

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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Accessible Wisdom

(Jerry Fite)

Wisdom is greater than knowledge for it is the practical application of knowledge. You probably have seen people who know many things, and may even be an expert in Trivia Pursuit, but mess up in life because they do not know how to channel their knowledge properly. They have a lot of book knowledge, but seem to lack common sense when it comes to making wise decisions. So, when one couples his knowledge with wisdom he usually lives successfully.

But how does one acquire wisdom? We know we can find knowledge in books or from qualified teachers, but is wisdom equally accessible?

“Doth not wisdom cry, and understanding put forth her voice? On the top of high places by the way, where the paths meet, she standeth; beside the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors, she crieth aloud: Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of men. O ye simple, understand prudence; and ye fools, be of an understanding

heart” (Proverbs 8:1-5). If something is sitting high, standing at intersections, positioned at entry ways and cries aloud at door ways, it is not trying to hide, but announces to all that it is accessible. This is what Wisdom is saying about herself in Proverbs 8.

This is not man’s wisdom doing the talking, but the wisdom of God. Wisdom is eternal in that she was with God *“in the beginning of His way, before His works of old” (Proverbs 8:22)*. Then, when God created the heavens and the earth, wisdom was *“by Him as a master workman and I was daily His delight”* as they created a *“habitable earth” (Proverbs 8:30-31)*.

This wisdom that has prepared an orderly and habitable earth is the same wisdom that can provide us prudence in living. Yes, wisdom, not just knowledge, does not want to be hidden, but cries out for all by saying, *“I love them that love me; and those that seek me diligently shall find me” (Proverbs 8:17)*.

In God’s word we find not only knowledge, but practical

wisdom. Young people seeking to make wise decisions regarding sex and drugs would do well to read Proverbs 7 and Proverbs 23. You can gain wisdom of seeing the latter end of those who choose to give in to sexual desires outside of marriage, and only consider the seductive beginnings of alcohol and drugs. Their painful and foolish latter end will make you wise in choosing not to go near the seductive woman’s house in the first place, or even look upon the wine when it is sparkling in the cup. God’s wisdom is accessible to the young, making them prudent in their choices. The question is will you young people listen to God’s wisdom as she is crying aloud for you to seek her diligently?

God’s wisdom for salvation is accessible in Jesus Christ. Paul writes, *“But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who was made unto us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption: that according as it is written, he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord” (I Corinthians 1:30-31)*. Coming to Christ through the gospel we find God’s wisdom for life eternal.