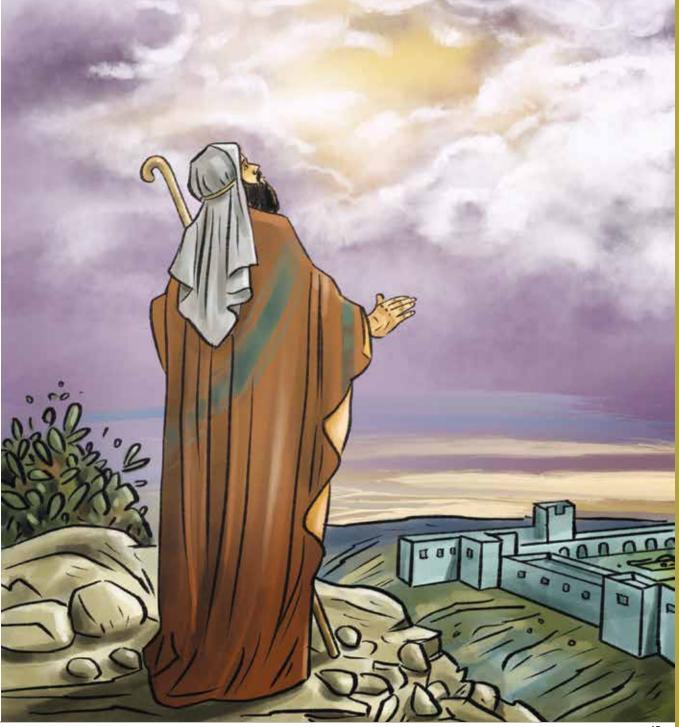


Introduction To Wisdom Literature



Six books of the Old Testament – Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Sirach, the Song of Songs and Wisdom – are usually classified as "wisdom literature". Some of the Psalms also belong to this genre.



The prophets and priests were not the only traditional teachers in Israel. There were a few wise men associated with political affairs who respected the Mosaic Law and the prophets. The fall of Jerusalem (587 BC) and the subsequent exile in Babylon caused them to reflect on the unfortunate events and their consequences.

These wise men imparted moral lessons in the form of short sayings, poetry and images drawn from day to day life, relating their ordinary experiences to God. They adapted the religion of the past to the new changed conditions of their living in exile.

To achieve this, the sages proposed the Retribution Theory, that drew upon the teachings of the old and applied them to the new way of life, wherein the individual person was at the centre of life.

A good example of this is Proverbs 26:27, which gives a simplistic understanding of divine justice as follows: "He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a stone will come back upon him who starts it rolling."

So, just as humans repay good for good and evil for evil, they must also expect God to do the same. But this theory had its limitations for God is not judgemental like humans and the wise men accepted that God's ways are beyond human understanding.

True wisdom lies in righteousness, which is the key to live in harmony with God, with fellow human beings and the rest of creation.



Word of God

Proverbs 9: 13 - 18

Stupidity is like a loud, ignorant, shameless woman. She sits at the door of her house or on a seat in the highest part of town, and calls out to people passing by, who are minding their own business: "Come in, ignorant people!" To the foolish she says, "Stolen water is sweeter. Stolen bread tastes better." Her victims do not know that the people die who go to her house, that those who have already entered are now deep in the world of the dead.

Insight



P. C. Alexander, Bureaucrat and Former Governor

P. C. Alexander (1921–2011) was one of the most experienced bureaucrats in India. An Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, Alexander held the powerful post of principal secretary to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He was Governor of Tamil Nadu from 1988 to 1990 and Governor of Maharashtra from 1993 to 2002. His name was considered for the post of the President of India in 2002. He was also a Rajya Sabha member from 2002 to 2 April 2008.

46 | CLASS VII Kingdom History

Notes	
	Know
	Know
	MOVIE: Adaptation of Catholic novelist Endos
	Shusaku's novel of the same name Silence is a film directed
	by Martin Scorsese and it depict the persecution and suffering of
	Christians in 17the century Japa
	portrayed through the search for a missing mentor by two
	Portuguese Jesuits.
my TASK this week	
To Watch	
To Read	
To Do	
□級□ ⑥ Home	

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Read the Book of Proverbs and note down in your diary the 10 verses you like.