

# proverbs

## Introduction





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wisdom

# When was the Book of Proverbs written, and by whom?

- Solomon (ca. 970–931 BC)
- Anonymous wise people
- Someone named Agur
- Someone named Lemuel







“House of David”



**“He spoke 3,000 proverbs  
and 1,005 songs”**

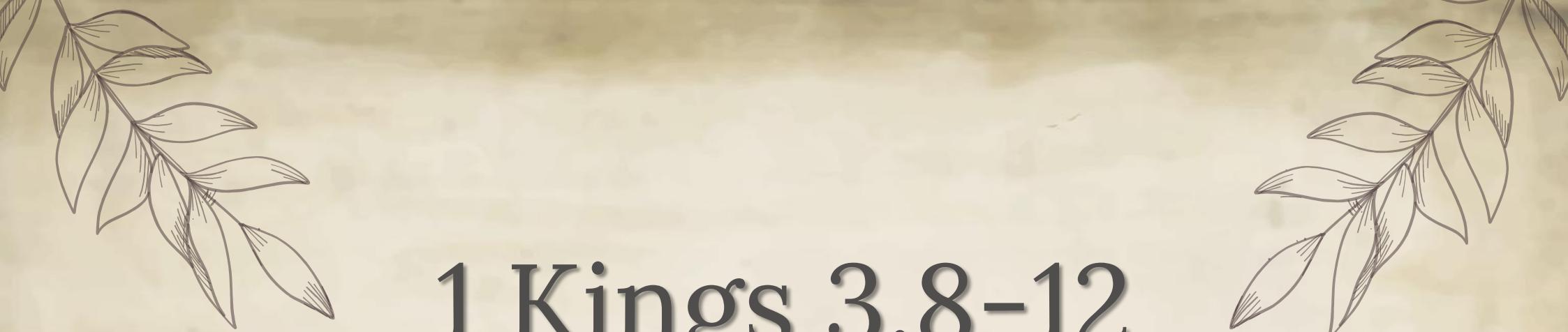
**1 Kings 4.32**

# Solomon's Proverbs

- **Proverbs 1.1 – “The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel”**
  - First group goes from Proverbs 1.2 through 22.16
- **Proverbs 25.1 – “These also [are] the proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah, have copied.**
  - Second group goes from chapters 25 through 29

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# 1 Kings 3.8-12

**“Your servant [is] among Your people whom You have chosen. They're a great nation that's too numerous to count or number, so give Your servant a listening heart to judge Your people, to understand between good and evil, for who is able to judge Your numerous people?” And the thing was good in the eyes of the Lord, for Solomon asked for this thing. And God said to him, “Because you asked for this thing, and did not ask for yourself many days and did not ask for yourself riches and did not ask for the life of your enemies, but you asked for yourself understanding to hear judgment---look! I'm doing according to your words! Look! I give to you a wise and discerning heart.”**

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# Anonymous Proverbs

## (Prov 22.17-24.34)

- **Introduction + 30 proverbs**
  - Runs from Proverbs 22.17 through 24.22
- **Second group runs from 24.23-34**
  - A different set of anonymous proverbs, from yet another source or sources



# Agur & Lemuel

- **Proverbs 30 = Agur's wisdom discourse**
- **Proverbs 31 = Lemuel's (mother's) wisdom discourse**



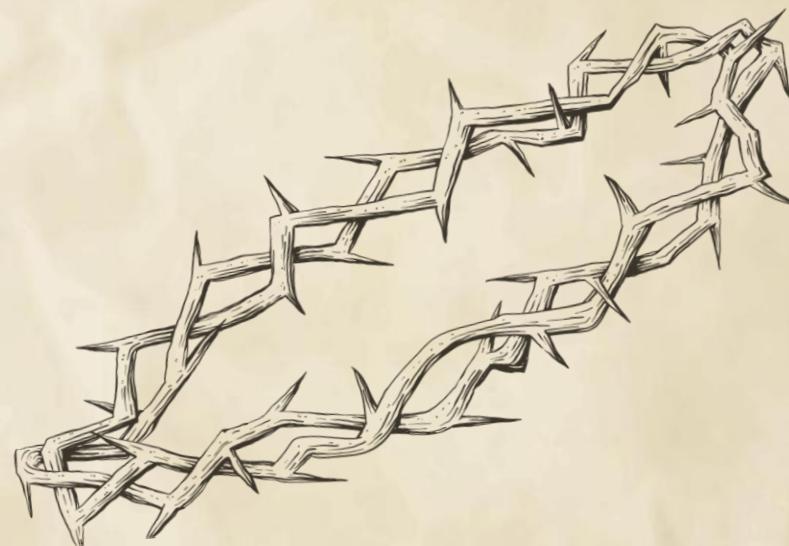
# Subjects

- **Emotions** - anger, bitterness, jealousy/desire, grief/sadness/worry, happiness, emotional healing, hope, joy, love, hate, shame
- **Relationship dynamics** - family dynamics, friends, neighbors, strangers, enemies
- **Godly and ungodly behaviors**, living a principled life
- **Economics** - economic justice/injustice, poverty & wealth, occupation and labor, the proper use of one's financial assets, farming (the primary way that ancient Israelites made their living)
- **Politics** - political justice/injustice, war, authority

# Vehicles

- Our tongues
- Our bodies
- Nature
- A city and its king





**Matthew 12.42**