

I. Introduction and Review.

II. Earnestly seek wisdom from God. v. 1-4

A. Are you receptive to wisdom? v. 1-2

1. Does your soul thirst for truth? v. 1a Lk. 8:15
2. Do you treasure wisdom within you? v. 1b
3. Are you attentive to wisdom? v. 2 Heb. 2:1 3:15

B. Do you earnestly pursue wisdom? v. 3-4

1. Cry out to God (pray) for understanding? v. 3 James 1:5 I Pe. 2:2
2. Search for (study) wisdom as treasure. v. 4 Psalm 1

C. Are you growing in wisdom?

D. Seek wisdom in Christ. I Co. 1:30-31 He. 1:1-2 Jo. 6:63 8:32 14:6 Lu. 11:31

III. Wisdom will benefit and bless you. v. 5-11

A. You will personally know God, Who teaches you wisdom. v. 5-8

1. You will know both the transcendence of God's awesome glory and the immanence of intimate fellowship with Him. v. 5
2. The LORD gives His wisdom to all who seek Him. v. 6 Js. 1:5,17 3:17 Isa. 48:17
3. God's wisdom will enrich and protect you. v. 7-8 Gen. 15:1

B. You will have ethical discernment to choose the right paths in life. v. 9-11

1. You will know right from wrong. v. 9 Js. 3:13,17
2. You will have a taste for what is good. v. 10
3. Such a heart of wisdom will guard you from moral danger. v. 11
4. This is the training we need to give our children.

IV. Wisdom will deliver you from dangerous people. v. 12-22

A. You will be protected from evil men. v. 12-15

1. Learn to recognize such characters. I Co. 15:33
2. They speak perverse things (against godly wisdom). v. 12
3. They depart from the righteous path to walk in the ways of spiritual darkness. v. 13,15 4:18-19 Jn. 3:19-20 Eph. 5:8,11
4. They take pleasure in evil and are repulsed by good. v. 14
5. They can be very subtle, but by wisdom you will be protected from them. v. 15

B. By wisdom, you will be delivered from loose women (sexual temptation). v. 16-19

1. This is a major concern in the book of Proverbs.
2. You need to be aware of her/his methods: seduction, flattery, lies. v. 16b
3. You need to recognize the loose woman according to her true character.
 - a. She/he is strange. v. 16 Not the wife with whom you have a covenant relationship, but a stranger with whom you have no proper relationship.
 - b. She is a quitter who doesn't keep her commitments. v. 17 Mal. 2:14 Ge. 2:24
 - (1) She wasn't true to her husband, she won't be true to you.
 - (2) Ultimately her disloyalty is toward God. Mal. 2:14 Heb. 13:4 Ps. 51:5

4. You need to realize where she will lead you. v. 18-19
 - a. Look beyond the here and now.
 - b. She is a “femme fatale” (A deadly woman). v. 18
 - c. Those who turn off on her detour, cannot get back on the way to life. v. 19 :
 - d. Don’t even take the first step in her direction. James 1:14-15
 - e. The death you face is divine judgement. v. 22 Heb. 13:4 Rev. 21:8 22:15
5. When you see the adulteress as she really is, she is no longer a threat to you.
6. The strange woman is a picture of the covenant unfaithfulness of God’s people. Jer. 3:6-10 Dt. 4:9 Hos. 2:13 Je. 2:32 Eze. 23:35 James 4:4
7. When you properly value your relationship with Christ, you will flee from lesser pleasures which would disrupt your joyous fellowship with Him. Pr. 9 Is. 55:1-2

C. Wisdom will unite you with the righteous who will enjoy heavenly rest. v. 20-22
 Psalm 37:9,11,22,29

1. You will walk with good men on the right way. v. 20
2. You will have a secure place in heaven for eternity. v. 21 Ps. 37:29 Mt. 5:5
3. You will avoid the fate of the treacherous who will be cursed and cut off. v. 22
Ps. 37:38 Dt. 28:63

V. Concluding Applications.

- A. What is your goal for the coming year? Ps. 90:12 Js. 1:5-7
- B. How does this chapter point to Christ? Col. 2:3 John 14:6 6:63 I Cor. 1:30-31

Discussion questions

1. Is it wrong to make New Year’s resolutions?
2. What are wrong motives for making resolutions?
3. Why is wisdom worth treasuring?
4. What can you do to seek wisdom?
5. What should you do if your desire for wisdom has become dry?
6. What are the benefits of having wisdom?
7. How does wisdom protect you from evil men?
8. How does wisdom protect you from sexual temptation?
9. How does Proverbs 2 point to Christ?