.  <sup>6</sup><u>Forsake foolishness and live</u>,          And go in <u>the way of understanding</u>.  <sup>7</sup>“He who <u>corrects a scoffer</u> gets <u>shame</u> for</p>	<p>1=Q Wisdom... her house (personified with her, not its house); She (wisdom: understood knowledge to apply); her seven pillars (seven: a symbol of perfect &amp; complete thing, i.e., wisdom lacks nothing, is complete and perfect virtue.)          2= slaughtered her meat (with her labor for a feast to invite guests); mixed her wine (with her time, skill, labor, or money, cocktail for guests)          3= sent out her maidens (her employed maidens); cried out (invited)          4= Whoever is simple (foolish, not plain meaning); him who lacks understanding (the foolish man who lacks understanding)          5= Come, eat of my bread....drink (share a toke of love)          6= Forsake foolishness (e.g. sensual, earthly, or devilish things far from godly or spiritual things.); the way of understanding (below)          7= corrects a scoffer.... (Don't correct a scoffer because he will shame you – never appreciated)</p>
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<p>himself,  And he who <u>rebukes a wicked man only harms himself.</u>  <sup>8</sup>Do <u>not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.</u>  <sup>9</sup>Give <u>instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;</u>  Teach <u>a just man, and he will increase in learning.</u>  <sup>10</sup><u>"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.</u>  <sup>11</sup>For <u>by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you.</u>  <sup>12</sup>If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, <u>And if you scoff, you will bear it alone."</u>  <sup>13</sup><u>A foolish woman is clamorous; She is simple, and knows nothing.</u>  <sup>14</sup>For <u>she sits at the door of her house, On a seat by the highest places of the city,</u>  <sup>15</sup>To call to those who pass by, <u>Who go straight on their way:</u>  <sup>16</sup><u>"Whoever is simple, let him turn in here"; And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him,</u>  <sup>17</sup><u>"Stolen water is sweet, And bread eaten in secret is pleasant."</u></p>	<p>your correction); rebukes a wicked man... harms (Don't rebuke a wicked man because he will harm you)</p> <p>8= Do not correct a scoffer... hate you ; rebuke a wise man... love you (He will appreciate it)</p> <p>9= instruction to a wise man... wiser (by listening to instruction, a wise man would be wiser); Teach a just man... increase in learning (By listening to teaching, a just or righteous man would increase his learning.)</p> <p>10= Q2 The fear of the Lord (the holy fear of the lord, not coward fear, e.g. by meditating the nature of God – omnipotence, omniscience, grace, peace) ... the beginning of wisdom(the starting of wisdom; note the wisdom coming from God); the knowledge of the Holy One (knowing God – in awe of God and daily relationship with God, hearing and obeying and experiencing His Word <sup>1</sup>James 1:5; <sup>2</sup>Peter 1:2-4)</p> <p>11= by me (Solomon or Solomon's instruction)</p> <p>12= you will bear it alone (you will bear the scoff/mock/shame alone; you will suffer alone)</p> <p>13-18 (a foolish woman)</p> <p>13= a foolish woman (contrasted with wisdom or a wise woman); clamorous (loud); simple (foolish) knows nothing (ignorant)</p> <p>14= sits at the door of her house... by the highest places of the city (to invite guests, vs. verse 3)</p> <p>15= Who go straight on their way (it appears her temptation)</p> <p>16= Whoever is simple..... (vs. verse 4)</p> <p>17= stolen water (not labored by her, vs. verse 5; but it is sweet) bread eaten in secret (why? Sin nature, e.g. It might be stolen; but it is pleasant)</p>
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<sup>1</sup> James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.; <sup>2</sup> Peter 1:2-4 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,<sup>3</sup> as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,<sup>4</sup> by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

<p><sup>18</sup> But he does not know that the <u>dead are there,</u> <u>That her guests are in the depths of hell.</u></p> <p><b>10</b> <sup>1</sup>The proverbs of Solomon:</p> <p><u>A wise son makes a glad father,</u> <u>But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.</u></p> <p><sup>2</sup><u>Treasures of wickedness profit nothing,</u> <u>But righteousness delivers from death.</u></p> <p><sup>3</sup>The LORD will not allow <u>the righteous soul to famish,</u> But He <u>casts away the desire of the wicked.</u></p> <p><sup>4</sup>He who has <u>a slack hand becomes poor,</u> But the hand of <u>the diligent makes rich.</u></p> <p><sup>5</sup>He who <u>gathers in summer is a wise son;</u> He who <u>sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.</u></p> <p><sup>6</sup><u>Blessings are on the head of the righteous,</u> But <u>violence covers the mouth of the wicked.</u></p> <p><sup>7</sup><u>The memory of the righteous is blessed,</u> But <u>the name of the wicked will rot.</u></p> <p><sup>8</sup><u>The wise in heart will receive commands,</u> But <u>a prating fool will fall.</u></p> <p><sup>9</sup>He who walks <u>with integrity walks securely,</u> But <u>he who perverts his ways will become known.</u></p> <p><sup>10</sup><u>He who winks with the eye causes</u></p>	<p>18= But he ... dead are there (he is dead, worse, not wiser), her guests are in the depths of hell (other guests also are dead <sup>2</sup>Luke 6:39)</p> <p>1= A wise son makes a glad father (a father is glad for a son who displays wisdom; How true that is!); a foolish son is the grief of his mother (his mother has grief when he displays foolishness; How true that is!)</p> <p>2= wickedness... righteousness (contrast; Solomon instructs righteousness related to life, an eternal life, a spiritual life) delivers from death (i.e., to life)</p> <p>3. = not the righteous soul to famish (God takes care of them <sup>3</sup>Luke 12:27-28)</p> <p>4= a slack... the diligent (contrast between laziness and diligence)</p> <p>5= gathers in summer (diligent to gather) ... sleeps in harvest (not gather in harvest)</p> <p>6= on the head of the righteous (on the soul of the righteous); violence covers the mouth of the wicked (the words of the wicked are violent or filth)</p> <p>7= the memory of the righteous is blessed (is good, glad) but the name of the wicked will rot (don't want to remember the name of the wicked)</p> <p>8= The wise in heart receive commands (hear and obey and experience them); a prating fool (a prattling or chattering fool)</p> <p>9= with integrity (uprightness, honesty) walks securely (surely); he perverts his ways... known (perverts will be discovered.)</p> <p>10= He winks with the eye (winks at sin)</p>
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<sup>2</sup> Luke 6:39 And He spoke a parable to them: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch?"

<sup>3</sup> Luke 12:27-28 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?

<p>trouble,          But a prating fool will fall.  <sup>11</sup><u>The mouth of the righteous is a well of life,</u>          But <u>violence covers the mouth of the wicked.</u>  <sup>12</sup><u>Hatred stirs up strife,</u>          But <u>love covers all sins.</u></p>	<p>11= the mouth of the righteous is a well of life (the words of the righteous is resources of life); violence covers mouth of the wicked (the wicked is full of violence in her mouth).          12= Q3 Hatred stirs up strife (Hatred causes strife) love covers all sins (love forgives all sins  <sup>4</sup>1 Peter 4:7-11)</p>
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<sup>4</sup> 1 Peter 4:7-11 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. <sup>8</sup>And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."<sup>9</sup> Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. <sup>11</sup>If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.