



The Value of Wisdom (Proverbs 2:1-22)

If You Receive Wisdom, then You Will Understand

"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 treasures**; **Then** you will **understand the fear of the Lord**, And **find the knowledge of God**. For the **Lord gives wisdom**; From His mouth come **knowledge and understanding**; He stores up sound **wisdom for the upright**; He is a **shield** to those who walk uprightly; He **guards the paths** of justice, And **preserves the way** of His saints. Then you will **understand righteousness and justice**, **Equity and every good path**. When **wisdom enters your heart**, And **knowledge is pleasant to your soul**, **Discretion will preserve you**; Understanding **will keep you**, To **deliver you from the way of evil**, From the **man who speaks perverse things**, From **those who leave the paths of uprightness** To walk in the ways of darkness; Who **rejoice in doing evil**, And

delight in the perversity of the wicked; Whose **ways are crooked**,
And who are **devious in their paths**; To **deliver you** from the
immoral woman, From the **seductress** who flatters with her words,
Who **forsakes** the companion of her youth, And **forgets the**
covenant of her God. For her house **leads down to death**, And her
paths to the dead; **None who go to her return**, Nor do they regain
the paths of life— So you may walk in the way of goodness, And
keep to the paths of righteousness. For the **upright will dwell in the**
land, And the **blameless will remain in it**; But the **wicked will be**
cut off from the earth, And the **unfaithful will be uprooted** from it.”
Proverbs 2:1-22 NKJV

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for hidden treasures; **Then** you will **understand the fear of the**
Lord, And **find the knowledge of God.**” Proverbs 2:1-5 NKJV*

☑ **From father to son:** “If you...”

☑ **Receive my words:** to receive is to **hear** the audible
sounds, to **perceive** what they mean, to **agree** with what

they instruct, and to **do** what they require! *If you receive them you will...*

- ☑ **Treasure my commands:** *If you receive them you will...* value them as if they were the most expensive riches imaginable.
- ☑ **Incline your ear to wisdom:** *If you receive them you will...* ever be searching and listening for wise counsel.
- ☑ **Apply your heart to understanding:** *If you receive them you will...* take every thought captive in order to align what you comprehend with God's truth.
- ☑ **Cry out for discernment:** *If you receive them you will...* be humble enough to yearn for help when you are struggling to align your mind with the mind of God, and your actions with God's instructions.
- ☑ **Lift up your voice for understanding:** *If you receive them you will...* be open and transparent with your intense longing to know what God intends and your sincere desire to live it out and even use your transparency to influence the desires of others.
- ☑ **Seek wisdom as silver:** *If you receive them you will...* treat your pursuit of God's heart on any matter as the most important priority in your life.

- Search for wisdom as for hidden treasures:** *If you receive them you will...* recognize that it will not come easy, but nothing of the greatest value ever does. Even if it is like searching for a diamond buried in a sea of sand or at the bottom of the ocean, you will make it your life's mission to do so!
- This is what it will look like to treasure God's Wisdom...
- It is the best decision you will ever make!**
 - "And she had a sister called **Mary**, who also **sat at Jesus' feet** and heard His word. [42] But one thing is needed, and **Mary has chosen that good part [what is better]**, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:39, 42 NKJV*
- It is the greatest privilege you will ever be granted!**
 - "He answered and said to them, "**Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.**" Matthew 13:11 NKJV*
- It will be worth pursuing, even if you have to surrender everything else!**
 - "Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field**, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and **sells all that he has and buys***

*that field. “Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls**, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, **went and sold all that he had and bought it.**” Matthew 13:44-46 NKJV*

☑ **It must be sought after as long as it takes!**

☑ *““Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek, and you will find**; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and **he who seeks finds**, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” Matthew 7:7-8 NKJV*

☑ **It must be your top priority forever!**

☑ *“But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:33 NKJV*

☑ **From father to son: “If you receive my words, then you...”**

☑ Will understand the fear of the Lord

☑ *“The **fear of the Lord** is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Proverbs 1:7 NKJV*

☑ You can sum up all 31 Proverbs with this simple, yet infinitely profound, idea:

- ☑ Any meaningful information you might obtain over the course of a lifetime must be rooted in reverence for the ONE TRUE GOD!
- ☑ Anything else is foolishness:
 - ☑ AKA: despising the only true source of wisdom and instruction.
 - ☑ AKA: embracing wisdom and instruction rooted in some authority other than the ONE TRUE GOD!
- ☑ To find the knowledge of God.
 - ☑ Paul was certain that the knowledge of God was the top priority...
 - ☑ *“Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**” Ephesians 1:15-17 NKJV*
- ☑ Because the knowledge of God yielded this fruit...
 - ☑ *“the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that **you may know what is the hope of His calling,** what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is **the exceeding greatness of His***

*power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ **when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,”*
Ephesians 1:18-20 NKJV

☑ Peter was certain that the knowledge of God was the top priority...

☑ *“Grace and peace be multiplied to you **in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord**, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, **through the knowledge of Him** who called us by glory and virtue,”* II Peter 1:2-3 NKJV

☑ Because the knowledge of God yielded this fruit...

☑ *“by which have been given to us exceedingly **great and precious promises**, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having **escaped the corruption that is in the world** through lust.”* II Peter 1:4 NKJV

☑ *“For the **Lord gives wisdom**; From His mouth come **knowledge and understanding**; He stores up sound **wisdom for the upright**; He is a **shield** to those who walk uprightly; He **guards the paths** of justice, And **preserves the way** of His*

saints. Then you will **understand righteousness and justice, Equity and every good path.**" Proverbs 2:6-9 NKJV

☑ **The Giver of wisdom, knowledge and understanding!**

☑ **Knowledge:** the acquisition of God's intent on any matter.

☑ **Understanding:** the proper perception of God's intention.

☑ **Wisdom:** the application of Godly knowledge and understanding.

☑ **For those who live a life pleasing to God by choosing what is right and just in His sight...**

☑ God has an abundance of wisdom to share with him.

☑ God is his defense against every attack.

☑ God is his supernatural navigator for every decision.

☑ God will shine a light to illuminate the proper path even if he has temporarily wandered off in the wrong direction. DO NOT do so intentionally!

☑ **With wisdom, then you will understand...**

☑ **Righteousness...** what is right in God's heart/thoughts.

☑ **Justice...** proper judgment and ruling according to God.

☑ **Equity...** fair and impartial assessment in God's eyes.

☑ **Every good path...** this is the way of the Lord!

☑ **The Narrow Gate:** "*Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to*

destruction, and there are many who go in by it."

Matthew 7:13 NKJV

☑ **The Lord's Steps:** *"A man's heart plans his way, But **the Lord directs his steps.**"* Proverbs 16:9 NKJV

☑ **The Lord's Way:** *"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, **"This is the way, walk in it,"** Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left."*
Isaiah 30:21 NKJV

☑ *" When **wisdom enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul, Discretion will preserve you; Understanding will keep you, To deliver you from the way of evil, From the man who speaks perverse things, From those who leave the paths of uprightness To walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice in doing evil, And delight in the perversity of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, And who are devious in their paths;"***
Proverbs 2:10-15 NKJV

☑ **What's on your heart?**

☑ When the acquisition of God's intent on any matter (knowledge) becomes your primary focus, and applying that knowledge (wisdom) becomes your standard operating procedure, as if your seeking of God's wisdom fuels every thought, desire, intention, motivation, and

purpose for living (your soul), and His will has become your will, then...

- ☑ Sober and excellent decision-making will keep you from wrecking your life.
 - ☑ The proper perception of God's intention will protect you from becoming a victim of wicked desires and godless choices.
 - ☑ You will be shielded from considering the absurd things that come from the mouth of pagans who have no interest in doing things God's way, but would rather cultivate darkness, celebrate corruption and iniquity, and take joy in everything impure, obscene, and twisted.
 - ☑ You will be protected from those who follow the dictates of their own treacherous hearts and whose ways are purposely deceptive and continuously scheming how they can fool others.
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- ☑ *"To **deliver you** from the **immoral woman**, From the **seductress** who flatters with her words, Who **forsakes** the companion of her youth, And **forgets the covenant** of her God. For her house **leads down to death**, And her paths to the dead; **None who go to her return**, Nor do they regain the*

*paths of life— So you may walk in the way of goodness, And keep to the paths of righteousness. For the **upright will dwell in the land**, And the **blameless will remain in it**; But the **wicked will be cut off** from the earth, And the **unfaithful will be uprooted** from it.” Proverbs 2:16-22 NKJV*

☑ **Review:**

☑ **Knowledge:** the acquisition of God’s intent on any matter.

☑ **Understanding:** the proper perception of God’s intention.

☑ **Wisdom:** the application of Godly knowledge and understanding.

☑ **Knowledge, Understanding, and Wisdom will protect your from sexual immorality (the Gateway Sin!)...**

☑ **The immoral woman:** the woman who represents sexual immorality.

☑ **Note:** this is why, as a woman, you must check your motives, the risk, and the temptation you create when you are willing to dress and act in such a way that you draw the attention of the men around you to your sexuality!

☑ **The seductress:** she uses her words to draw men in by telling them everything they want to hear. Flattery is most dangerous type of deception, as it is the one lie a person is willing to believe even when fully aware it is a lie!

- ☑ **The Adulterer:** who cheats on her husband and is willing to break the covenant of marriage made in the presence of God.
- ☑ **Note:** if you are engaged in inappropriate sexual activity with someone before marriage, even if you eventually marry that someone, you are testifying to them that you cannot be trusted and you'd be willing to cheat on them (as if you are cheating on the married version of them with the unmarried version of them!)
- ☑ **Her Fate:** and the fate of those who go with her... She will lead you into the pit of hell, from which there is no way out!
- ☑ **Sexual Immorality (the Gateway Sin!)**
 - ☑ For this reason... *"because, **although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**"* Romans 1:21 NKJV
 - ☑ When you do not glorify God and acknowledge His ways... sexually immorality is the FIRST RISK!
 - ☑ ***"For this reason** God gave them up to **vile passions.** For even their **women exchanged the natural** use for what is **against nature.** Likewise also the **men, leaving the natural** use of the woman, **burned in their lust for***

*one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and **receiving** in themselves the **penalty** of their error which was due.” Romans 1:26-27 NKJV*

- ☑ If you continue to ignore the truth about God...
- ☑ “And even as they **did not like to retain God in their knowledge**, God gave them over to a debased mind, to **do those things which are not fitting**;” Romans 1:28 NKJV
- ☑ That unrighteousness will lead to a cascade of sinful behaviors beginning with sexual immorality, (that is why sexual immorality is the gateway sin!)
- ☑ Cascade: once it begins to flow it is hard to stop!
- ☑ {a mass of something that falls or hangs in **copious or luxuriant quantities**}
- ☑ {a large number or amount of something occurring or arriving **in rapid succession**}
- ☑ The Cascade of Iniquities: beginning with sexual immorality... See: [In the Image of God](#)
- ☑ “being filled with all unrighteousness, **sexual immorality**, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to

parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;” Romans 1:29-31 NKJV

☑ The Will of God is the OPPOSITE of sexual immorality!

☑ *“For this is **the will of God, your sanctification:** that you should **abstain from sexual immorality**; that each of you should **know how to possess his own vessel** in sanctification and honor, **not** in passion of lust, **like the Gentiles who do not know God;**” I Thessalonians 4:3-5 NKJV*

☑ **Knowledge, Understanding, and Wisdom will protect you from sexual immorality (the Gateway Sin!)**

☑ Then you... **Will walk in the way of goodness:** to live a life of virtue and truth in every way and at all times seeking the Lord’s heart (His thoughts) on every matter!

☑ Then you... **Will keep to the paths of righteousness:** to live in such a way that seeks God’s will for your life!

☑ **Outcome for the blameless and upright followers of God:**

☑ You receive and maintain all of God’s promises!

☑ **Outcome for the wicked:**

☑ You are cut off from God’s promises permanently!

NEXT TEACHING

Early Childhood Education (Proverbs 3:1-35)