

INTRODUCTION

- * "The fear of YHWH is the beginning of knowledge." That is the over-riding precept for the book of Proverbs. From that precept is derived the principle that flows through much of the teaching and is the gist of many of the proverbs in the book - "The wise will desire wisdom and understanding; the fool will despise wisdom and understanding."
- * Last week we began considering "The Pursuit of Wisdom." What we desire will guide our priorities and will be evidenced in our passions.
- * In our passage, we see a large conditional statement with four requisites followed by a resultant promise based upon the faithfulness of YHWH. Last week we considered the four requisites.
- * Today, we want to consider the promised result and the basis for this promise.

INSTRUCTION**I. THE REQUISITES ... closed with Job 28**

- A. If You Receive My Words and Treasure My Commands (2:1) ... tsaphan: hide away due to importance**
- B. If You Incline Your Ear to Wisdom and Apply Your Heart to Understanding (2:2) ... te-bunah: applied knowledge in the practical realm (Bezalel)**
- C. If You Cry Out for Discernment and Lift Up Your Voice for Understanding (2:3) ... biynah - understanding**
- D. If You Seek [Wisdom] as Silver and Search for [Wisdom] as Hidden Treasure (2:4) ... baqash & khaphas-search diligently**

II. THE RESULT ... Then you shall understand!**A. You Will Understand the Fear of YHWH (2:5) ... even, finding the knowledge of God**

1. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FEAR OF YHWH AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD
2. WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND THE FEAR OF YHWH YOU WILL FIND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD!

B. You Will Understand Righteousness, Justice and Equity (2:9)

1. THE T _____
2. THE T _____
* cf. 1 Samuel 17:20; 26:5,7; Psalm 23:3; 140:5; Isaiah 26:7

III. THE REASON (v. 6-8)**A. For YHWH is Our P _____**

1. HE G _____ WISDOM
2. HE L _____ SUCCESS (cf. Psalm 25:12-15; Job 5:12; 6:13; 11:6; 12:16)

B. For YHWH is Our P _____

1. HE S _____ THOSE WHO WALK IN INTEGRITY (cf. Prov 10:9,29; 13:6; 19:1; 20:7; 28:6)
2. HE G _____ THE PATHS OF JUSTICE (cf. John 16:7-11)
3. HE P _____ THE WAY OF HIS SAINTS (cf. Psalm 37:23-24)

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE GOAL IN LIFE? WHAT ARE YOU PURSUING?
- * DO YOU FIND YOURSELF STRUGGLING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG?
- * WHAT LEGACY ARE YOU LEAVING FOR THOSE WHO ARE WATCHING YOU AND LEARNING FROM YOU?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Read Matthew 6:19-34. How does Jesus' teaching build upon this section from Proverbs?