

Jesus, the Wisdom of God  
June 24, 2018  
Proverbs 8  
Will Jackson

**Big Idea: Jesus is true wisdom and the key to applying the Proverbs.**

### Sermon Outline

1. Heed Jesus' Call (8:1-11)
2. When we heed Jesus' call, we dwell with Jesus (8:12-21)
3. When we dwell with Jesus, we dwell with God (8:22-31)
4. When we dwell with God, we live (8:32-36)

### Context of Proverbs 8:

A few reminders:

1. Proverbs is poetry.
2. Wisdom is described poetically as a person.
3. The Bible is one interconnected unit.

According to the New Testament, Jesus is Wisdom

1 Corinthians 1:22-24

*<sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.***

1 Corinthians 1:28-31

*<sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>And because of him you are in **Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,** <sup>31</sup>so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

Matthew 11:18-19

*<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>19</sup>The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' **Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.***

## 1. HEED JESUS' CALL (8:1-11)

### Proverbs 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Does not wisdom call?

*Does not understanding raise her voice?*

<sup>2</sup>On the heights beside the way,

*at the crossroads she takes her stand;*

<sup>3</sup>beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:  
<sup>4</sup> "To you, O men, I call,  
and my cry is to the children of man.  
<sup>5</sup> O simple ones, learn prudence;  
O fools, learn sense.  
<sup>6</sup> Hear, for I will speak noble things,  
and from my lips will come what is right,  
<sup>7</sup> for my mouth will utter truth;  
wickedness is an abomination to my lips.  
<sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are righteous;  
there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.  
<sup>9</sup> They are all straight to him who understands,  
and right to those who find knowledge.  
<sup>10</sup> Take my instruction instead of silver,  
and knowledge rather than choice gold,  
<sup>11</sup> for wisdom is better than jewels,  
and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

### **Matthew 11:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

### **Mark 1:14-20**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

<sup>16</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

- How might you be distracting yourself from Jesus' call?
- How might you be silencing Jesus' call?

## **2. WHEN WE HEED JESUS' CALL, WE DWELL WITH JESUS. (8:12-21)**

### **Proverbs 8:12-21**

<sup>12</sup> "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,  
and I find knowledge and discretion.  
<sup>13</sup> The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil.  
Pride and arrogance and the way of evil  
and perverted speech I hate.  
<sup>14</sup> I have counsel and sound wisdom;  
I have insight; I have strength.

<sup>15</sup> By me kings reign,  
and rulers decree what is just;  
<sup>16</sup> by me princes rule,  
and nobles, all who govern justly.  
<sup>17</sup> I love those who love me,  
and those who seek me diligently find me.  
<sup>18</sup> Riches and honor are with me,  
enduring wealth and righteousness.  
<sup>19</sup> My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold,  
and my yield than choice silver.  
<sup>20</sup> I walk in the way of righteousness,  
in the paths of justice,  
<sup>21</sup> granting an inheritance to those who love me,  
and filling their treasuries.

- Is my life defined by pride, arrogance, pursuit of gold, etc. – or – prudence, discretion, justice, etc. ?

### **John 15:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

### **3. WHEN WE DWELL WITH JESUS, WE DWELL WITH GOD. (8:22-31)**

#### **Proverbs 8:22-31**

<sup>22</sup> "The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of old.  
<sup>23</sup> Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
<sup>24</sup> When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.  
<sup>25</sup> Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth,  
<sup>26</sup> before he had made the earth with its fields,  
or the first of the dust of the world.  
<sup>27</sup> When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
<sup>28</sup> when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
<sup>29</sup> when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him, like a master workman,  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,

<sup>31</sup> *rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the children of man.*

Two cautions:

- Wisdom spoken of in feminine pronouns
- Wisdom spoken of as created by God

--Old Testament Poetry--

Two truths:

- Jesus was male, but honored women
- Jesus was Creator, in equal essence as God.

### **Colossians 1:15-17**

<sup>15</sup> *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

### **Hebrews 1:1-3a**

*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.*

### **John 1:1-5**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

“The New Testament shows by its allusions to this passage that the personifying of wisdom, far from overshooting the literal truth, was a preparation for its full statement, since the agent of creation was no mere activity of God, but the Son, His eternal Word, Wisdom and Power.”

**Derek Kidner**

### **John 14:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> *Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”*

## **4. WHEN WE DWELL WITH GOD, WE LIVE. (8:32-36)**

### **Proverbs 8:32-36**

<sup>32</sup> *“And now, O sons, listen to me:  
blessed are those who keep my ways.*

<sup>33</sup> *Hear instruction and be wise,  
and do not neglect it.*

<sup>34</sup> *Blessed is the one who listens to me,  
watching daily at my gates,  
waiting beside my doors.*

<sup>35</sup> *For whoever finds me finds life  
and obtains favor from the LORD,*

<sup>36</sup> *but he who fails to find me injures himself;  
all who hate me love death.”*

**1 John 5:12**

<sup>12</sup> *Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*