

Proverbs "Why Wisdom Matters & What It Gives"

Proverbs 3:13-35
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All scripture comes from the New American Standard Bible (NASB) – 1995 version unless otherwise noted.

1) Wisdom brings blessing v. 13

- Its value vs. 14-16
- Its <u>direction</u> v. 17
- Its perspective v. 18

2) Wisdom brings <u>order</u> to this world vs. 19-20

- The Lord founded the world with His wisdom
- The Lord <u>sustains</u> the world with His wisdom

3) Wisdom brings protection vs. 21-26

- The command: keep it & don't depart from it v. 21
- The result: life, security, rest vs. 22-24
- The command: don't be <u>afraid</u> v. 25
- The result: confidence v. 26 2 Timothy 4:16-17

4) Wisdom brings generosity vs. 27-31

• Help your neighbors in <u>need</u> vs. 27-28

1 John 3:17-18; James 4:17

- Don't plan evil against your neighbors vs. 29-30
- Don't envy violent people v. 31

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5) Wisdom brings a compelling contrast vs. 32-35

- Wicked are cursed / Righteous are blessed v. 33
- Those who mock are mocked / Humble are given grace v. 34
- Fools are shamed / Wise are given honor v. 35

Our Response

- 1) How are you chasing after the wisdom of Christ Jesus?
- 2) Walking in wisdom can protect you from sin. What efforts are you making to have this peace of mind in your life & family?
- 3) Solomon refers to 2 types of sin: omission & comission. Is one more determinental to the Christian life than the other? In what ways can you avoid the pitfalls of each one?
- 4) As followers of Christ, what often prevents us from meeting other's needs? What part of our culture today tells us to ignore the needs of others?
- 5) How does the pursuit of wisdom keep you from chasing the things of this world when you see others who are not pursuing wisdom have earthly gains that you may miss?

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