

I) **V1-6 INTRO: Job further continued his discourse and said Oh that I were as in months**

II) **Job had just given a long speech about the origin of true wisdom  
As he spoke he asked the question Where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? (28:12)**

III) **He said it can't be found in the land of the living, or in the deep, and can't be bought**

**He said its value is greater than silver, gold, or precious stones  
He then went on to say that it is hidden from the eyes of all the living**

IV) **After saying this he said God understands its way and He knows its place (28:23)**

**28:28 He then closed by saying The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom**

V) **In the Scriptures the term the Fear of the Lord is a way of describing true Religion**

**The phrase true wisdom would speak of what is called true Religion**

VI) **This is something that many today have trouble understanding  
Many believe all religious faiths are equal, and there is no such thing as true religion**

VII) **This is not what scripture teaches  
The bible teaches that there is that which is true, and that which is false**

VIII) **This is why the bible speaks of false prophets and true prophets  
False prophets preach false messages and lead people in the wrong direction**

IX) **The prophet Jeremiah gave God's word to the people  
He spoke of false teachers and the fruit of their teaching  
Jer 23:1-2 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings says the Lord**

**Jer 23:16 Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; they speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord**

**Jer 23:21-22 I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in My counsel, And had caused My people to hear My words, Then they would have turned them from their evil way And from the evil of their doings.**

- X) As Christians, we know that there is such a thing as true religion**  
The Bible defines true religion as a personal knowledge of God
- I) It speaks of a genuine experiential knowledge of God**  
It is deeply embedded in an actual personal knowledge of God, and love for Him  
Jer 9:23-24 This is what the Lord says: Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight, declares the LORD.
- II) Knowing God results in a life of obedience, holiness, fellowship, and security in the Lord**  
This would be the fruit of the fear of the Lord
- III) OBEDIENCE:**  
Ps 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His praise endures for ever.  
Eccl. 7:12 Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor.
- IV) HOLINESS: Holiness at its root speaks of being separated for God's service**  
Because God is holy, separate from sinners man is to be holy, living by His Word  
Pr 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.  
1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light  
2 Co 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- V) With this understanding, it is our prayer that God will do His work in our lives**  
Ps 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me
- VI) FELLOWSHIP: The fear of God results in fellowship with God**  
Our fellowship with God informs and directs our fellowship with others
- VII) Fellowship is not only enjoying someone's company, it is participating in something**  
It speaks of participating in the life of faith, along with others believers

in Jesus

VIII) It isn't only attending events, it is participating in one another's lives  
Jn 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another just as I have loved you; you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another

IX) This fear of God and fellowship produces the submitting of ourselves to one another

Eph 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God

I) Finally, the fear of the Lord produces SECURITY

Pr 14:27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death

II) Solomon was the wisest man on the planet, as well as rich beyond imagination  
In spite of all of his wisdom, he sought for experiences that would satisfy him

III) He experienced every pleasure: wine, building projects, riches, power, women  
Eccl 6:7 All the labor of man is for his mouth, and yet the soul is not satisfied

IV) In the 222 verses of Ecclesiastes, Solomon finally concludes by saying  
Eccl 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil

V) With that said, Job had wisdom begins in the fear of the Lord  
It is by the fear of the Lord that one departs from evil

VI) He now continues by saying that he had once been blessed and happy  
I was once a great man: Now, look at me!

VII) V2 Oh that I were as in months past as in the days when God watched over me  
In all of his pain and suffering Job has become convinced that God is angry with him

VIII) He believes that God is punishing him and has become his enemy  
Job 7:20 Have I sinned? What have I done to You, O watcher of men?  
Why have You set me as Your target so that I am a burden to myself?

IX) He has undergone such pain and it seems that it will never let up  
Job 7:3 says that he has been allotted months of futility and wearisome nights  
He is under such stress and sorrow that it is almost unbearable

X) With this in mind, he wishes that able to return to what he at one time experienced

XI) V2 Oh that I were as in months past as in the days when God watched over me  
I think of how it once was, and I wish that I could return to those times  
Those were days when I lived in comfort, had my children around me  
and my wife

XII) Those were days when God watched over me  
Those were days when God preserved me from the pain I now am  
enduring

XIII) In those days, you my friends respected me and would not be here lecturing  
me

I) V3 When His light shone upon my head and when by His light I walked through  
darkness

Job never forgets that his prosperity came from God

II) He speaks of when God's light guided and protected his walk

III) The bible contrasts walking in darkness and walking in the light  
To walk in darkness often speaks of walking in a sinful way  
Jn 12:35 So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while  
longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks  
in the darkness does not know where he is going.

IV) In contrast, the believer is one who walks in light  
Ps 56:13 For you have delivered me from death and my feet from  
stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life"  
Jn 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

V) Thought: I walked in His light and by doing so was protected by Him from  
hidden dangers

Pr 4:18 The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn which shines  
brighter and brighter until full day

VI) V4 Just as I was in the days of my prime when the friendly counsel of God was  
over my

Days of my prime is literally speaking of his autumn, a season of  
maturity and growth

He is now living in the depth of winter, a time of barrenness and  
discomfort

VII) V4 The friendly counsel of God was over my tent  
Everything I did was blessed by God and my family and I were so abundantly blessed

VIII) God's counsel: it was a time when God and I had sweet, deep and personal fellowship

Ps 25:14 The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

IX) In Christian terms, it would be like when Jesus would fellowship with His men  
On long walks, over campfires, over meals, in ministry experiences  
They were the ones He disclosed the deepest teachings to

X) On one occasion Jesus was giving a series of parables and the people didn't understand

His disciples spoke to Him about this

Mt 13:10-11 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

I) Job had deep relationship with God, and now it seems that it is gone forever

II) V5-6 When the Almighty was yet with me when my children were around me  
I had fellowship with God, and the joy of being with my children  
I looked at them with such joy and love: I had such dreams and hopes for them

III) V6 When my steps were bathed in cream and the rock poured out rivers of oil for me

This speaks of the many physical blessings that he had enjoyed

IV) V7-11 When I went out to the gate by the city when I took my seat in the open square

The city gate was the place where judges sat to listen to cases and make rulings

It was where the most honorable men would be seated

V) V8 The young men saw me and hid and the aged arose and stood  
They were intimidated and out of reverence and self reflection withdrew themselves

VI) This kind of respect shown to elders was later commanded in the Law of Moses

Lev 19:32 Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.

Pr 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; if it is gained in a righteous live

- VII) V8 The aged arose and stood  
When the elders at the gate saw him approaching out of respect they stood
- VIII) Job's dignity, wisdom and righteousness caused them to show him great honor  
Job 12:12 Wisdom is with aged men, And with length of days, understanding.
- IX) V9-10 The princes refrained from talking, and put their hand on their mouth  
Out of respect, princes became quiet and nobles stopped speaking
- X) They stopped speaking that they might hear what I had to say on the subject  
They did not want to appear foolish if I said something that contradicted them  
Pr 30:32 If you have been foolish in exalting yourself, Or if you have devised evil, put your hand on your mouth.
- XI) V11 When the ear heard then it blessed me and when the eye saw then it approved me  
Those who heard my wisdom and saw my dignity prayed God's blessings on me
- XII) Now, he is disrespected and ridiculed  
Job 17:6 God has made me a byword to everyone, a man in whose face people spit.  
Job 19:18 Even young children despise me; I arise and they speak against me
- I) V12-17 Because I delivered the poor who cried out the fatherless and the one who had no  
I was respected because not only was I wise, but I was also generous  
You have said that I took from the poor unjustly, but this is not true
- II) V12 I delivered the poor who cried out, the fathers, and the helpless  
When I judged cases, I acted justly on behalf of those who were treated unfairly  
Is 1:17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow
- III) I judged impartiality knowing justice is always delivered with righteousness  
Ps 33:5 The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

**IV) V13-14 The blessing of the perishing man came upon me and I caused the widow's heart**

**When the one in danger of losing his life or goods by wicked me, I judged fairly**

**V) When widows were in need, I made sure that they were cared for bringing them joy**

**Jas 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.**

**VI) V14 I put on righteousness and it clothed me my justice was like a robe and a turban**

**My judgments were righteous, and justice was my clothing  
Is 61:10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, As a groom puts on a turban, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.**

**VII) V15-20 I was eyes to the blind, and I was feet to the lame**

**Since the blind cannot see, I saw on their behalf and helped them in life  
Since the lame cannot walk, I provided instruction and help so they could live**

**VIII) V16 I was a father to the poor, and I searched out the case that I did not know  
I helped those in need as if they were my own children**

**When I was their advocate or judge, I searched out the law to make sure to be fair**

**IX) V17 I broke the fangs of the wicked and plucked the victim from his teeth**

**I broke the power of those who were injuring them, and delivered them from injustice**

**After doing so I forced them to restore what they had taken**

**X) He was a truly righteous man: He performed many good works**

**A truly righteous person is one who lives out their faith**

**Jas 2:17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**

**I) V18 Then I said I shall die in my nest and multiply my days as the sand**

**I will die peacefully at home, living to an old age**

**II) V19 My root is spread out to the waters and the dew lies all night on my branch**

**I was like the tree growing close to a water source, growing and nourished**

**God's favor provided nourishment to me constantly**

- III) This is like what is said in Jeremiah  
Jer 17:7-8 But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."
- IV) V20 My glory is fresh within me and my bow is renewed in my hand  
My reputation was not being reduced and my ability to defend myself was great
- V) V21-23 Men listened to me and waited and kept silence for my counsel  
When I spoke, I was given complete attention and no one interrupted me
- VI) V22 After my words they did not speak again and my speech settled on them as dew  
They did not argue with me over what I said, and they drank up what I told them
- VII) V23 They waited for me as for the rain and they opened their mouth wide as for the blossom  
The spring rain is the latter rain in March, necessary for the harvest to blossom  
My counsel is valuable to them so that their plans or desires can be fruitful
- VIII) V24-25 If I mocked at them they did not believe it and the light of my countenance  
Mocking them is taken to mean treat them like friends and being open with them  
Teasing with them, being familiar and friendly
- IX) They respected me so much that they could never think I would be their friend  
They were so respectful of me that they thought I could never be their friend
- X) And the light of my countenance they did not cast down  
They were careful not to become too comfortable with me!
- XI) V25 I chose the way for them and sat as chief so I dwelt as a king in the army  
They sought my advice for difficult cases, and followed my advice  
As sat as a prince or judge and they listened
- XII) Like a king, my presence encouraged them and strengthened them to go on



