

Blessings of Wisdom
Proverbs 3:13-20
July 19, 2015

Introduction

Solomon is warning his son that he will face two paths. On one path, the evil ones will try to entice him to enter it and walk on it. These people might seem like nice people, but all of their thoughts are evil, contrary to God's word. He warns his son that that way leads to destruction and death. There is no life to be found on that path.

On the second path, Lady Wisdom cries out for people to come to her and walk on her path. It is a path that leads to life. Last week, we learned that wisdom helps in peace, worship, and obedience. When we walk in the way of wisdom (the skill of living in fear of YHWH), we will be blessed by God.

I. Blessed (13 and 18)

- Blessed
 - Beginning of verse 13 and end of verse 18
 - Hebrew poetry = thought rhymes
 - Solomon is using this as an emphasis
- Blessed = happy
 - Not same as happy in American thought
 - This is a man who is in a right relationship with God
 - He has peace with God
 - Blessedness is never dependent on outward circumstances

Luke 11:28 *He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."*

- The blessed man lives in obedience to and in fear of God
- Man is blessed for finding wisdom
 - He has gotten this from the Lord

Proverbs 2:6 *For the LORD gives wisdom,
and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.*

- Only those who are in the right relationship with the Lord can obtain wisdom
- We receive wisdom when we believe in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior

Colossians 1:12-14 *giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

Colossians 1:19-20 *For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.*

Colossians 2:3 *[Christ] in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

- Wisdom is the obedience and doing what Jesus says
- When we do what He commands, we are blessed!

II. Wisdom's Blessings (14-18)

- More precious than...
 - Gold, silver, jewels---all material things
 - Blessedness is not measured by terms of material value
 - Wisdom is worth far more than that
 - Its source and worth is heavenly
 - It is satisfying (God's wisdom—not worldly wisdom)

Ecclesiastes 2:18-21 *I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. 19 And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the work into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. 20 So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. 21 For a man may do his work with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then he must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune.*

- It is secure and will never decrease in value

Matthew 6:19-21 *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

- Our attitude to wisdom should be like this

Matthew 13:44-46 *The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.*

- The value is not earthly, but heavenly and future
- Blesses us in this life and beyond!
 - Length of days
 - Riches and honor
 - Pleasure and peaceful
 - Tree of life
 - This is believer's hope in the worlds to come

III. The Lord's Wisdom (19-20)

- God's wisdom is shown in creation
- God's wisdom is shown in His providence
- God is the source of wisdom

Coram Deo

Solomon's point: If God, in His wisdom, can create the universe perfectly and finely tuned, and if God can handle the every day, minute details of every universe's function, then how much would God's wisdom be able to guide us?