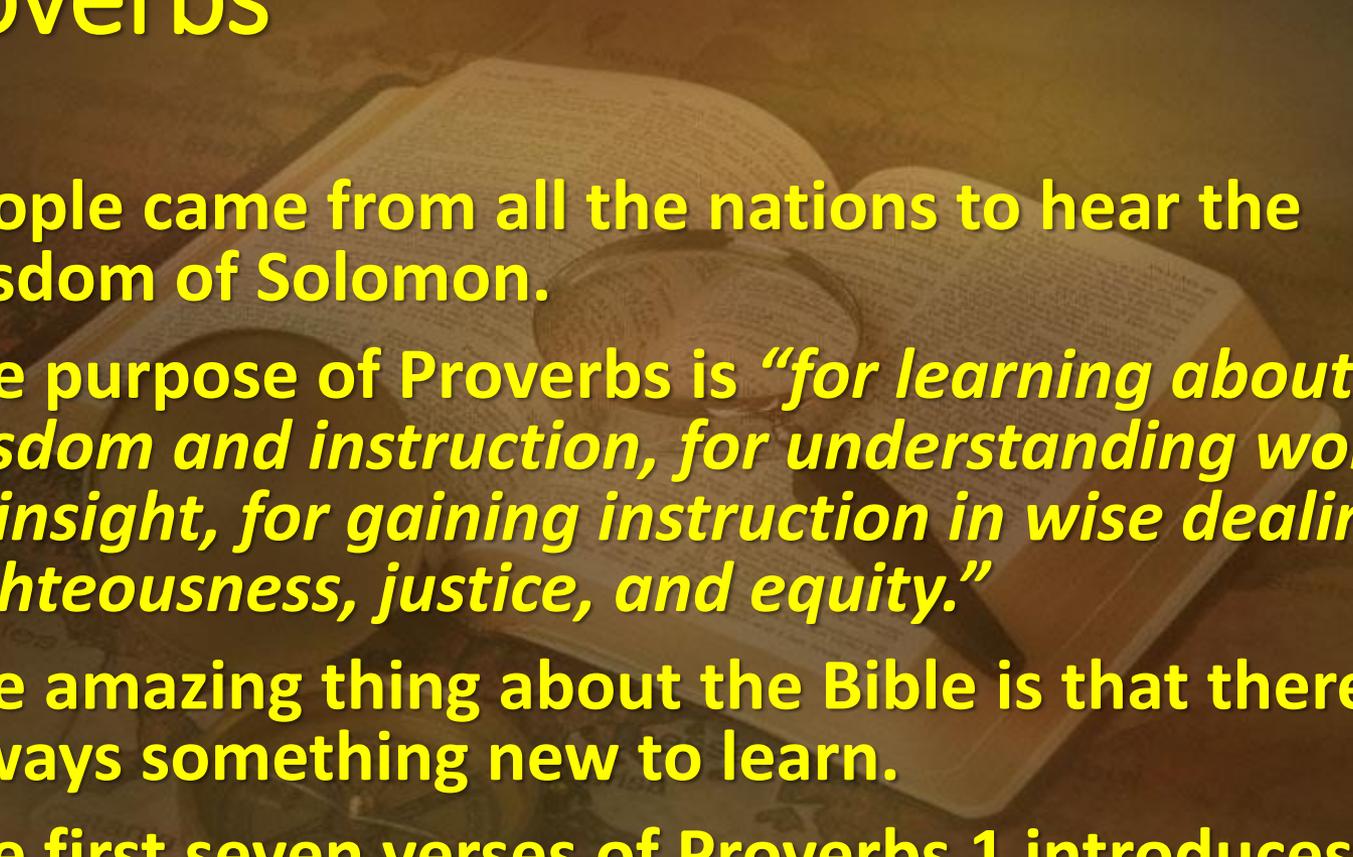


# The Beginning of Wisdom

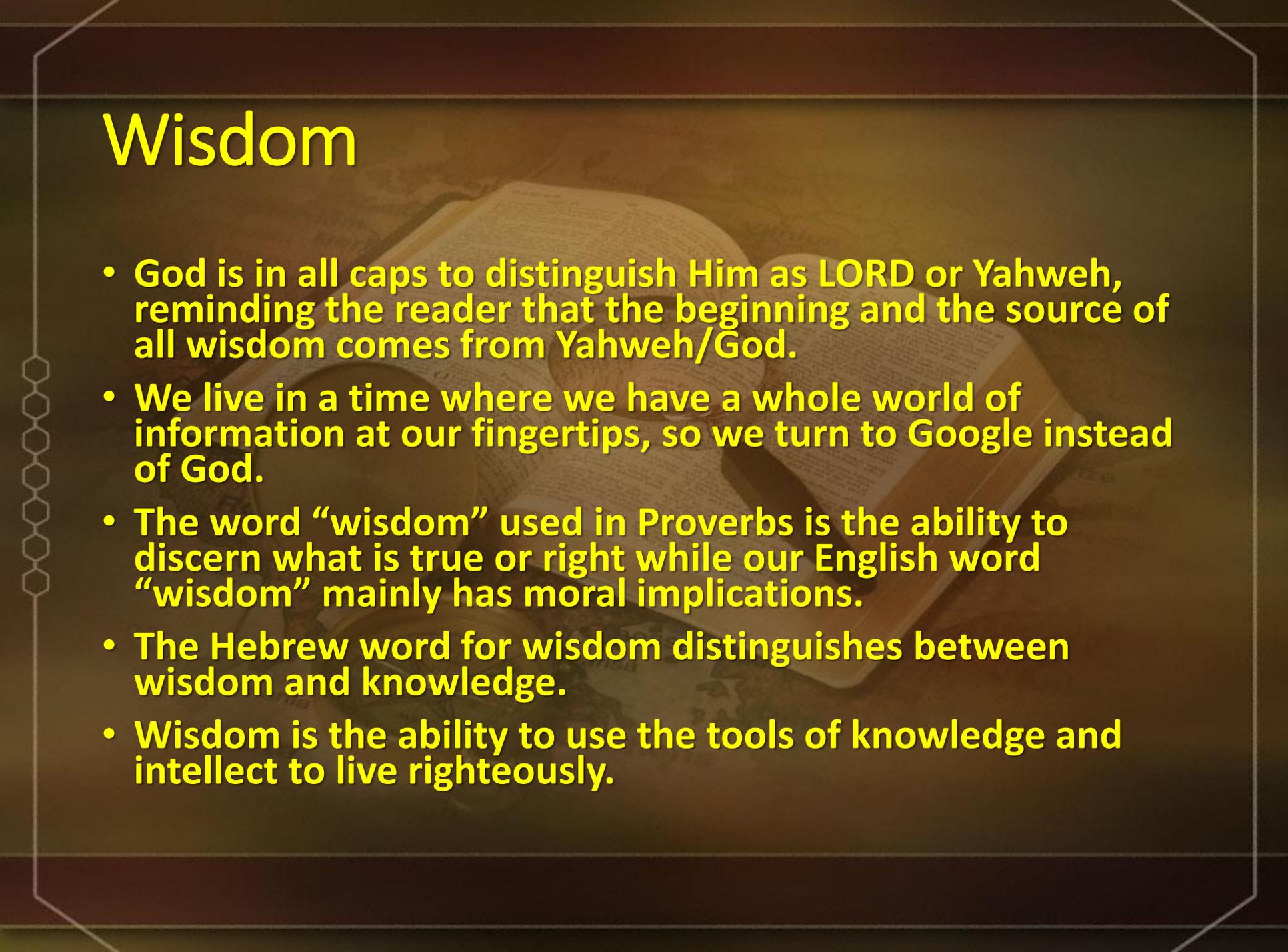
1 Kings 4:32-34, Psalms 1:1-6, Deuteronomy 10:12-13, Proverbs 1:1-33, Proverbs 4:5-6, Proverbs 3:1-8

# Proverbs



- People came from all the nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon.
- The purpose of Proverbs is *“for learning about wisdom and instruction, for understanding words of insight, for gaining instruction in wise dealings, righteousness, justice, and equity.”*
- The amazing thing about the Bible is that there is always something new to learn.
- The first seven verses of Proverbs 1 introduces key words and concepts that are repeated throughout the Bible.

# Wisdom

The background of the slide features a dark, textured surface. In the center, there is an open book with aged, yellowed pages. A wooden gavel with a light-colored head and a dark handle lies across the book, positioned diagonally from the upper left towards the lower right. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood of the gavel.

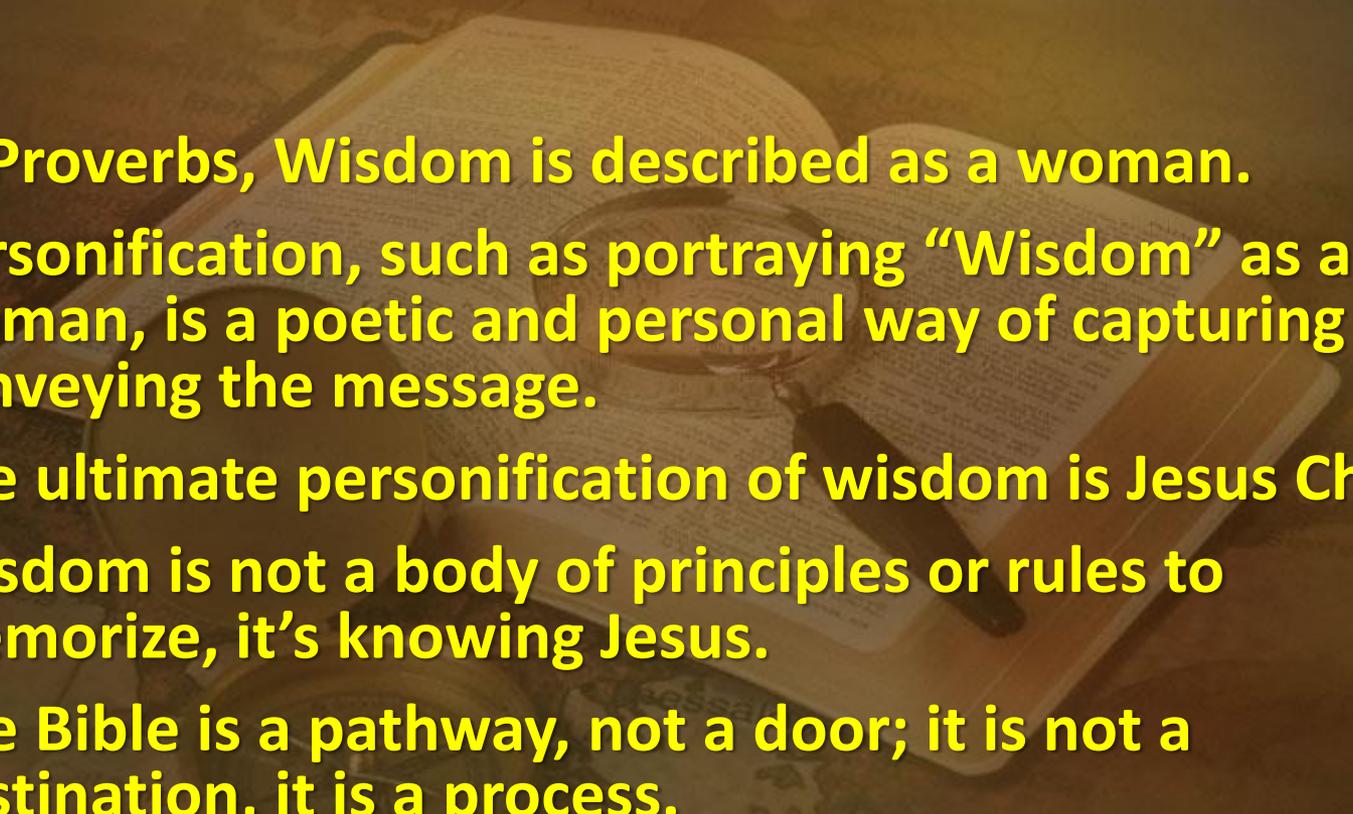
- God is in all caps to distinguish Him as LORD or Yahweh, reminding the reader that the beginning and the source of all wisdom comes from Yahweh/God.
- We live in a time where we have a whole world of information at our fingertips, so we turn to Google instead of God.
- The word “wisdom” used in Proverbs is the ability to discern what is true or right while our English word “wisdom” mainly has moral implications.
- The Hebrew word for wisdom distinguishes between wisdom and knowledge.
- Wisdom is the ability to use the tools of knowledge and intellect to live righteously.

# Fear of the LORD

The background of the slide features a dark, textured surface with a faint, repeating pattern of small, light-colored circles. In the center, there is a soft-focus image of an open book with a pair of glasses and a pen resting on it. The overall color palette is dark and muted, with the text in a bright yellow-green color.

- “Fear of the LORD” refers to a special kind of relationship that is best described as a “covenant” relationship, a relationship based on mutual trust and commitment.
- “Fear” of the LORD is the start of a life-long process of knowledge.
- Nothing will happen on our journey to know God until we take that first step.
- Proverbs describes two types of paths, the path of the righteousness and the path of destruction.

# Wisdom



- In Proverbs, Wisdom is described as a woman.
- Personification, such as portraying “Wisdom” as a woman, is a poetic and personal way of capturing and conveying the message.
- The ultimate personification of wisdom is Jesus Christ.
- Wisdom is not a body of principles or rules to memorize, it’s knowing Jesus.
- The Bible is a pathway, not a door; it is not a destination, it is a process.
- The pursuit of Wisdom is one of the most important things that we can do in life.

# Conclusion

- You cannot remember the Father's teaching or keep His commands if you do not know them.
- You cannot have a personal, intimate, covenant relationship with God unless you seek Him.
- God is committed to you and will never leave you nor forsake you.
- *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."*