

Building a Relationship with God

God's Revolutionary Wisdom (Part 19)

Proverbs 3:1

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Pastor Dan Phillips

Copperfield Bible Church

My son: my law, do not forget,

And my commandments, let your heart guard (Prov. 3:1 DJP)

I. Viewed from the Old Covenant Perspective

A. First Word: Connection With a Sovereign God ("My son")

1. The picture: father and son
2. The reality:
 - a. Corporately **Exodus 4:22**
 - b. Individually
 - i. Subset: remember Paul: **Romans 9:6-7**
 - ii. Cause: a sovereign act by God (Prov. 20:12), which leads to individual faith

B. Second Words: Communion With a Sovereign God ("My law...my commandments")

1. Inception: Gen. 15:6
2. Cultivation:
 - a. Gen. 18:19
 - b. Exod. 12:26-27
 - c. Deut. 4:9-12
 - d. Psa. 1; 19; 119

II. Viewed from the New Covenant Perspective

A. A Sovereign Act by God...

1. 1 John 5:1
2. James 1:18

B. ...Which Leads To a Wholehearted Response By Us

1. Inception:
 - a. Rom. 1:16; 10:17
 - b. 1 Cor. 15:1-2
2. Cultivation:
 - a. The core
 - i. Matt. 28:18-19
 - ii. John 8:31-32; 14:21, 23
 - iii. 2 Tim. 2:1-2; 3:15-17; 4:1-4
 - b. The blessings
 - i. John 15:4-5, 7, 10-11; 16:33
 - ii. 1 John 1:1-3; 2:3-4
 - iii. Romans 15:4, 13
3. The place of the Holy Spirit
 - a. John 3
 - b. 1 Pet. 1:12; 2 Pet. 1:21
 - c. Rom. 8:14, then 13
 - d. Eph. 5:18 // Col. 3:16
4. Propositions:
 - a. The only way to relate to God truly, on God's terms, is by His word
 - b. It is His word that tells us how to be saved
 - c. It is through faith in His word that we are saved
 - d. It is His word that reveals His person and will to us
 - e. The task of the church is to make students of Jesus and teach them His words
 - f. The Christian life:
 - i. We abide in God's love by keeping His Word
 - ii. Christ abides in us by His words abiding in us
 - iii. We have fellowship with Father and Son by the words of the apostles in Christ's name
 - iv. The Holy Spirit fills us by filling us with Christ's word
 - v. The Holy Spirit gives us faith, hope, joy, peace, and love by the words of God
 - vi. To be led by the Spirit is to walk according to God's word
 - g. In short: God mediates His presence, His salvation, and His blessings to us by His Word