



4/16/26

You probably heard Tim talk about our upcoming men's and women's event, Holy Reflections. I'm really excited about this! I was just wondering if you'd like to receive a Signup Genius email to help provide some desserts and snacks for the event. If so, please let me know and I'll make sure you receive that email. It's always fun to hang around at the end of the events and connect with friends and encourage each other in the things we learn. What better way to do it than with some yummy food???

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Proverbs 30:1-9

This week, as I've studied the passages that point to Jesus' authority over the wind and the waves and all creation, I can't help but recognize how small I am. I remember talking with an 8-year-old girl several years ago. I asked her to draw a picture of herself on the whiteboard. (I didn't dare draw it for her in case she would be too busy laughing at what a terrible artist I am and miss the point. 😊) She drew a picture and then I asked, "If I were to draw a picture of God next to yours, how big would it be?" She said, "Well you couldn't. You'd run out of room. It would go all the way to the sky." Wow. How cool that an 8-year-old girl understood how huge God is compared to us! If I truly grasp how much bigger He is and the fact that "even before a word is on my tongue, He knows it altogether," and "He knows every hair on my head," and not just MY thoughts and hairs, but every thought and every hair follicle on every head of every human that exists... If I grasp that, do I really think He needs my help to solve the world's problems? Or even my problems? O Lord, please open my spiritual eyes to see what my physical eyes simply cannot fathom... how HUGE You are, how GOOD You are, how POWERFUL You are, how LOVING You are. It changes everything about the way I live.

In this Proverb, I see an "oracle" of a man named Agur, son of Jakeh." This is the only time he's mentioned in the Bible. His words are called an oracle, which can mean "burden or prophecy." Agur was burdened and needed to pour out his heart to God. Did he see that he was small like me? I think so.

Vs. 1-3 ~ "The words of Agur son of Jakeh. The oracle. The man declares ~ I am weary, O God: I am weary, O God, and worn out. Surely I am too stupid to be a man. I have not the understanding of a man. I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One."

What made him weary? His lack of wisdom. Maybe he had been like me, trying to attain wisdom in his own strength for far too long. Maybe he hadn't understood the eternal truth Paul spoke of in Colossians 2:3, that "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Jesus", or Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 2:7, that true wisdom is "a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory." Or maybe he was beginning to grasp what Solomon spoke in this very book of Proverbs, that "the fear (trust, worship) of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" and "Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom (of God) will be delivered." Delivered from what? From being a fool!!! From being deceived!!!

O Lord, please do this in me. When I am not keeping my eyes on You, trusting You and worshiping You, I naturally drift toward being a deceived fool. It makes me weary, worn out, senseless, STUPID, without understanding or discernment. Proverbs 12:1 says, "Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge. Whoever hates reproof is stupid (burned up, consumed)." Yikes.

As I consider this, and that my greatest pleasure in life and death is to truly know You and to have the wisdom that only comes from You, I realize that You WANT to give wisdom to me. You WANT me to know You personally. What You don't and won't give me is Your authority or power or place on the throne. You know I couldn't handle them! Please give me the wisdom and the personal knowledge of You that help me understand how much You belong on the throne.

Vs. 4 ~ "Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name? Surely you know!"

Wow. This oracle of Agur WAS both a burden and a prophecy. In the Gospel of John... John 3:13, Jesus was speaking to the confused Pharisee, Nicodemus, and said of Himself, "No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man." And Paul said this of Jesus in Ephesians 4:9-10, "In saying, 'He (Jesus) ascended,' what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things." How cool is that! Yet another prophecy of Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, creator of heaven and earth... who holds the universe together by the word of His power... coming to this earth that He might fill all things... giving us His salvation and wisdom so that we could truly know Him. Wow.

Vs. 5-6 ~ "Every word of God proves true; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and you be found a liar."

Here are a blessing and a warning...

Here is an incredible blessing and truth... God is perfect. Everything He does, whether I

understand it or not, is perfect. Every word He speaks is without blemish, lie, deception, or imperfection. Even more exciting than that is that His proven word teaches me that He shields me from lies and deception... when I take refuge in Him. Refuge in anything or anyone else will prove to be imperfect and untrue. But He will always prove to be my faithful refuge who has all authority and power and wisdom and knowledge.

Here's the warning... Don't add to His words. There is no need to add to perfection. He WILL rebuke and correct me when I do. Why? First, because Jeremiah 17:9 tells me that MY "heart is deceitful above all things and desperately sick." My words ARE imperfect and often untrue. They are ABSOLUTELY imperfect and untrue when I speak anything that isn't perfectly aligned with God's word. The second reason God corrects me when I try to add opinions or manmade wisdom (which is NOT wisdom) to His word is because He loves me and delights in me!!! Proverbs 3:12 and Hebrews 12:6 tell me this. What father would let his child believe self-sabotaging lies??? Not my Father in heaven!!! He corrects me because He loves me.

So what do I need to do instead of adding to His word? SEARCH His word, MEDITATE on His word, KNOW His word. He will teach me by the power of the Holy Spirit in me. O Lord, please help me to be DILIGENT about knowing Your word. Let me never be satisfied with how much I know. There is always more treasure to be found in Your perfect, proven, true word.

When I truly know Your word, it changes my prayer. It becomes less about ME or satiating MY desires, and more about ABIDING in You, GLORIFYING You, and BEARING FRUIT for You. Instead of praying for my comfort, I begin to pray differently. I pray as Agur did ~

Vs. 7-9 ~ "Two things I ask of You; deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny You and say, 'Who is the LORD Yahweh?' or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God."

First, O Lord, You know that my heart is deceitful above all things if my heart is not aligned with You and Your word. Please... I cannot remove the deceit from my heart because I'm too foolish to even understand it unless You do Your work in me. Agur recognized how he needed to pray... not that You would help HIM to remove falsehood and deceit from himself, but that he needed YOU to do it. My job is to stay close to You so that You can do the work. I am Your patient whose only job is to be near You so that You can do the work in me. You are the Great Physician. The greatest disease I need to be healed of is thinking I can do anything without You.

Agur's second prayer was that God would only give him what he needed... not too much and not too little. I don't trust me at all with a lot of wealth. I think I would rely too heavily on the treasures of earth. I might not flat out deny God, but I believe I would drift from Him. O Lord, please do whatever You need to do in my life to keep me from denying You in any way. Let me do as Jesus called me to do in Luke 9:23, to "deny myself, take up my cross daily, and follow You."

And please let me never think that You withhold good from me. You promise to provide all I need... in Your timing. Please help me trust that if You're not providing something I perceive as a need in the moment, I just need to wait. You're teaching me something that is more important than fulfilling that need in the moment. Let me never question Your authority or power or love for me. Let me never accuse You of not caring... ever again. I HAVE accused You so many times, and You have always proven that Your word IS true, and that You ARE a safe refuge for me. Praise Your name.