



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE ORION

TO LIVE OR NOT TO LIVE: YOUR CHOICE

Proverbs 9:1–18; cf., John 10:10

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TEXT: PROVERBS 9:1– 18

INTRODUCTION: Chapter nine concludes the first major section of the Book of Proverbs and summarizes what has been discussed in the first eight chapters. What we have in chapter nine is the personification of wisdom and folly. Lady Wisdom and Lady Folly are making an appeal to man to choose between the two.

PROPOSITIONAL STATEMENT: The choice you make today determines your destination tomorrow.

I. THE SENSIBLE CHOICE OF WISDOM, 9:1–6

A. Wisdom Personified As a Sensible Woman, 9:1–3

1. She has prepared a house, 9:1

2. She has prepared a banquet, 9:2

Chapter 1—Wisdom preserves from violent sinners, 1:10

Chapter 2—Wisdom teaches what it is to truly worship the Lord, 2:3

Chapter 3—Wisdom offers a long, healthy and prosperous life, 3:5–8

Chapter 4—Wisdom is the key to a safe and respectable life, 4:6–9

Chapter 5—Wisdom is needed to avoid God-forbidden relationships while maintaining intimacy in our God-ordained relationships, 5:7–8

Chapter 6—Wisdom is needed in the exercise of prudence and sound judgments regarding financial commitments, work, and immorality, 6:1–3, 6, 23–24

Chapter 7—Wisdom helps to resist temptation, 7:4–8

Chapter 8—The Wisdom that was with God at creation is available to all mankind, 8:4–5

3. She has sent out the her invitation, 9:3a

B. Wisdom’s Plea To the Naive, 9:3–6

- 1. The place of her plea—the most prominent place, cf Pro 1:20-21**
- 2. The person of her plea—the naive, 9:4-6**

II. THE SENSUAL CHOICE OF FOLLY, 9:13–18

Folly is also personified as a seductive woman, 9:13–18

A. The Deceptive Nature of Lady Folly, 9:14-15

- 1. She has a house and is sitting in a prominent place, 9:14**
- 2. She sends out an invitation, 9:15**

She is targeting the same person that Lady Wisdom seeks, 9:16 “*Whoever is naive, let him turn in here, . . . to him who lacks understanding. . . ,*”

B. The Seductive Nature of Lady Folly, 9:13

- 1. She is in a constant uproar, 9:13a**
- 2. She lacks understanding, 9:13b**
- 3. She is sensual, 9:13c**
- 4. She seeks to be satisfied instead of satisfying , i.e., she wants to be fed, 9:17.**

III. THE RESPONSES TO THE CHOICES, vv. 7-11

A. By the Scoffer, 9:7– 8a

B. By the wise man, 8:8b-9

The wise man sensibly responds in “fear of the Lord,” and the fool sensually responds in “following his lustful desires,” 9:10–11

- 1. The great principle of wisdom, 9:10**
- 2. The general promise of wisdom, 9:11**

C. By YOU, 9:12.

CONCLUSION: Many mistakes are the result of allowing sensuality to overrule sensibility. Allowing our passions to drown out principles will lead to many foolish choices. The sad thing is that often the right choice is known but not obeyed. Obeying the Father’s instruction is always wise.