

- What is the most dangerous threat to Christians?

- **1 Corinthians 1:18-31 - The Wisdom of God Revealed in the Gospel & Superior to Worldly Wisdom**
 - God’s wisdom is **DISTINCT FROM THE WORLD** (1:18-21)
 - God’s wisdom is **CENTERED ON JESUS CHRIST** (1:22-24)
 - God’s wisdom is **STRONGER THAN HUMANKIND** (1:25; 3:18-20)
 - God’s wisdom is **REVEALED IN SOVEREIGN ELECTION** (1:26-31)

Proverbs 8:1-11 Background

- Proverbs 8 is Wisdom personified as a “Street Preacher”.
- Ch.7 the way of **DEATH** // lies // self-preservation // what’s right in **MY OWN** eyes
- Ch.8 is the way of **LIFE** // truth // self-crucifixion // what’s right in **GOD’S** eyes

THESIS — God’s wisdom is CALLING OUT TO YOU in Prov 8.1-11. Here is the commendation, the Defense, the regard of Wisdom...

1. its **available** (1-5) [*you can get it!*]
2. it’s **reliable** (6-11) [*you can trust it!*]

I. GOD’S WISDOM IS AVAILABLE! (1-5)

- A. Wisdom preaches **loudly** (1)

- B. Wisdom preaches **publicly** (2-3)

- C. Wisdom preaches **impartially** (4)

- D. Wisdom preaches **purposefully** (5)

II. GOD’S WISDOM IS RELIABLE! (6-11)

A. v.7-9 - reliable word is **FLAWLESS**

B. v.10-11 - reliable word is **PRICELESS**

Take notice of Christ's excellence, which is a feast. (Jonathan Edwards).

CONSIDER THE GREAT “WISDOM OF GOD” DESCRIBED IN SCRIPTURE:

Job 12.13 - with God are wisdom and might

Job 12.16 - with God are strength and SOUND wisdom

Job 28.28 - to fear God that is wisdom!

Jer 10.12 - God established the world by his wisdom

Dan 2.21 - God gives wisdom to wise men

Rom 11.33 - O the depth of the riches of the wisdom & knowledge of God

Ephesians 3.10 - the manifold wisdom of God

2 Tim 3.15 - true wisdom is that which leads to salvation thru faith in Christ Jesus

Col.2.3 - in Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom!

How should you receive the wisdom of God?

Receive wisdom...

1. **Biblically** — God’s wisdom comes THRU the Bible, by the Spirit working in our hearts (not worldly wisdom)

Proverbs 8:1-11 — “God’s Wisdom is Calling Out to You: Take It! Hold It Tightly!”

2. **Hungrily** / desirously — long for /hunger for the Teaching of the Word
3. **Corporately** - thru the biblical preaching of the Bible
4. **Submissively** — where the Bible reprovcs, exposes, corrects us; we obey it, NOT sit in judgment over the Bible
5. **Practically** - it must change, shape, conform, transform your daily conduct.

Join all the glorious names
 Of **wisdom**, love, and power,
 That ever mortals knew,
 That angels ever bore:
 All are too poor to speak His worth,
 Too poor to set my Savior forth.

— Isaac Watts

THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

CHAPTER I

Of the Holy Scripture.

Although the light of nature and the works of creation and providence show the goodness, wisdom, and power of God so much as to leave people inexcusable, yet are they not sufficient to give that knowledge of God and his will which is necessary for salvation. Therefore it pleased the Lord, at various times and in diverse ways, to reveal himself and to declare his will to his Church. Afterwards, in order to better preserve and propagate the truth, and to more surely establish and protect the Church against the corruption of the flesh, the malice of Satan, and the malice of the world, it pleased the Lord to commit this wholly into writing, which makes the Holy Scripture most necessary, those former ways of God’s revealing his will to his people now being ceased.

The authority of the Holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, does not depend on the testimony of any human or of the Church, but wholly on God (who is truth itself), the author of it. Therefore it is to be received because it is the Word of God

We may be moved and induced to a high and reverent esteem of the Holy Scripture by the testimony of the Church; other arguments by which it abundantly evidences itself to be the Word of God are:

- the heavenliness of the subject matter;
- the effects of its teaching;
- the majesty of its style
- the agreement of all its parts;
- the scope of the whole (which is to give all glory to God);
- the full presentation it makes of the only way of the salvation of mankind,
- and its many other incomparable excellences, and the entire perfection of it.

Proverbs 8:1-11 — “God’s Wisdom is Calling Out to You: Take It! Hold It Tightly!”

Nevertheless, our full persuasion and assurance of the unerring truth and divine authority of Holy Scripture is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.

The whole counsel of God, concerning all things necessary for his own glory and for mankind’s salvation, faith and life, is either expressly written down in Scripture or may be deduced from Scripture by good and necessary consequences. Nothing at any time is to be added to Scripture, whether by new revelations of the Spirit or the traditions of mankind. Nevertheless, we acknowledge the inward illumination of the Spirit of God to be necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word, and we acknowledge that there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God and government of the Church, common to human actions and societies, that are to be ordered by the light of nature and Christian prudence, according to the general rules of the Word, which are always to be observed.

Not all things in Scripture are equally plain in themselves, nor are they equally clear to all people. Yet those things that are necessary to be known, believed, and observed for salvation are so clearly discussed and made clear, in some place of Scripture or other, that not only the educated but also the uneducated may reach a sufficient understanding of them with the adequate use of ordinary means.

The unerring rule of interpretation of Scripture is the Scripture itself. Therefore, when there is a question about the true and full sense of any Scripture (which is not multiple, but one), it must be searched and known by other places that speak more clearly.

The supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and by which all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits are to be examined, and in whose judgment we are to rest, can be nothing other than the Holy Spirit speaking in Scripture.

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
Give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.*

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
Of death defeated and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.*

I long to be where the praise is never-ending,
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
Where countless worshippers will share one song,
And cries of 'worthy' will honor the Lamb!

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.*