



**APOSTOLIC  
PENTECOSTAL PREACHERS'  
PULPIT COMMENTARY ON  
PROVERBS 24**

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# COMMENTARY ON PROVERBS 24

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- Aim: a verse-by-verse, Apostolic Pentecostal Preachers Pulpit Commentary exposition of Proverbs 24 (KJV), mixing Spirit-led Apostolic Pentecostal Preacher Pulpit Commentary Application, Apologetic defense of Scripture’s wisdom, allegory, illustrative tales and fables, and respectful summary reflections from Jewish tradition (Rashi, Midrash, Talmudic sensibilities) to enrich understanding.

- Hermeneutic posture: Proverbs is moral and spiritual wisdom inspired by God (2 Tim. 3:16). Preach it as practical revelation from the Lord Jesus Christ by his spirit — convicting, comforting, correcting, and commissioning the saint. Where Jewish insight is noted, it is summarized to illuminate shared roots; it is not exhaustive nor a replacement for the Christian reading in light of The Lord Jesus Christ.

## Proverbs 24 (KJV) — verse-by-verse pulpit notes

Verse 1: “Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: The servant of the Lord Jesus Christ must not envy the power, pleasures, or seeming prosperity of the wicked. Envy is a spiritual snare; proximity to their company easily becomes compromise.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach holiness. Encourage saints to guard hearts against the idolizing of sinful success. Blessings that require sin are

curses in disguise.

- Jewish insight: Traditional interpreters see “envy” as a warning against imitating the wicked; wisdom is moral distance, not mere observation.

Verse 2: “For their heart studieth violence, and their lips talk of mischief.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: The mindset of the ungodly is revealed in plotting violence and speaking deception. Proverbs exposes root thinking — not merely outward acts.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Preachers Pulpit Application: Teach congregations to judge fruit and Apostolic Pentecostal Doctrine by root motives. Where there’s habitual plotting, there is no true fear of God.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Allegory: Think of a “poisonous spring” — sweet on the surface but producing deadly water downstream; evil speech and schemes work similarly.

Verse 3: “Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Wisdom lays the foundation; understanding completes the structure. A godly household, church, or ministry is intentional and built on revealed truth.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach

discipleship, teaching, and godly structures. Quick fixes and charismatic sparks must be backed by the building work of wisdom.

- Tale: The wise builder lays foundations deep; the shallow builder's house collapses when the storm comes (cf. Matt. 7:24–27).

Verse 4: “And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Knowledge (Godly knowledge) brings true treasure — character, spiritual fruit, and providential blessing — not merely material wealth.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Encourage study of Scripture and doctrine; riches here include wisdom in family, finances, and ministry stewardship.
- Jewish insight: Proverbs often equates “knowledge” with Torah-guided life, filling the house with God's blessings.

Verse 5: “A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: True strength is moral and spiritual — wisdom grants resilience against temptation and crisis.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Train leaders in doctrine and prayer; strength comes from

discernment, not mere force or charisma.

- Analogy: Wisdom is like a shield that steadies the soldier in battle; knowledge supplies the tactics.

Verse 6: “For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Spiritual warfare and practical ministry need wise counsel. Lone-ranger Christianity is dangerous.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Build elder Fivefold ministry accountability , counsel groups, and accountability. Promote humility before collective godly wisdom.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic Note: Apostolic Pentecostal Christianity’s ecclesial structures are biblically motivated; solitary “revelation” without accountability risks deception.

Verse 7: “Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in Exposition: Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: The fool cannot access the elevated discourse of wisdom; he is excluded from the place where decisions are made.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach the need for humility and teachability. Prideful congregants who refuse correction miss the life of the covenant community.
- Fable: A fool tries to drink from the mountaintop

spring but stumbles and splashes mud on himself; wisdom requires humility to drink properly.

Verse 8: “He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Intention identifies character; plotting evil brands a man. Sin isn’t just action but design.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Expose patterns of planning sin in the church (gossip, slander, covetousness) and deal with them decisively in love and correction.
- Jewish note: Rabbinic thought stresses the power of intent (*kavanah*); the heart’s design defines the person.

Verse 9: “The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Rehearsing folly is sinful — reckless thinking leads to sin. Scorners alienate themselves from community and God.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Encourage renewing of the mind (Rom. 12:2). Confront scornful mocking of God’s ways as spiritually destructive.

Verse 10: “If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.”



- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Trials test faith and expose true spiritual stamina. Fainting in adversity reveals weakness of root.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Equip saints for endurance: prayer, fasting, Word, and fellowship. Preach perseverance as fruit of the Spirit's work.
- Analogy: The tested rope holds stronger after stress; untested rope reveals flaws when it breaks.

Verse 11: “If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain...”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: A call to active mercy — to rescue the perishing. This is ministry of deliverance and intercession.

Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Mobilize church for outreach, rescue, and deliverance ministry. Don't passively tolerate souls in bondage.

- Tale: The Good Shepherd leaves the ninety-nine, not for self-exaltation but to seek the lost sheep — rescue is costly love.

Verse 12: “If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it?”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: God sees the hidden motives; ignorance is Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach accountability. Comfort the



penitent but warn the wilfully blind.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: God’s moral government presupposes divine knowledge of hearts — this is consistent with Scripture’s portrayal of God.

Verse 13: “My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Here wisdom uses a pastoral image — accept God’s good things; the “honey” is delight in God’s wisdom and provision.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach delight in Godly learning. Spiritual discipline should be presented as joy, not drudgery.
- Allegory: Honey represents Scripture’s sweetness when chewed with the heart; it nourishes and refreshes.

Verse 14: “So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward...”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Wisdom’s reward is intimacy with God and lasting hope — future blessing beyond the present.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Encourage zeal for learning Scripture as an investment with eternal dividends.
- Jewish insight: Rabbinic teaching often links

pursuit of wisdom to inheritance — the pursuit itself confers dignity.

Verse 15: “Lay not wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; spoil not his resting place.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: A warning against persecuting the righteous. Wicked plotting against the faithful brings judgment.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Comfort persecuted saints. Preach that God watches over His own and vindication belongs to Him.
- Tale: The malicious hunter lays traps; the wise watch, pray, and dismantle traps through discernment.

Verse 16: “For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Righteous people stumble but rise by grace; wicked fall into ruin. Resilience is a mark of righteousness.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach repentance and restoration. Encourage saints to get up, even if repeatedly falling — grace lifts.
- Analogy: A tree battered by storm bends but does not uproot; the roots of faith hold firm.

Verse 17: “Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Godly love refuses to gloat. Mercy, not schadenfreude, should mark Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Teach compassionate posture even toward enemies; pray for them, not mock them.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Christian morality transcends tribal revenge; it’s a countercultural ethic that vindicates God’s justice.

Verse 18: “Lest the Lord see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Gloating grieves God and may withhold divine corrective discipline that leads to repentance.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Pastors must teach restraint; rejoice in repentance, not in punishment.
- Jewish insight: Rabbinic literature stresses God’s compassion; rejoicing in an enemy’s fall can frustrate God’s aim to restore.

Verse 19: “Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Return to the

theme of not envying or being anxious about the wicked's success. Trust God's justice and timing.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Cultivate faith, not fretfulness. The prosperity of the wicked is temporary; plant for eternity.
- Analogy: A furnace may glow now, but coal burns out; God's purposes last beyond temporary heat.

Verse 20: "For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out."

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Final justice awaits; the light of the wicked will be extinguished. Temporary advantage ends.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Encourage long-view faith. Don't borrow the world's timeline for ultimate value judgments.
- Tale: The counterfeit coin glitters but fails the test; final appraisal reveals true value.

Verse 21: "My son, fear thou the Lord and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change."

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Fear of the Lord is primary; civil order (the king) is also to be respected. Avoid volatile political or social currents.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach both reverence for God and responsible citizenship. Avoid party zeal that tramples conscience.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Christianity calls for ordered liberty — obedience to God and lawful authorities unless they contradict God.

Verse 22: “For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Revolutions and turns of fortune can bring sudden judgment on both rebellious leader and mob. Caution against fickleness.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Counsel stability and prayerful engagement rather than rash rebellion. Seek godly change, not anarchic upheaval.
- Jewish note: Rabbinic writers warn against siding with unstable factions; wisdom chooses the lasting path.

Verse 23: “These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Justice must be impartial. Partiality in the gate corrupts society.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Pastors and leaders must administer discipline and mercy without favoritism. Advocate justice for all members.
- Analogy: Scales tipped by favor no longer measure truth; fairness restores communal health.

Verse 24: “He that saith unto the wicked, Thou art

righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: False exoneration of evil brings public contempt. Enabling sin is dangerous.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Boldly call sin by name and call people to repentance; people prefer truth and integrity over hypocrisy.
- Tale: A shepherd who covers wolf tracks loses the flock — integrity is the shepherd’s first duty.

Verse 25: “But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Those who speak truth in love bring blessing; correction brings health.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Train people to give and receive gentle, firm rebuke. Blessing accompanies courageous truth-telling.
- Apostolic Pentecostal tone: Equip the church to rebuke in the Spirit, not in fleshly wrath.

Verse 26: “Every man shall kiss his lips that giveth a right answer.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: A gracious, measured reply wins hearts. Confrontation with wisdom can reconcile, not alienate.

- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Teach ministers rhetorical gentleness — persuasion rooted in love. Right answers must be seasoned with grace.
- Analogy: Spice in food; truth without seasoning repels, with seasoning draws.

Verse 27: “Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Plan and provide first; do not start big projects without provision. Practical wisdom in stewardship.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Counsel financial prudence and sober planning in ministry and family life. Avoid hyped-overreaching.
- Fable: The man who began building without a foundation lost his roof — provision precedes expansion.

Verse 28: “Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Speak truth and don’t slander or falsely accuse. Integrity in testimony is sacred.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Institute wise processes for discipline; avoid gossip. Protect reputations until proven guilty.



- Jewish insight: The Talmud and halakhic tradition take false witness very seriously; social order depends on truthful testimony.

Verse 29: “Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Don’t rejoice in vengeance or public retribution. Leave ultimate justice to God and lawful systems.
- Application: Preach forgiveness and lawful redress. Personal vengeance dishonors God.
- Analogy: Two knives in a fight end with both wounded; mercy breaks the cycle.

Verse 30: “I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Solomon’s anecdote begins — observing neglect leads to reflection about diligence and consequence.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Use parables and observation to teach discipline and godly industry.

Verse 31: “And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Picture of decay: spiritual and practical neglect leads to ruin and vulnerability.
- Application: Urge members to cultivate their souls, homes, and ministries; negligence invites the enemy's access.
- Allegory: A neglected soul becomes a field for thorns — cares of this world choke the life of faith.

Verse 32: “Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Wise observation leads to self-examination. Learning from others' failures is wisdom.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Preach reflective faith. Encourage journaling and testimony practices so congregants learn from setbacks.
- Tale: The traveler learns where not to step by watching the footprints of those who fell.

Verse 33: “Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: A warning against small compromises that become habits. Temptations of ease lead to ruin.
- Application: Emphasize disciplines: prayer, study, work. Beware of trivializing compromise as

temporary.

- Analogy: Small leaks sink great ships; little neglects compound over time.

Verse 34: “So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.”

- Apostolic Pentecostal Exposition: Consequence is swift and overwhelming if neglect continues; poverty and attack come suddenly.
- Apostolic Pentecostal Application: Warn congregations with pastoral urgency: spiritual sloth has material and spiritual consequences. But also preach restoration — God rescues the contrite.
- Closing exhortation: Let this be a clarion call to vigilance, wisdom, and diligence; the Lord strengthens those who seek Him.

### Closing Pastoral Applications and Apologetic Affirmations

- Spiritual application: Proverbs 24 calls the Church to holiness, discernment, mercy, accountability, and diligence. Preach both the terror of God’s holiness and the sweetness of His wisdom (v.13–14).
- Ministry application: Build churches with wisdom (v.3–4), govern with impartial justice (v.23–25), and protect souls (v.11–12). Equip leaders with counsel and accountability (v.6).

- Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic Note: The book of Proverbs carries internal coherence with Christian doctrine — God’s knowledge of hearts, moral realism, and the reality of divine justice. Use Proverbs to defend the moral character of Scripture and the necessity of the fear of the Lord as the foundation of knowledge (Prov. 1:7).
- On Jewish sources: Rashi, midrashic reflections, and rabbinic teachings often read Proverbs as practical Torah-wisdom for life; they highlight intent, the value of learning, and care for community. Christian preachers can profit from these insights while proclaiming Christ as the fulfillment of wisdom (Col. 2:3; 1 Cor. 1:24).

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