

“The Nature of Wisdom”

Proverbs #1

Proverbs 1:1-7

July 14, 2019

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 1:1-7

Introduction

- Smart people ≠ wise people
- **Big Idea:** Wisdom is knowledge applied in a God-trusting way.

A Proverb Is...

1. A “likeness” | מִשְׁלָּה (*mashal*)
2. A truism, not promise | Proverbs 11:6
3. Situationally applied | Proverbs 26:4-5
4. For wise living

Book of Proverbs

1. Collection of sayings, speeches, and poems
2. Written by Solomon and others
3. Wide-ranging and balanced

On the Path of Wisdom

1. Nobody is born wise | 1:1, 4
 - a. James 1:5 ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.
2. Wisdom is more than rules | 1:2-6
3. Fools learn through pain | 1:7
 - a. Proverbs 10 ¹³ On the lips of him who has understanding, wisdom is found, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks sense.
4. True wisdom fears God | 1:7
 - a. Elliot Clark – When we observe that our problem in evangelism is fearing others too much, we should note the form such fear takes. We typically aren’t running from people in terror. We aren’t cowering in a corner...Rather, fearing others more than God usually demonstrates itself in trying to please them more than God. To put it another way, you know you fear someone when you desire their approval and live for their praise.

Jesus the Wisdom of God | 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

1. Jesus grew in wisdom | Luke 2:40
2. Jesus lived beyond mere rules | Matthew 23:23
3. Jesus took our painful consequences | Titus 3:3-7
4. Jesus perfectly pleased his Father | John 8:29

Living Wisely

1. Pray for wisdom often
2. Share and receive wisdom from others
3. Apply God's wisdom to life and mission

Benediction

Romans 11:33, 36 — ³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.