

2024_4_14 Guided by the Scriptures



"[Christianity] has increasingly displaced the Bible as its foundation for knowing what to think and how to live and supplanted it with experience, desire, and preference. In other words, it has surrendered its heart to personal freedom."
- Scot McKnight

2

Look, I have taught you statutes and ordinances as the LORD my God has commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to possess.

3

Carefully follow them, for this will show your wisdom and understanding in the eyes of the peoples. When they hear about all these statutes, they will say, "This great nation is indeed a wise and understanding people."

4

For what great nation is there that has a god near to it as the LORD our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation has righteous statutes and ordinances like this entire law I set before you today?
Deuteronomy 4:5-8 (CSB)

5

"All of the diverse literary styles in the Bible reveal God's wisdom and invite us into a journey of character transformation."
- Dr. Tim Mackie

6

Wisdom is practical knowledge that shapes your perspective, actions, and life choices which is part of the transformation of the whole person.

7

The Bible is aimed at shaping and forming people into God's vision of humanity.

8

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden?'"

9

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, 'You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.'"

10

"No! You will certainly not die," the serpent said to the woman. "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

11

The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

12

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.
Genesis 3:1-7 (CSB)

13

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there because it was the most famous high place. He offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask. What should I give you?"

14

And Solomon replied, "You have shown great and faithful love to your servant, my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, righteousness, and integrity. You have continued this great and faithful love for him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today."

15

"LORD my God, you have now made your servant king in my father David's place. Yet I am just a youth with no experience in leadership. Your servant is among your people you have chosen, a people too many to be numbered or counted.

16

So give your servant a receptive heart to judge your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours?"

17

Now it pleased the Lord that Solomon had requested this. So God said to him, "Because you have requested this and did not ask for long life or riches for yourself, or the death of your enemies, but you asked discernment for yourself to administer justice, I will therefore do what you have asked.

18

I will give you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has never been anyone like you before and never will be again. In addition, I will give you what you did not ask for: both riches and honor, so that no king will be your equal during your entire life. If you walk in my ways and keep my statutes and commands just as your father David did, I will give you a long life."
1 Kings 3v4-14 (CSB)

19

Scripture reveals the wisdom of God about himself and the way he designed the world to work, inviting us into the journey of character transformation so that we live well in the world as he intends.

20

Scriptures shows us how to live.

21

"Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
Psalm 119v105

22

Scripture shows us how to view life through the lens of God's reality and perspective.

23

Scripture shows us Jesus - the pinnacle of God's wisdom.

24

For the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles. Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.
1 Corinthians 1v22-25 (CSB)

25

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.
Ephesians 1v17 (CSB)

26

"Bible reading truly accomplishes its intention only when we become more aware of how much we are loved and so become more loving. For believers to follow Jesus implies, among other things, adopting the same attitude toward God's Word as Jesus had. Becoming like Christ involves accepting his example as one who reads the Bible. It means defining ourselves and our purpose in life in light of the Bible. Follow Christ also means practicing what the Bible says. Simply put, we cannot truthfully say that we are followers of Jesus if we neglect or refuse to obey what the Bible tells us, or if we use it in self-serving ways that are not what God originally intended."
Dr. Ray Lubeck

27

If the Bible isn't forming wisdom in you, the Bible is neither your foundation nor your guide.

28

Guided by the Scriptures: We order our lives from the truth in God's Word, teaching and building up the body of Christ with God-given wisdom.

29

Life guided by the Scriptures will come to the Scriptures with this heart posture:

Open - Attentive - Yielded - Obedient

30