

The Rewards of Searching for Godly Wisdom
Proverbs 2

"The word of God is like a great treasure house of spiritual truth. The door is fastened by a number of locks that guard its precious truths from the half-hearted and from those who are merely curious but have no real spiritual hunger or intent to apply its words to their hearts." (Leroy Eims)

- I. God's wisdom comes to those who *diligently seek* to be wise in their thinking and lifestyle.

Proverbs 2:1-5

- A. If we truly want to be wise in our thinking and lifestyle, then we must accept and store God's Word within us. We must *diligently seek* His Word (vs. 1)

Ephesians 5:15-16

Colossians 1:9-10

- B. If we truly want to be wise in our thinking and lifestyle, then we must listen to what God's Word says, with determination to apply it to our lives. We must *diligently seek* obedience (vs. 2).

Mark 4:23-24 *"If anyone has ears to hear let him hear. Consider carefully what you hear..."*

- C. If we truly want to be wise in our thinking and lifestyle, then we must call out to God for His guidance. We must *diligently seek* God's ways (vs. 3).

- D. If we truly want to be wise in our thinking and lifestyle, then we must hold God's wisdom in high regard. We must *diligently give* all of our energy to guarding wisdom's value (vs. 4).

"If I am to function wisely and successfully in God's world, it will require knowing who I am (vs. 1a "My son), what to value, who to listen to, what to ask for, and what to give my energies to." Kitchen

- II. God's wisdom reaps many rewards for those who have *diligently inclined* their hearts toward seeking and living it.

- A. When a believer *diligently inclines* his or her heart towards seeking and living God's wisdom, he or she will reap the reward of a right relationship with God (vss. 5-6).

"The fear of the Lord might call forth dread as one thinks of standing before an omnipotent being of absolute holiness. But the 'fear of the Lord' uses the covenant name of Yahweh. This is the one who shows Himself in mercy to mankind. This revelation calls forth a worshipful response from mankind." Stevenson

- B. When a believer *diligently inclines* his or her heart toward seeking and living God's wisdom, he or she is shielded from the consequences of poor or sinful decisions (vss. 7-8; 12-19).

- C. When a believer *diligently inclines* his or her heart toward seeking and living God's wisdom, he or she will experientially know and understand what true godly wisdom is like (vss. 9-11; 20-21).