The Book of Proverbs (Outline)

Collection 1–Preamble and Prologue (1-9)

Collection 2–Proverbs of Solomon (10:1-22:16)

Collection 3–30 Sayings of the Wise (22:17- 24:22)

Collection 4–More Sayings of the Wise (24:23-34)

Collection 5–Proverbs of Solomon collected in Hezekiah's days (25-29)

Collection 6–Words of Agur (30)

Collection 7–Words of King Lemuel and his mother (31)

- I. The Words of Agur (Proverbs 30)
 - A. The Foundation of Wisdom (1-9)
 - 1. A Confession of Trust in God Rather Than Trust in Self (1-6)
 - 2. A Prayer of Trust in God (7-9)
 - B. Folly Illustrated and Condemned (10-17)
 - 1. A Proverb Against Slander (10)
 - 2. Four Pictures of Arrogance (11-14)
 - 3. Four Pictures of Insatiability (15-16)
 - 4. A Proverb Against Arrogance (17)
 - C. The Wonderful Way of Marriage Versus the Vulgar Way of Adultery (18-20)
 - D. Humility Illustrated and Commended (21-33)
 - 1. Four Pictures of Self-Exaltation (21-23)
 - 2. Four Pictures of Wisdom in "Smallness" (24-28)
 - 3. Four Pictures of Exaltation (29-31)
 - 4. Conclusion: A Proverb Against Self-Exaltation (32-33)

- II. The Words of King Lemuel (Proverbs 31)
 - A. Charge to the King to Rule with Justice (1-9)
 - 1. Warning Against Adultery (1-3)
 - 2. Warning Against Drunkenness (4-7)
 - 3. Rule with Justice! (8-9)
 - B. The Valiant Wife Described (10-31)

The Proverbs-31 Woman

Applies to young men first:

Describes whom to marry

Applies to women:

Describes an example to follow

Applies to men and women:

Describes a complete life of wisdom

Too high a standard?

- -A life of wisdom is busy
- -A life of wisdom is for others
- -A life of wisdom is rewarded

What's the secret?

The fear of the LORD