

Message #8**Proverbs 2:1-9**

Chapter two of Proverbs introduces us to the second “my son” challenge. In the first challenge, Solomon taught his son to stay away from the evil people in society (1:10-19), and to make a choice to pursue wisdom (1:20-33). Solomon wanted his son to understand that gaining God’s wisdom is no easy task.

THE WISDOM OF GOD WILL BE GAINED BY A PERSON WHO WILL MEET THE SPECIFIC CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

There are three “if” conditional clauses that must be met if one is to tap into the wisdom of God:

CONDITION #1 – In order to gain God’s wisdom, there must be a deep desire. **2:1-2**

When the text says, “if you will receive my sayings,” it presents the idea of taking to yourself communicated instruction.

When it says “treasure my commandments within you” the idea is a person is taking the teachings deep within—he conceals them, guards them and defends them.

An ear attentive or inclined to wisdom is an ear inclined to being taught. One’s ear and heart must love to take in the instruction of God.

CONDITION #2 – In order to gain God’s wisdom, there must be intense prayer. **2:3**

The verb “cry” is an emotional verb. It carries with it the idea of an intense, emotional appeal to God, specifically asking Him for wisdom.

Desiring God’s wisdom is not enough; sitting under great teaching is not enough; memorizing volumes of information is not enough. In order to gain God’s wisdom, there must be prayer.

CONDITION #3 – In order to gain God’s wisdom, there must be diligent study. **2:4**

The verb “seek” means to diligently seek and the verb “search” carries with it the idea of digging deep.

In Solomon’s day there were two ways to find gold and silver: 1) Through mining; 2) Through spoiling.

Keep in your mind that this text is not addressed to a sage, prophet or priest, pastor/teacher or scholar; it is addressed to a son.

There are two major results promised to one who will pursue this goal both of which begin with the word “then” (**2:5, 9**).

(Result #1) - Then one will personally begin to grasp God. **2:5-8**

As much as a finite, sinful person can, there will come to the mind and heart of one who pursues these things a personal understanding of God, which is far beyond that of most people.

Understanding the “fear of the LORD” and finding “the knowledge of God” is no automatic guarantee for the believer and **verse 6** explains (“for”) why—because God must give this kind of knowledge. Only God can give deep knowledge about Himself to a person, and the only person God will give this knowledge to is one who meets the conditional prerequisites in **verses 1-4**.

Verses 7-8 list more benefits God gives to one who meets the “if” clauses—God will give wisdom that has substance to it: He will give protection and preservation.

(Result #2) - Then one will personally begin to grasp a wise life. **2:9**

God will give great insight to a person to grasp life and grasp what is right in the midst of all of its complexities to one who will meet His conditions.

This is the person who will truly understand real righteousness and real justice and real equity and what is good in every situation.

These are all grants from God promised to one who will meet His conditions.

These conditions have not changed in over 3000 years and very few people have given the effort to meet these conditions. You be one who does and you will be the recipient of the wisdom of God.