

May 19, 2019



ABOVE ALL ELSE, GET WISDOM

Proverbs 8:11, "For wisdom is better than jewels; and all desirable things cannot compare with her."

Proverbs 4:7, "The beginning of wisdom is: acquire wisdom."

Proverbs 9:12, "If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, and if you scoff, you alone will bear it."

TRUTH: The most important thing you will ever gain is WISDOM.

DEFINITION OF WISDOM:

1. In Greek, *sophia*, or the ability to grasp a concept
2. In Hebrew, *chakam*, skill in living (Proverbs 1:20)

INSIGHT: The test of a graduate's true faith is about to begin; it will show itself real or fake.

THREE MARKS OF TRUE WISDOM

I. WISDOM IS THE FEAR OF GOD (Proverbs 1:7, 9:10).

TRUTH: We live in a climate where God is absolutely rejected.

TRUTH: The most crucial lesson of Proverbs is know God, love God, honor God, fear God; this is the beginning of true life.

II. WISDOM IS GUARDING THE MIND (Proverbs 3:1-3).

CHARGE: Hold on to truth in all you do.

TRUTH: How you think determines how you live (Proverbs 1:22f).

DEFINITION: A simpleton is someone who has an inability to discriminate.

III. WISDOM IS TO SELECT COMPANIONS CAREFULLY (Proverbs 1:10).

INSIGHT: You are responsible to put yourself in relationships that lift you up, not pull you into sin (Proverbs 1:10-19; 1 Corinthians 15:33).

RESPONSE: In Proverbs 18:24, the Hebrew for "friend" is two different words. "A man of many *reya* comes to ruin, but there is an *ahab* who sticks closer than a brother."

Is there in your life the three most important elements of a life lived wisely: the fear of God, guarding the mind, and loyal friends who fear God and love your soul?