

I. Introduction and Review.

A. You must choose between Lady Wisdom and Madame Folly. Prov 7:1-9:18

B. Who is Wisdom? 8:1-5

1. Wisdom is an attribute of God. Eph. 1:8 Job 12:13 Jer. 10:12
2. Wisdom is revealed in Scripture. Ps. 19:7-11
3. Jesus Christ is Wisdom incarnate. I Co. 1:30 Isa. 11:1-2 Jer. 23:5 Lu. 24:44-47

II. Wisdom's virtue and beauty should attract you. 8:6-31

A. Wisdom and Jesus call out to you. 8:1-5

1. Wisdom is portrayed as going through the city, loudly pleading with mankind to heed her call. v. 1-3 1:20-21
2. Jesus also pleads with sinners. Mt. 11:28-30
3. Wisdom calls out to all classes of people. v. 4-5 1:22
4. Jesus offers Himself freely and indiscriminately. John 7:37-38

B. Wisdom and Jesus should be treasured. 8:6-11

1. The teaching of wisdom is morally excellent. 8:6-8
2. Jesus is the pure wisdom of God. I Co. 1:24 II Co. 5:21 Heb. 4:15 John 14:6 His Word is infallible. Ps. 19:9 II Ti. 3:16-17
3. Only those with spiritual discernment can grasp Wisdom's teaching. 8:9 9:7-8
4. You must have a heart which is receptive to spiritual knowledge before you can comprehend the gospel of Christ. I Co. 2:14 John 8:43
5. Wisdom should be prized above gold, silver, and jewels. v. 10-11 Ps. 119:14,72,127
6. Jesus is our greatest treasure. Col. 2:3 Mt. 13:44-46
7. Jesus makes us wise. I Co. 1:30-31

C. Wisdom and Jesus teach you to fear God. 8:12-13

1. Wisdom reveals herself to the humble, but hides herself from those who are wise in their own eyes. 8:12-13 3:7 9:10 1:7 13:5
2. Jesus Himself was humble and discloses Himself to the humble. Phil. 2:5ff Mt. 20:28. Mt. 18:3-4 11:25 John 8:43 I Co. 1:26-29

D. Wisdom and Jesus offer you kingly success. 8:14-16

1. Wisdom provides you with royal counsel. 8:14-16 I Kn. 3:9,28 II Kings 18
2. Christ is our wise King. Jer. 23:5 Is. 11:1-5 9:6-7 I Co. 1:24 15:25 Re. 11:15 22:5

E. Wisdom and Jesus will richly reward you. 8:17-21

1. Wisdom loves and blesses those who love and seek her. 8:17,35
2. Jesus loves those who seek and love Him. John 14:21 Mt. 7:7-11 Jer. 31:3
3. Wisdom offers you great rewards. 8:18-21
4. Christ Jesus makes you spiritually rich. II Co. 8:9 Mt. 6:19-20 Re. 3:18 I Pe. 1:4-5

F. Wisdom and Christ display their glory in creation. 8:22-31 Gen. 1:1f

1. Wisdom is eternal and One with God. v. 22-26 Ps. 90:2 Job 15:7f 38:4
2. Christ is eternal and One with the Father. John 1:1-2 10:30 17:5 Col. 1:15
3. Wisdom mediated the glorious work of creation. v. 27-30a
4. Christ is the Creator Whose beauty and wisdom is displayed in all He has made. Jo 1:3 Co. 1:16 Heb. 1:2

5. Wisdom delights in God's creative work. v. 30b-31a Gen. 1:31
6. Christ delights in the Father's will and work. v. 30c Jo 4:34 6:38 He. 10:7 Ps. 40:8 The Father is also delighted with the Son. v. 30b Isa. 42:1 Mt. 3:17 17:5 Col. 1:13
7. Wisdom particularly rejoices in mankind, the pinnacle of God's creation. v. 31b
8. Christ rejoices in redeeming mankind. Heb. 12:2 Isa. 53:10-11
9. Jesus' new creation, the church, manifests God's wisdom. Eph. 3:10,21 Co. 1:18f
10. Before you can produce anything worthwhile and significant with your life, you must possess Wisdom (Christ). Jn. 15:5

G. Your response to Wisdom and Jesus is a matter of life and death. 8:32-36

III. Choose Wisdom (Christ). 9:1-6,13-18 8:1-5

A. Wisdom and Jesus have prepared a feast. 9:1-2 Isa. 25:6

1. Wisdom serves a royal banquet. 9:1-2 Ps. 23:5
2. The Word of God is a spiritual feast for the soul. Ps. 19:7f 119:103 II Ti. 3:16-17
3. Jesus has prepared a feast for us and has built His church as our feasting house. I Ti. 3:15 Mt. 16:18 He. 3:3-4 Eph. 2:20-22

B. Wisdom and Jesus invite you to dine. 9:3-5

1. Wisdom makes a public and universal invitation to the undeserving. 9:3-5 8:1-5
2. Jesus offers Himself to all people indiscriminately: the free offer of the gospel. John 7:37 Mt. 11:28f Luke 14:23
3. Wisdom alone will satisfy the hunger of your soul. Isa. 55:1-2
4. Jesus offers Himself to satisfy the emptiness of our souls. Jo. 4:10 7:37-38 6:48-55
5. Like Wisdom, Jesus sends His servants out into the world to plead with sinners. 9:3 Luke 14:23 Mt. 22:2ff 28:18-20 Acts 1:8

C. Madame Folly also invites you to her deadly banquet. 9:13-17 20:17 30:20

1. Madame Folly also makes a universal and public invitation. 9:14-16
2. She appeals to your depravity. 9:17 7:6ff
3. You will die if you dine with her. 9:18

IV. Conclusion: What is your response to Wisdom and to Jesus?

A. Lady Wisdom awaits your reply. 9:5-6

1. Don't be a scoffer. 9:7-8,12 8:36
2. If you reject wisdom you are to blame for your own doom. 9:12b,18 8:36 29:1

B. Christ Jesus calls men to repent and believe. Mt. 4:17 II Co. 6:17-18 Js. 4:4

1. Choose Wisdom (Christ) and live. 9:10-12a 8:32-35
2. Christ invites you tonight to a commemorative feast. Mt. 26:26-28 I Co. 5:7
3. We await an everlasting heavenly feast. Rev. 19:9

Jer. 9:23-24

Discussion questions.

1. What (or Who) is Wisdom in Proverbs?
2. Contrast the charms of Lady Wisdom with those of Madame Folly. 8:6-21 7:6ff
3. In what sense is Jesus Wisdom personified?
4. Why is Wisdom so valuable?
5. What is the role of Wisdom and of Christ in creation? 8:22-31 John 1:1ff
6. Contrast the feast of Lady Wisdom with the banquet of Madame Folly. 9:1-6 13-18
7. How does Christ, like Wisdom, offer mankind a feast? 9:1-6
8. Can a scoffer or a fool blame God for his death? 8:36 9:12b