

Content

For the next two Sundays we will be exploring Proverbs 8. This morning we will look at Proverbs 8:1-21 and next Sunday we will explore Proverbs 8:22-36. In Proverbs 7 the sage warned us about the dangers and temptations surrounding the adulteress. Now, in Proverbs 8 the wise counselor will extol for us the wonders of wisdom. Throughout Proverbs 8-9 the sage will personify wisdom as Lady Wisdom, calling out for us to embrace her and prize her. Will we embrace her call? In Proverbs 8:1-21 the call of wisdom is extolled by first showing us the beauty of wisdom and second the supremacy of wisdom. In the first eleven verses wisdom calls and we are exhorted to both hear what she speaks (v.6) and to take her instruction (v.10). Then, in vv.12-21 the supremacy of wisdom is given. Of course, the supremacy of wisdom is most clearly seen in that the embodiment of wisdom is Jesus Christ Himself. He Himself is our wisdom (1 Cor. 1:30).

Gospel Connections

Verse 13 says the fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. From the beginning of our study of the Proverbs we have seen that the key to growing the fear of the Lord is the gospel. This verse shows us God's heart toward evil and His commitment to deal with evil. The grace and the glory of the gospel is that on the cross the evil of our hearts and lives fell on Jesus instead of falling upon us. We will grow in wisdom to the degree that the gospel of Jesus melts our hearts and we learn to make Jesus our chief love and desire.

Application and Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn from this sermon? Specifically
 - a. What insights did you learn?
 - b. What questions do you have? Are there any areas you don't understand?
 - c. What areas of your life (be specific) do you sense God wants to change as a result of this passage of Scripture?

2. Proverbs 8:6-7 says, "Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right, for my mouth will utter truth." Wisdom speaks through the Word of God. Compare this to Psalm 19:7-10. How can you practically grow in your intake of the Word of God? What steps can you take to value the Word of God?

3. Verse 17 promises “I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me.” What hinders you or holds you back from loving and seeking wisdom? Spend time repenting of these things together as a group and embracing Christ’s forgiveness.