We can see what this verse says. “For the turning away of the simple will slay them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; **but whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil.**” Proverbs 1:32,33 It says that whoever listens to the wisdom will dwell safely, will be secure and will fear no evil. The one speaking here is the wisdom and not any wisdom, but the wisdom of God. We can track back to verse 20 that says: “Wisdom calls aloud outside; she raises her voice in the open squares.” Through wisdom everything was created. Jesus Christ is this wisdom. God did everything through this wisdom. He did everything through Christ.

Going back to verses 32 and 33, I personally can examine my life and see that the qualities of which these verses speak about are often not in me. They say that if anyone listens to the wisdom will dwell safely with fear of no evil. Why is that I often don’t live in that way? Where is the fault? If I have a faith that the word of God doesn’t lie and it is completely truthful and trustworthy, then what it says is true and it really happens, meaning that if I really listen to His wisdom, then I will fear no evil, I will live at peace and I will dwell safely. Then if I am not feeling many times like that, it will be, because I don’t really listen as I am supposed to, I don’t believe and trust and seek God as I am supposed to. I would be doing the right thing, I would be listening at somethings, but not in the way I have to. Our standards of doing the right thing are not the same as the God’s standards and if I don’t find the evidence that I am really listening to His wisdom and following it, (and that is to have a real peace and to fear no evil) then I have to conclude that something is not right with me or the way I’m doing it.

“Wisdom calls aloud outside; she raises her voice in the open squares. She cries out in the chief concourses, at the openings of the gates in the city she speaks her words: “How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge. Turn at my rebuke; surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, because you disdained all my counsel, and would have none of my rebuke, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes, When your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress an anguish come upon you. “Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, they would have none of my counsel and despised my every rebuke. Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled to the full with their own fancies. For the turning away of the simple will slay them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; but whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil.” Proverbs 1:20-33

If we go back to the previous verses, starting from Proverbs 1:20, we will see that the wisdom calls aloud and cries out to the people, inviting them to listen to her.

“Turn at my rebuke; surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.” Proverbs 1:23

Then in verse 24, we see that they refused to listen and rejected each advise she was giving them. In the next verses it is described that hard times will come to them and **then** they will call for help, but she (the wisdom) will not help them then. Why? Because it is not done in the way those people did. They refused to listen at all time, but when they were at need, then they remembered and cried out for help. What is common to almost all men is that they look for help or remember about God only in their time of need, but generally, when they are fine, they don’t think much about Him and don’t really seek for His counsel. Verse 28 says that **then** they will cry out. “**Then** they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.” Proverbs 1:28

The moment of trial of difficulty comes upon everyone, no matter if that person has followed the wisdom or not. It is inevitable. The wisdom can only benefit those ones who follow it. In this way they will have a solution and a way to face that day.

To me it means that they had to cry out before that, they had to seek before that, before that trouble came. God wants to help us and save us and He wants to **prepare** us before the day of trial comes in our life. Psalm 50:15 says: “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.” But before that moment comes, we need to be ready. That moment will definitely come upon everyone. It is inevitable. It didn’t come upon those people because they didn’t listen to the wisdom. It was going to come anyway. God just wanted them to be ready. This is how much He loves us. He wants to save us and He doesn’t want that day to come to us as a snare. “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.” Luke 21:34,35

It is like the houses built on different foundations. The one on the rock and the other one on the sand. The rain, the floods and the wind came on both of them, but only one withstood, the one that was prepared well and built on the rock. (Matthew 7:24-27)

“When your terror comes like a **storm**, and your destruction comes like a **whirlwind**, when distress and anguish come upon you.” Proverbs 1:27 Surely we can see some similarity here with the parable of the two houses. What these word here is teaching us, is that trouble comes all of a sudden, when no one expects it and it comes upon everyone.

Verse 30 and 31 of the same chapter says: “They would have none of my counsel and despised my every rebuke. Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled to the full with their own fancies.”

We are speaking about consequence here. The word and the promises of God sometimes are like mathematics. They are having its standards and rules. If you do in a certain way, you will have certain consequences as well. This doesn’t apply when we speak about His power. Then obviously we go beyond logic and His power is unlimited, but looking at some other things, we can say that there are mathematics in the way God works. And here it clearly says that who listens to Him, will be in peace and will fear no evil. And if someone **really** does it, then it will happen, because His word is faithful and He is not a man to lie. The same as 2 plus 2 equals 4 and it always does, I mean that it will never equal 5. So in this way His word is faithful to us.

We obviously need to examine ourselves if we feel that something is wrong with us and we mustn’t get discouraged, because He wants to help us. And if we see that we did something wrong or we simply didn’t do something in the right way, it is not too late and we can correct that and change it. As people we are not perfect, but the fact that we see and acknowledge our faults in the light of His word is good. In this sense as well the wisdom comes to our life with a correction. Proverbs 1:23 “Turn at my rebuke; surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.” It is better for us to acknowledge and to accept His rebuke rather than refusing it as v.25 says: “Because you disdained all my counsel, and would have none of my rebuke,”

We can go further in the next chapter and see more.

“My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; yes if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, **if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasure**; then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.” Proverbs 2:1-5

Notice that it tells us to seek for the wisdom as for hidden treasure and as silver. It is something that we probably don’t do often. So we see that to listen to the wisdom, so that we can be secure and dwell safely, is having to do with how we seek for the Lord and for His wisdom. This in general is an invitation to all, but we can say that it applies more to the persons already born again, who can see the real value of it. We need always to seek for the Lord as we seek for a treasure. We have to do it with the same desire. Just imagine the desire with which you look for something precious. Many times, we can conform with what we are already doing on how we are looking for the Lord in our life or how we listen to Him.

Just check on something. The people given as an example in these chapters in the book of Proverbs, the ones that didn’t listen fully to His wisdom and the ones that refused to heed on Hid rebuke, are not necessary monsters, I mean that they were probably people doing the ordinary things and not living fully in sin. They were probably “good” people, but not according to the standards of God. They didn’t listen properly, they didn’t seek for His wisdom as for a treasure and silver. They didn’t give it the right value.

Many times in my personal life as a Christian, I blamed the others or the situation in which I was in, for my problems. Reading these passages in Proverbs, helped me to understand why I was going through this kind of feeling and why I was feeling so insecure. It was for my own lack of understanding and for my own attitude and because I wasn’t listening and following properly the wisdom of God. I often told myself that I am just in this way and there is nothing to do about it. I was wrong.

“For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.” 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

As we see here from these verses, there are Christians that build on the foundation (that is Jesus Christ) with different materials. Each material can represent their effort through faith and their dedication to follow and to seek for the wisdom as something really precious, like someone looking for a treasure. Each one’s work will be tested with fire. There will be such a time, there will be such a day, when everyone will be tested. The day of trial. There are precious materials that last on fire and others that get burned. Here we see different type of Christians. I can be the one that many times build my house with wood or straw. We are not necessary speaking about living a sinful life, but for living a life without carrying really for the will of God and not really listening with the due attention to His counsels. What type of Christian am I and what type are you? Obviously we are weak and fragile by nature and we can’t do more than what we are able to do with God’s grace, but are we sincere with ourselves when we look at our condition and when I look at my condition?

God gave His life for us to give us an opportunity and to help us to overcome. He overcame already and wants us to follow His steps. He gave us value, while dying on that cross. Understanding and accepting this, can help us to give Him the right value in our life. He wants to help us.