I. Review of Last Week’s introduction

 A. Solomon’s story of wisdom is told in 1 Kings 3.

 B. The word for wisdom, “chokmah,” means wisdom as well as skill.

 C. The word, “sophia,” is the word chiefly used for wisdom in the New Testament.

 D. 1 Corinthians 1 - 3 is the NT’s main treatise on wisdom.

II. Recognizing the location of Proverbs in the Poetry section of the Bible is essential.

 A. The literary license of Poetry allows us to “see” what is being said.

 1. Example: The interplay between Good and Evil can be seen as a play – Job.

 B. The Parables of Jesus paint pictures along with metaphors and similes.

 1. Example: The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed.

 C. Personification is the chief literary tool used for wisdom in Proverbs 1 - 9.

 D. This picture of Wisdom in 1-9 is “framed” by the rest of scripture.

III. Proverbs 1 is “framed” with Old and New Testament scriptures.

 A. Psalm 111 frames the key truth of 1:7: the beginning of wisdom, knowledge and instruction.

 1. Versus, “God helps those who help themselves.”

 B. Galations 5:17 frames 1:8-19 as temptation and enticement are introduced.

 C. Romans 1-3 frames the call of Wisdom in the public arena. 1:20-33

 D. Compare: 1:23/John 14:21; 1:24-30 with the “consequences” seen in Jesus’ parables

 E. Cf. 1:31-33 w/ the reaping/sowing pictures of Gal. 6:7&8; Luke 6:38; James 3:17.

 F. The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge—see 2 Cor. 5:9

IV. Proverbs 2 is framed with John 17:17; Matt. 6:33; Matt.14 (treasure); Psa. 1, Psa. 119

 A. The “fruit” of wisdom is seen throughout the scriptures.

V. Proverbs 3 and 4 are framed with Deuteronomy 4 and Hebrews 12.

 A. 3:1-10/Deuteronomy 4 – the location of wisdom in the heart vs. head.

 B. 3:11-35/Hebrews 12 – the connection with love and discipline(God’s).

 C. Proverbs 4 reminds us of “heart” trouble seen throughout scripture.

VI. In Proverbs 6 and 7 we are reminded that Wisdom’s dictionary is different from ours.

 A. In 6:16-19 we hear what God “hates.”

 B. Jesus teaches us to “hate.” See Luke 14:26

 C. The “stealing when starving” rule in 6:30 echoes the letter vs. the spirit of the law.

 D. Are tattoos acceptable? Compare Proverbs 7 with Deuteronomy 6.

VII. In Proverbs 8’s personification of wisdom, we are reminded that the Word of God is living.

 A. Proverbs 8:9 echoes John 7:17.

 1. Spiritually speaking, there are no purely intellectual questions.

 B. Jesus said, “Why do you call me Lord, Lord and do not do what I say?” Luke 6:46

 2. Luke 6 is a treatise on wisdom and its “call.”

VIII. Proverbs 9 concludes Book One of Proverbs.

 A. In summary, two “women” are calling – Wisdom and Folly. Which will I pursue?

 B. Jesus was asked, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

 1. His answer in John 6:29 is the most important bottom line in the world.

**How Firm a Foundation**

**1.** How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

What more can He say than to you He has said,

To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

**2.** “Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,

For I am your God, and will still give you aid;

I’ll strengthen you, help you and cause you to stand,

Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

**3.** When through the deep waters I call you to go,

The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,

For I will be with you in trouble to bless,

And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

**4.** When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,

My grade all-sufficient shall be your supply;

The flame shall not hurt you; I only design

Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

**5.** The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose

I will not, I will not desert to its foes;

That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,

I’ll never, no, never, no never forsake!

**Prayer (Ephesians 1:17 – 19)**

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|  | Father, I pray that you would give \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that the eyes of his/her heart may be enlightened in order that he/she may know the hope to which you have called him/her. I ask that he/she may know the riches of his/her glorious inheritance in the saints, and that he/she may grasp your incomparably great power in him/her as he/she believes. |  |