

Welcome!

- ✓ *Grab a cup of coffee and breakfast.*
- ✓ *Say hello to someone you don't know.*
- ✓ *We'll gather at 10:20am.*

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Preparing our Hearts for Worship

*“Praise be to the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ...*

*In him we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of sins, in accord with the
riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us.”*

– Ephesians 1:1, 7-8

Psalms, Proverbs & Parables



In Pursuit of Wisdom

by Ray Souza



For those who find
me find life
and receive favor
from the LORD.

Proverbs 8:35

Job 20:28

“Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding.”

Proverbs 9:10

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

James 1:5

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.”

Proverbs 4:5-7

“Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you.”

G. Campbell Morgan

“There is nothing greater or grander in all the Biblical Literature, as setting forth the beauty and grace of that wisdom which has the fear of Lord as its chief part.”

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

- ¹ Listen as Wisdom calls out!
Hear as understanding raises her voice!
- ² On the hilltop along the road,
she takes her stand at the crossroads.
- ³ By the gates at the entrance to the town,
on the road leading in, she cries aloud,
- ⁴ “I call to you, to all of you!
I raise my voice to all people.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

⁵ You simple people, use good judgment.

You foolish people, show some understanding.

⁶ Listen to me! For I have important things to tell you.

Everything I say is right,

⁷ for I speak the truth

and detest every kind of deception.

⁸ My advice is wholesome. There is nothing devious or crooked in it.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

⁹ My words are plain to anyone with understanding,
clear to those with knowledge.

¹⁰ Choose my instruction rather than silver,
and knowledge rather than pure gold.

¹¹ For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies.
Nothing you desire can compare with it.

¹² “I, (Godly) Wisdom, live together with good judgment.
I know where to discover knowledge and discernment.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

- ¹³ All who fear the Lord will hate evil.
Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance,
corruption and perverse speech.
- ¹⁴ Common sense and success belong to me.
Insight and strength are mine.
- ¹⁵ Because of me, kings reign,
and rulers make just decrees.
- ¹⁶ Rulers lead with my help,
and nobles make righteous judgments.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

¹⁷ “I love all who love me.

Those who search will surely find me.

¹⁸ I have riches and honor,
as well as enduring wealth and justice.

¹⁹ My gifts are better than gold, even the purest gold,
my wages better than sterling silver!

²⁰ I walk in righteousness,
in paths of justice.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

²¹ Those who love me inherit wealth.
I will fill their treasuries.

²² “The Lord formed me from the beginning,
before he created anything else.

²³ I was appointed in ages past,
at the very first, before the earth began.

²⁴ I was born before the oceans were created,
before the springs bubbled forth their waters.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

- ²⁵ Before the mountains were formed,
before the hills, I was born—
- ²⁶ before he had made the earth and fields
and the first handfuls of soil.
- ²⁷ I was there when he established the heavens,
when he drew the horizon on the oceans.
- ²⁸ I was there when he set the clouds above,
when he established springs deep in the earth.

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

²⁹ I was there when he set the limits of the seas,
so they would not spread beyond their boundaries.

And when he marked off the earth's foundations,

³⁰ I was the architect at his side.

I was his constant delight,
rejoicing always in his presence.

³¹ And how happy I was with the world he created;
how I rejoiced with the human family!

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

- ³² “And so, my children, listen to me,
for all who follow my ways are joyful.
- ³³ Listen to my instruction and be wise.
Don’t ignore it.
- ³⁴ Joyful are those who listen to me,
watching for me daily at my gates,
waiting for me outside my home!

Proverbs 8 – Wisdom Calls for a Hearing

- ³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life
and receives favor from the Lord.
- ³⁶ But those who miss me injure themselves.
All who hate me love death.”

James 1:13

“If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom.”

James 1:14-18

“But if you are bitterly jealous and there is self-ambition in your heart, don’t cover up truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

James 1:14-18

“But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy, and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.”

Attributes of Wisdom:

Purity: Keeping your heart clean by focusing on God and living with integrity in your thoughts, words, and actions.

Peace: Living in harmony in your relationships and avoiding unnecessary conflict.

Gentle: Showing kindness by putting others first, even when you feel you're in the right. **Ecclesiastes 8:1** – *“Wisdom lights up a person’s face, softening its harshness.”*

Attributes of Wisdom:

Willing: Open to listening, learning, and embracing wise counsel.

Full of mercy and good fruit: Letting compassion move you to practical acts of kindness.

Impartial: Staying consistent and fair in treating others, sticking to your values no matter the situation.

Sincere: Being genuine and honest in everything you do, with no hidden motives or pretense.

Proverbs 8

V.4 - *“I call to you, to all of you!
I raise my voice to all people.”*

V.32 - *“And so, my children, listen to me,
for all who follow my ways are joyful.”*

1 Corinthians 1:24

“Christ is the wisdom of God.”

Colossians 1:3

“In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

The Blessing

"May God grant you the wisdom to see the right path, the courage to walk down it, and the peace to know you are never alone. May His understanding guard your mind, and may your life bear the rich fruit of goodness and truth until we meet again."