

- 12 “I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,
And find out knowledge and discretion.
13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil;
Pride and arrogance and the evil way
And the perverse mouth I hate.
14 Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom;
I am understanding, I have strength.
15 By me kings reign,
And rulers decree justice.
16 By me princes rule, and nobles,
All the judges of the earth.
17 I love those who love me,
And those who seek me diligently will find me.
18 Riches and honor are with me,
Enduring riches and righteousness.
19 My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold,
And my revenue than choice silver.
20 I traverse the way of righteousness,
In the midst of the paths of justice,
21 That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth,
That I may fill their treasuries.”

Pastor teaches his family a selection from “the Proverb of the day.” In these ten verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that true wealth is to possess the Lord Himself, and it is obtained by true wisdom: living before the Lord in the light of His own character.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Proverbs 8 verses 12 through 21. These are God's words. I wisdom dwell with prudence and find out knowledge and discretion. The fear of yapha is to hate evil. Pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate Council is mine and sound wisdom?

I am understanding. I have strength. By me King's Reign and rulers decree, Justice by me, Prince's Rule and Nobles all the judges of the Earth. I love those who loved me. And those who seek me diligently will find me. Riches and honor are with me enduring riches. And righteousness.

My fruit is better than gold. Yes, them's fine gold. And my Revenue than Choice, silver. I Traverse the way of righteousness. In the midst of the paths of Justice. That I may cause those who love me. To inherit wealth. That I may. Their treasuries.

So far the reading of gods inspired and inert weren't My dear children. What you will consider to be wisdom. Is going to depend very much upon. Whether you treasure the Creator above the creature. Or whether your heart and mind and desires. Are full primarily of created things. And not the Creator.

We've already heard that the fear of the Lord. The beginning of wisdom. And so, In this passage, Wisdom is personified and we find out when we whenever we get to verse 22 and following that wisdom is personified because wisdom actually is identified with a person The second person of the godhead.

The son, the Lord Jesus by whom. Yeah, the second person of the godhead, the son, the Lord Jesus by whom God made all things. So that in John chapter 1 in Colossians chapter 1 and Hebrews chapter 1, And all these different places. The Lord Jesus is identified as the Eternal son, the Creator.

Who became man in order to save us. But wisdom, here is personified, as a person who can lead To the true wealth. Now, those who do not treasure. God himself above everything else. Everything else taken together. Not just first in a list but greater than the whole rest of the list.

They always want to figure out how to get what they want. And that way of getting what they want, is what they think is prudence and knowledge. And that's what they try to accumulate. So when wisdom personified here says I dwell with prudence and find out knowledge and discretion.

We might think that. Uh, that's where we're going. And when wisdom says, Riches and honor. Are with me, we might think. That that's what's being described here. How to get Gold and silver. How to? Advance above other people and accumulate many things. But verse 13 immediately nips. That kind of thinking in the butt this is not The kind of prudence and knowledge and discretion, that simply enables you to have a very successful life and accumulate property or even influence people and have good relationships.

No, this is the kind of prudence and knowledge and discretion. That is knowing god knowing how to live before the face of God. And so the great part of wisdom then is to hate evil. The fear of the Lord is the beginning. Of wisdom. Well, What is the fear of the Lord?

We want to know what that is. Many people ask that question when they hear the fear of the Lord, as the beginning of wisdom, they say, well, What is the fear of the Lord? Well, there are many aspects to it. Generally speaking it is to live in Wonder act and as an act of worship unto God.

But that actually requires the That positive aspect requires the negative aspect of is verse 13 says Hating evil. We you can't, you can't acquire wisdom. You can't fear the lord, and indulge, or tolerate, or be okay with pride or arrogance or the evil way. Or the Crooked mouth. The mouth that doesn't speak.

As we were designed to speak. You know, God. Speaks God. Actually calls his son, the word and he gives us to be speaking creatures. Who communicate ourselves? Yeah. Animals learn to make sounds and can communicate to one another with those sounds. But they do not communicate themselves, they don't share their identity.

Um, Their personhood. With one another. And so speech is this wonderful? Holy thing in the image of God. And this is one of the ways that we find that we have. Evil and pride and arrogance in our hearts. When rather than, Using our mouse for the worship of God.

And using our mouse to bless our brother, which two things remember? Um, James says, does have to go together, how could you? Uh, curse your brother one moment and come and praise God. The next moment Rather than using our mouse that way we use our mouths, Uh, not just as attack tools.

But often as manipulation tools. To try and steer conversations to get people to think. Maybe of us or someone else or something. The way we want them to think. That's a perverse mouth. That's a crooked mouth. It's not being used as it was designed to be used just like earlier.

When we were talking about perversion of marriage, Is not using. Uh, marriage. One husband one, man. One wife, one woman. Uh, in a lifelong, Covenant. Anything other than that? Is a perversion of marriage. Well, Using our mouths. Except for worship using our mouths, except for edification. That's perverseness of the mouth.

And so the fear of Yahweh is hating all those things. With the fear of Yahweh then is loving him. And loving righteousness. But what kind of treasure, what kind of riches and what kind of Honor does this get you? The Riches of gold and silver, no. Verse 19 says, my fruit is better than gold yes than fine, gold.

And my revenue is Better than Troy silver. Well what kind of, uh, honor Not just the honor of Being Kings and rulers and And princess. But by being those who reign in a way that God approves of By me King's Reign and rulers decree. Justice. You want to know why?

There's Injustice in our nation. That's the same reason that there will be Injustice in your home. If you don't lead it out of love for God. Out of desire for him above all things. Because this is the biblical wisdom. That leads to ruling and leading Injustice. With Justice. So wisdom gives enduring riches and righteousness, it takes us in the path verse 20 describes.

Of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of Justice. Not just in the path of Justice, but right down the middle. Like if you're a marksman who has learned, not just to aim at the Inner Circle. But at the point, dot in the middle, Of the Inner Circle. And so we inherit wealth and have our treasuries filled verse 21.

Not with silver and gold. But with the Lord himself. Of knowing him and being known by him. Delighting in him and even Being delighted in. By him. Yes. Have what wisdom? Can ever do that? Well, it's the wisdom that brings you to Faith in Jesus Christ. It's the wisdom.

That brings you to be United to the Lord Jesus. So that he himself is your righteousness. And even as God says from, Of Jesus. This is my beloved Son with him. I am. Well pleased. If you are united to Christ, you become the heir, you become. You've become the inheritor verse 21.

And God says of you in Christ, this is my beloved child. With whom I am. Well pleased. And you are loved with the love that the father has for the son. And you are delighted in with the delight that the father takes in his son. So there's no achievement.

That you could ever do to get there? You must. Well, you can only have it by having Christ. And this. The great part of the wisdom of God, does it produce? Does having Christ and belonging to him? Does it produce righteous living obedience to God's Commandments? Absolutely. It does.

Right? Use of your mouth? Yes, of course. But it is Christ himself. In whom we have the inheritance. To take our delight in God and be delighted in by God. Forever. Is something that we We have difficulty, wrapping our Minds around. But we already know. His love to us.

And can see his love to us. And that we are called the children of God. Then that is what we are. But, let's pray.

Father, give us this wisdom, we pray. We spend a lot of time. Studying things trying to accumulate knowledge, trying to accumulate skill. But none of those lesser wisdoms. Anywhere near the importance. Of knowing you as father. By faith in your son, our Lord Jesus by the ministry. Of your spirit who pours out your love into our hearts and makes us to call you our Abba.

And so we pray our glorious Triune God that you would. Come and bring us into fellowship with you that we would live in this Fear of you this Wonder at you and worship unto you. That we would hate evil. As being incompatible with and against. Your glorious design for our creation, your glorious design for our Redemption.

And even as we teach it and even as we hear it taught, Lord, we We feel like this is so far from our Experience, our best moments. Our nearest richest enjoyings of you. And Apprehensions of. Apprehendings of your enjoying. They're just so small. Compared to what we know Glory must be like.

For you to speak to us this way, in this part of your word. And so we thank you for this part of your word. We pray, that your spirit would make it precious to us. We pray that you would wean us off of Eagerness for desire. Satisfaction with Earthly things apart from you.

How we thank you for the Lord's day. That you have set apart. Not for acting upon the creature, but for acting upon you. Creator and Our Redeemer. And then we pray that even as we begin. Now, To prepare. The rest of this evening and then, especially when we Awake in the morning.

That your spirit would remind us. What the day is for. We're to taste and Sample. This inheritance. This wealth that you have spoken to us about. And so help us as we prepare and help us. When we come to the day tomorrow, And Grant that when we are done with our work in this world, We would enter this rest.

And come into that Everlasting enjoyment. Uh, that the Lord stays along the way. All anticipated. So help us, we pray in Jesus name. Amen.