I. Identifying the author is an invaluable key to understanding any passage of scripture.

 A. In Book Three is a compilation of Solomon’s Proverbs by Hezekiah.

 B. Hezekiah’s history is well known, thanks to Kings and Chronicles.

 1. Hezekiah’s story begins with his father, King Ahaz (vs. Ahab/Jezebel)

 2. Hezekiah’s lessons were learned a hard way – through bad example.

 C. Hezekiah’s background helps us understand his declaration in Prov. 29:18.

II. Wisdom through revelation/vision (chazown in Hebrew) is wisdom’s most important

 type.

 A. Our definition of revelation is, “Information not available through observation

 or intuition.”

 B. Revelation/vision is essential in navigating a life of faith.

 1. In flight terms, revelation/vision equates to being “instrument

 rated.”

 C. Revelation/vision is essential in grasping the beginning of wisdom – fear of

 the Lord.

 D. Revelation/vision grasps the fact that God speaks. He is not silent.

III. God uses the prophet Isaiah to get revelation/vision to King Hezekiah

 A. 2 Kings 19:20-34 records this message.

 B. Essentially, the Christmas message is the core of any revelation/vision.

 C. This message of the manger is critical in assessing any current event.

 D. The message of the manger is the cornerstone of history.

 E. The message of the manger is critical to understanding our personal story.

 F. The manger message needs to be believed, received, applied and propelled.

IV. Consider the information presented in Proverbs 25 in the light of Hezekiah’s life.

 A. The rule of law used to govern a nation or an individual’s life is its

 cornerstone.

 B. A definition of the rule of law is “the restriction of the arbitrary exercise of

 power by subordinating it to well-defined and established laws.

 C. “Blessed is the nation whose god is the LORD: Psalm 33:12

 1. “In God We Trust” is our nation’s most important declaration.

 2. The LORD is ruling, reigning, and RETURNING.

 a. That God was lying in a manger in Bethlehem.

 3. Merry Christmas

**Away in a Manger**

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| 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bedThe little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet headThe stars in the sky look down where he lay;The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay | 2. The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakesBut little Lord Jesus, no crying he makesI love thee Lord Jesus; look down from the skyAnd stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh |

3. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;

The stars in the heavens look down where he lay;

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.