

Wisdom's Reward



Proverbs 3

You Must Remember...

Proverbs 3:1-4

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man.

Store This Away

- Basically the very practical art of being prudent, sensible, and skillfully insightful in order to have good success in life. The ability to discern and achieve order in order to steer through life earning favor and a good name with God and man is the goal. (Hill and Walton, 320)
- Constant reminders are necessary.
- Remembrance + Practice = Blessing
- Life, peace, and reputation hang in the balance.



Trust in the LORD...

Proverbs 3:5-12

- Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones. Honor the Lord from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine. My son, do not reject the discipline of the Lord or loathe His reproof, for whom the Lord loves He reproofs, even as a father corrects the son in whom he delights.

God is Faithful

- "The fear of the Lord" distinguished Israel from other nations because they viewed wisdom and knowledge as coming from God. Thus knowledge of God had implications for [every aspect of Israel's life.]
- The LORD is truly the only one who knows what is going on!
- Follow God's Way and we are guaranteed to be pleasing to Him and finish the race of faith well.
- Honor God with all we have. Everything belongs to Him anyway.

Tried and True...

Proverbs 3:19-26

➤ The Lord by wisdom founded the earth, by understanding He established the heavens. By His knowledge the deeps were broken up and the skies drip with dew. My son, let them not vanish from your sight; keep sound wisdom and discretion, so they will be life to your soul and adornment to your neck. Then you will walk in your way securely and your foot will not stumble. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. Do not be afraid of sudden fear nor of the onslaught of the wicked when it comes; for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.

Wisdom: The Stalwart

- Basically the very practical art of being prudent, sensible, and skillfully insightful in order to have good success in life. The ability to discern and achieve order in order to steer through life earning favor and a good name with God and man is the goal. (Hill and Walton, 320)
- Wisdom has been around since the beginning.
- Wisdom and discretion lead to honor, stability, peace, and security.

Hey, Don't Forget...



Proverbs 3:13-18

How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding. For her profit is better than the profit of silver and her gain better than fine gold. She is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who hold her fast.

Value Beyond Compare

- Solomon seems to stop in the middle of his thoughts to re-emphasize the importance and reward of remembering wisdom.
- Wisdom leads to better gain than gold and silver.
- Wisdom leads to life-wide blessing and competence.

Wisdom: Linked with Lifestyle

Proverbs 3:27-31

➤ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come back, and tomorrow I will give it,” when you have it with you. Do not devise harm against your neighbor, while he lives securely beside you. Do not contend with a man without cause, if he has done you no harm. Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways.

Relationship is Key!

- The goal of wisdom was a proper relationship with YAHWEH.
- Help those who need help.
- Don't plan someone's downfall.
- Pointless contentiousness is not good.

God set us an example to follow!

Proverbs 3:32-35

➤ For the devious are an abomination to the Lord; But He is intimate with the upright. The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the dwelling of the righteous. Though He scoffs at the scoffers, yet He gives grace to the afflicted. The wise will inherit honor, but fools display dishonor.

Devious -vs- Righteous

- They are an abomination to the LORD.
- Their house is cursed.
- They are scoffed at by the LORD.
- They display dishonor.
- The LORD is intimate with them.
- Their dwelling is blessed
- Grace is given by the LORD.
- They inherit honor.

- Wisdom should not be forgotten.
- Wisdom has been around for a long time, and is not going anywhere!
- Wisdom is linked to relationship.