

WISDOM

*"WISDOM IS SUPREME; THEREFORE GET WISDOM. THOUGH IT COST
ALL YOU HAVE, GET UNDERSTANDING." – PROVERBS 4:7*

List the 5 wisest people you know.

- * What criteria earned their spots on this list?
- * Think about what you've learned from them. Have you applied it?
- * Do you think of yourself as wise? Why or why not?
- * Would *you* be on anyone's list?

Proverbs: A book about wisdom.

-- From Strong's Exhaustive Concordance:

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|------------------|-----------------|
| * "wise" – 66x | * "wisely" – 3x |
| * "wisdom" – 54x | * "wiser" – 2x |

- Biblical Wisdom is always GOD-ORIENTED and PRACTICAL.
 - > Defined as the CORRECT use of one's *knowledge, insight* and *skill* to the GLORY OF GOD.
- It is not dependent upon KNOWLEDGE – a knowledgeable person can be very deficient in wisdom!
- *Worldly* wisdom – knowledge apart from DIVINE REVELATION -- often GOD-OPPOSING in nature.
 - > How does the world define wisdom? Making GOOD DECISIONS
 - > Can you think of an example of worldly wisdom which opposes Jesus's will?
 - > ex: My Google search for "Is it wise to ..."
- *True* wisdom – the ordering of one's life by GOD-GIVEN counsel.

So ... what is the *right* kind of wisdom? 2 Keys:

- (1) Where it ORIGINATES (FROM God)
- (2) How it's USED (FOR God)

1. WHAT IS WISDOM'S WORTH?

- > Proverbs establishes wisdom's worth via COMPARISON!
 - * More valuable than ... (see 3:13-15; 8:10-11; 16:16)
 - * TASTES good and is good for you! (24:14)

2. HOW DOES WISDOM PROTECT ME?

- > Prov. 2:11-19. Saves from the ways of WICKED MEN and the ADULTERESS

> Prov. 3:21-26. A by-product of wisdom is PEACE.

-- *my early fear of losing my parents; the fear of that "call in the middle of the night"*

3. WHAT DOES WISDOM OFFER?

- > LONG LIFE (3:16)
- > RICHES & HONOR (3:16)
- > ENJOYMENT (3:17)
- > LESS STRESS (3:17)
- > SUCCESS AT "WORK" (8:15-16)

4. WHERE DO WE GET WISDOM?

> The world might say ...

- * Our MISTAKES!
- * Living (Live and LEARN)
- * Owls

> Proverbs says ...

- * Prov. 9:10-12. FEARING THE LORD is where you start!
 - According to this passage, does long life guarantee wisdom?
 - What does this phrase mean?
 - {Reliance on the Lord in all circumstances and submission to His lordship}
- * Prov. 13:20. WALK WITH THE WISE ... it wears off!
 - see Prov. 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron ..."
- * Prov. 2:6. It is a GIFT from God.
- * Prov. 11:2. As we HUMBLE ourselves.
 - PRIDE is an obstacle to gaining wisdom!
 - 13:2 – wisdom resides in the person who TAKES ADVICE!
 - > Do you seek advice? Do you readily accept advice?
- * Prov. 29:15. The ROD OF CORRECTION!!
 - Parents (and others who discipline) are imparters of wisdom!
 - As grown-ups, we have a double duty:
 - (1) To know how to find wisdom
 - (2) To know how to impart wisdom