

The Preciousness of Wisdom

Proverbs, 3:13-18

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So much of life as we know it turns on material wealth. It is how we gauge our progress and measure our success. For many it is the key to happiness. We must live and so we work and earn and save, but that is not the entire story. Our world is competitive and out of the midst of economic survival springs the desire to get ahead. Few are immune. Sadly, most of our energies may be expended on worldly pursuits.

However, there is a better way. Solomon tells us about it in our text. He affirms that there is a greater happiness and this greater happiness is ours if we seek and find wisdom from above rather than this world's wealth. Consider his words:

"How blessed is the man who finds wisdom,
And the man who gains understanding.
For its profit is better than the profit of silver,
And its gain 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."

Nothing you might desire compares with wisdom. Sure, the world may offer you the wisdom and honor of men, but the world's wisdom is no match for the wisdom from God. Heavenly wisdom does that and more. She offers what money can't buy: long life, pleasant ways and peace. She gives eternal life to those who take hold of her and everlasting happiness to those who continue to hold her fast.

How does one get this precious gift? How does one get God's wisdom? It is easy if you are in His Son, Jesus Christ. James 1:5 says ask the Father for it by prayer through His Son. He is its source and those who seek Him can partake of His wisdom by asking in prayer. Of course, since wisdom is that which guides us in the application of knowledge, asking God for it presupposes that we already have knowledge of His Word. That requires study. Paul said, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17) Are you busy building your faith by studying His Word? When you've done that, it is time to ask for wisdom and act in accord.