

A) SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

The Beginning and the End of Wisdom

(Selected Proverbs)

Slide 2:

Proverbs 8:35–36 (ESV)

For whoever finds me finds life
and obtains favor from the LORD,
but he who fails to find me injures himself;
all who hate me love death.

Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 (ESV)

The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is
the whole duty of man.

Job 1:8 (ESV)

And the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him
on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?”

Slide 3:

Proverbs 3:6, 7 (ESV)

In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

Proverbs 4:8 (ESV)

Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.

Proverbs 6:6 (ESV)

Go to the ant, O sluggard;
consider her ways, and be wise.

Proverbs 13:20 (ESV)

Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

Proverbs 16:6 (ESV)

By steadfast love and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,
and by the fear of the LORD one turns away from evil.

Slide 4:

Idealists: Wisdom is the only way to beauty

Pragmatists: Wisdom is the only way to get where you want to go

Slide 5:

Proverbs 8:35–36 (ESV)

For whoever finds me finds life
and obtains favor from the LORD,
but he who fails to find me injures himself;
all who hate me love death.

2 Timothy 3:14–15 (ESV)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation

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Slide 6:

Beginning and End of Wisdom

(The Path and the Point)

Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

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And the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?”

Path (fear) and Point (obedience)

Slide 7:

Fear =

- a) Acknowledge that He is
- b) Know Him
- c) Love and Trust Him

Slide 8:

HE IS

Romans 1:18–19 (ESV)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

Slide 9:

He MUST be Known

Proverbs 3:6 (ESV)

In all your ways acknowledge him...

Slide 10:

1 Chronicles 28:9 (ESV)

And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you...

Slide 11:

LOVE/TRUST HIM

Psalm 130:3–4 (ESV)

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.

Slide 12:

Down-in-the-dust joy, love and trust IS biblical fear.

Slide 13:

The "Path" (or how to stay on the path)

1) Prize Her (Proverbs 4:8)

Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.

2) Pray for Her (James 1:5)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

3) Pursue Her in the Word (Psalm 19:7)

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

4) Pursue Her in the world (Proverbs 6:6)

Go to the ant, O sluggard;
consider her ways, and be wise.

5) Walk with mentors (Proverbs 13:20)

Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

6) Live as if you are dying (Psalm 90:12, Ecclesiastes 7:4)

So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning,
but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

Slide 14:

The Point (we better obey)

God's Love is Conditional

Slide 15:

Proverbs 16:6 (ESV)

By steadfast love and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,
and by the fear of the LORD one turns away from evil.

Slide 16:

2 Corinthians 5:20–21 (ESV)

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

B) GROUP DISCUSSION

1) What has been, for you, the biggest discoveries from studying "Wisdom" in this sermon series?

2) When you hear that we are to "fear" the Lord...what has that meant to you as a Christian?

3) Pastor Don mentioned 3 ingredients to "fear."

Talk about your experience in each and how they actually move from one to the other. In other words...explain how one must lead to the other.

a) Know that He is (Admit, Face, Awareness)

b) Actually know Him (Understand, Seek, Desire)

c) Love Him (Trust, Cling, Follow)

4) Are you doing these things? If not..why not? What is your plan to move forward?

a) Prizing Wisdom (Proverbs 4:8)

b) Praying for Wisdom (James 1:5)

c) Pursuing Wisdom in the Word (Psalm 19:7)

d) Pursuing Wisdom in all creation (Proverbs 6:6)

e) Walking with mentors (Proverbs 13:20)

f) Live like you are dying (Psalm 90:12, Ecclesiastes 7:4)

5) Is God's love conditional or unconditional? Can you explain?

6) How does Jesus undo the "curse"?

Explain how Jesus satisfies God's perfect justice and perfect love, so that God can save us without being a liar.

7) So, how do we become wise, and stay wise?

8) Prayer and Praise