

Proverbs: A Commentary on an Ancient Book of Timeless Advice. By Robert L. Alden; Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1983 Hardcover, 222 pp,:

In our 20th century many people possess a vast storehouse of knowledge, but how many are wise, judging by the turmoil in our troubled times? We need to pray for wisdom (James 1:5), which has its beginning in the fear of the Lord (Prov.9:10). And as we do so, we may not neglect reading Proverbs.

We should not read it in large doses, but in short sections at a time. Proverbs educates us in godliness (1 Tim. 4:7). Its purpose, writes Alden, is "to make us less often foolish and more often wise, or to improve our overall performance in life." What is implicit in Proverbs is that God is active and concerned with the daily activities of His covenant people.

Alden's non-technical commentary includes a discussion of each verse and often an application of its thoughts to today's situation. I highly recommend this popular treatment of Proverbs.

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