I. If Book One were an airplane flight, in chapter 6 we are beginning our descent.

A. In chapters 1-5 we are instructed to “Fear” God first and foremost.

B. In chapter 6 we learn that our loving God also “hates.”

1. If we fear someone, it would be best to learn what that person hates.

C. God hates “6 or 7” things:

1. Haughty EYES – a proud look, overestimation of self and arrogance

2. A lying TONGUE

3. HANDS that shed innocent blood – murder

4. A HEART that devises wicked schemes – imaginations, plotting evil

5. FEET that are quick to rush into evil – mischief, eagerness to do wrong

6. LIPS that lie – a false witness who pours, breathes out lies.

7. A person who stirs up dissension, sows discord among the brethren.

D. Jesus tells us to “hate” in the challenges of Luke 14

1. Wise people learn to hate as well as to love.

2. What do we hate? Foods; places; candidates; and people.

a. The scriptures suggest we should hate sin. God does.

E. Chapter six also asks;

1. Have we co-signed a bank note for anyone?

2. Are we lazy?

3. Are we anchored or are we drifting? (See Hebrews 4).

4. Do we have a spiritual flashlight?

5. Do we know how to call a foul?

II. Proverbs 7 paints a picture of Discipline applied to our lives.

A. Our Attitude boils down to “Let’s do whatever it takes to get it done.”

1. The question could be asked, “Are tattoos acceptable?”

B. Our Actions display our attitudes. “As a man thinks in his heart, so he is”(23:7)

1. Romans 12:1,2 are the foundation of Biblical psychology of behavior.

III. In Proverbs 8’s personification of wisdom, we are reminded that the Word of God is living.

A. The Word of God became flesh. The Incarnation is not of a book.

B. Proverbs 8:9 echoes John 7:17.

1. Jesus said, “He who has ears to hear will hear…”

2. Spiritually speaking, there are no purely intellectual questions.

a. Romans 1-3 speaks of common grace and hardening of the ears.

C. Jesus said, “Why do you call me Lord, Lord and do not do what I say?” Luke 6:46

1. Luke 6 is a treatise on wisdom and its “call.”

IV. Proverbs 9 concludes Book One of Proverbs.

A. In summary, two “women” are calling – Wisdom and Folly. Which will I pursue?

B. Jesus was asked, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

1. His answer in John 6:29 is the most important bottom line in the world.

C. Prov. 9:18, Book One’s concluding verse, reminds us to begin with the end in mind.

1. At all times work from the end to the beginning.

2. At all times look from the top down.

3. So, wise people work backwards and live upside down!