

The Wisdom of Fear: Fearing the Lord is Wise

Sunday, January 09, 2011

FEAR and WISDOM, not a combination that is commonly thought of together. In reality, many would say that one who is WISE does not FEAR. However, in the context of BIBILCAL WISDOM, FEAR is the Crux, the first, the foundation. As a matter of fact, FEAR is the foundation of MANY THINGS for the child of God.

In God's economy of Grace, what good is grace if one thinks they deserve it? What good is grace if it comes from someone that CANNOT GIVE IT? What good is grace if it is not given by the TRUE and HOLY ONE?

Over the next few weeks we will examine the proverbs on the topic of FEARING the LORD. I believe that this is an element of Christianity that has not only been lost, but forgotten and many REFUSE to listen to the idea of what it means to RESPECT and REVERE and STAND AMAZED and TREMBLE before the Lord God of Heaven.

Last week we looked at the idea of WISDOM meaning first, KNOWING THE LORD, which is the foundation of salvation. For one cannot SEE GRACE if they do not SEE GOD for His perfect and righteous character and also His loving JUDGMENT against evil which means against me and against you as sinners.

Today I have one goal: To show you that it is WISE, very WISE to FEAR GOD and to assist you in seeing the essence of what FEARING GOD means, then through the next few weeks we will expose more of the wisdom of Proverbs in the fear of the Lord as we evaluate our PROFESSION of faith with the fruit of faith in our hearts, minds and lives. Our faith will be seen, it will reveal awe, worship, wonder and glorious transformation in every aspect of our lives and it will produce WISDOM which rightly applies what we KNOW and WHO WE KNOW.

Proverbs 2:1-6 (ESV)

1 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you,
2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding;
3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding,
4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures,
5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
6 For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

UNDERSTANDING THE FEAR OF THE LORD REQUIRES A HEART TO TREASURE SHEPHERDING

Verse 1 - IF you receive and treasure

UNDERSTANDING THE FEAR OF THE LORD REQUIRES ATTENTION TO LIVING, LOVING and LEARNING

Verse 2 - You desire to know and become more like God, living out your days in harmony with the holy spirit.

UNDERSTANDING THE FEAR OF THE LORD REQUIRES CALLING OUT FOR UNDERSTANDING

Verse 3 - IF you call out and raise your voice

We often raise our voice and call out for our own way or in the sound of our own wisdom. This is NOT OF GOD, nor does it submit to His way or will, but is HAUGHTY and SINFUL.

UNDERSTANDING THE FEAR OF THE LORD REQUIRES SEEKING WHAT YOU TREASURE

Verse 4

Remember the rich young ruler... Do not forget his way and his desire for eternal life and holiness, but yet, he rejected the true Jesus Christ, after agreeing that Christ was FROM GOD.

Seeking the WISDOM of the LORD is also an understanding that it might come in seasons, it is sometimes DIFFICULT to see or understand but it is the PASSION of the child of God.

THOUGHTS:

Proverbs 1:20-21 (ESV)

20 Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice;

21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

Wisdom is the WORTHY

UNDERSTANDING THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS POSSIBLE BY KNOWING GOD

Verse 5 & 6

Knowing God - Always through Christ, who is the living WORD

Solus Christus

Wisdom of man is no fear of the Lord and says, "I know Christ and my view of Him is fine, don't try to teach me..." This is the words of fools.

Knowing God - Always through Scripture

Sola Scriptura

Wisdom of man is no fear of the Lord and says, "The scripture is useful, but there are other things to consider when making decision and my way..."

Knowing God - Always through GRACE

Sola Gratia

Wisdom of man is no fear of the Lord and says, "Grace is wonderful, but don't question my understanding of it, don't get in the way of "MY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP with Christ..."

Knowing God - Always through FAITH - Trusting in who God has said He is

Sola Fide

Wisdom of man is no fear of the Lord and says, "I believe and that's enough, I made the right choice and I have the right "mind" toward God... I have ENOUGH faith..."

Knowing God - Always for His GLORY

Sola Deo Gloria

""like wise... excuse the pun.""

Proverbs 2:7-8 (ESV)

7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
8 guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

WHEN GOD MAKES ONE WISE IN FEARING HIM, GOD PROVIDES MORE WISDOM

Verse 7 - STORES IT UP

WHEN GOD MAKES ONE WISE IN FEARING HIM, GOD PROTECTS THEM

Verse 7b - God shields those who are His so that they do not fall away

Verse 8 - Guarding the lives of JUSTICE want watching His church everywhere they go.

1 Corinthians 1:24-31 (ESV)

24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the **wisdom** of God.

25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly

standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,

29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

30 **And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,**

31 **so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."**

Our BOASTING is in Christ, nothing else, nothing else is needed.

BELIEVE in Christ is FAITH, we are given the gift, the reality of God's grace and a continual believing that never rests and sits on a time past.

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

(1 Thessalonians 5:14-24 ESV)

OTHER BENEFITS OF FEARING THE LORD NEXT WEEK