

Attaining Wisdom and Understanding

Proverbs 1:1-7

"In the Bible there is only one kind of wisdom – that which comes from God. There is not a secular wisdom that man follows in his everyday life and a religious wisdom that man follows in relation to God. All wisdom that divorces itself from God is a false wisdom. It therefore cannot adequately guide man."
(Stevenson)

Intro: Proverbs 1:1
1 Kings 3:5-15

- I. God's wants his blood bought children to attain His wisdom. It is His will that we seek it with all our hearts, so that we may gain discipline, understanding and insight into living well for Him while here on earth.

Proverbs 1:2
Daniel 12:1-3
Job 12:13
Proverbs 2:6

- A. A believer attains God's wisdom by boldly asking for it. His will is that we live life through all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that we may live a life worthy of the Lord. (Col. 1:9).

James 1:5-6

- B. The only true source of godly discipline, understanding and insight is God's wisdom. It comes from heaven and cannot be attained from the world and its system (1 Jn. 2:15-17)..

James 3:13-17

1. God's wisdom is pure. It is chaste, modest, clean, pure from every fault (James 2:13-16)
2. God's wisdom is peace-loving. It produces right relationships.
3. God's wisdom is considerate. It is equitable, fair, mild and gentle.
4. God's wisdom is submissive. It is ready to obey and is compliant.

5. God's wisdom is full of mercy and good fruit. It freely expresses God's character before others.
6. God's wisdom is impartial and sincere. It isn't marginal or fickle.

II. God purposes to impart His wisdom to all believers through the wisdom and counsel of His Word (2 Tim. 3:16). Scripture is the primary source for attaining the heart felt wisdom needed to live well in the midst of this tumultuous and uncertain fallen world.

Prov. 1:3-6

A. Proverbs enable us to attain wisdom by giving us instruction (insight) on how to live a godly life (vs. 3).

B. Proverbs enables us to attain wisdom by giving us prudence, knowledge and discretion (vv. 4-6).

Prov. 14:18

III. Reverence for God is the foundation from which all of God's wisdom flows, it is the beginning of wisdom and understanding. It is impossible to attain wisdom without a sincere and obedient reverence, awe and respect of the one who gave us eternal life through His Son.

Prov. 1:7

"We live in a tolerant age, and unfortunately, our tolerance level has become very high. We've become very tolerant of evil. What we're really lacking today is a real hatred of evil... Evil is always seeking to be tolerated. It always is looking for you to compromise and accept it. the real beginning and the sum of knowledge is really a hatred of evil because God hates evil."

Proverbs 9:10 -12 *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For through me your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer."*