Title: "Holy Fear" July 21 & 21, 2024

Proverbs 9:10

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

Hebrew word for wisdom

(חֻכְמֲת, ḥā·kຼə·maṯ) Ha- He- Mat Our relationship with God starts with a "Holy Fear" which results in obtaining His Wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 8:1 (NIV)

Who is like the wise? Who knows the explanation of things? A person's wisdom brightens their face. and changes its hard appearance.

Proverbs 2:1-8 (NIV)

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, ² turning your ear to wisdom, and applying your heart to understanding³ indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and search for it as for hidden treasure ⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He holds success in store for the upright. He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, ⁸ for He guards the course of the just and protects the way of His faithful ones.

Isaiah 33:5-6 (NIV)

The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion (Jerusalem) with his justice and righteousness. ⁶ He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure.

Ecclesiastes 2:13 (NKJV) Then I saw that wisdom excels folly As light excels darkness.

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Ecclesiastes 8:2-6 (NIV)

Obey the king's command, I say, because you took an oath before God. ³ Do not be in a hurry to leave the king's presence. Do not stand up for a bad cause, for he will do whatever he pleases. ⁴ Since a king's word is supreme, who can say to him, "What are you doing?"

⁵ Whoever obeys his command will come to no harm,

and the wise heart will know the proper time and procedure.

⁶ For there is a proper time and procedure for every matter,

though a person may be weighed down by misery

Romans 13:1-5

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴ For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

Ecclesiastes 8:8 (NIV)

As no one has power over the wind to contain it, so no one has power over the time of their death. As no one is discharged in time of war, so wickedness will not release those who practice it.

Ecclesiastes 8:8 (NIV)

Then too, I saw the wicked buried—those who used to come and go from the holy place and receive praise in the city where they did this. This too is meaningless.

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Matthew 23:27-28

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. ²⁸ In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 (NIV)

When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people's hearts are filled with schemes to do wrong.

Ecclesiastes 8:12 (NIV)

Although a wicked person who commits a hundred crimes may live a long time, I know that it will go better with those who fear God, who are reverent before him. ¹³ Yet because the wicked do not fear God, it will not go well with them, and their days will not lengthen like a shadow.

Ecclesiastes 8:14-17 (NIV)

¹⁴ There is something else meaningless that occurs on earth: the righteous who get what the wicked deserve, and the wicked who get what the righteous deserve. This too, I say, is meaningless. ¹⁵ So I commend the enjoyment of life, because there is nothing better for a person under the sun than to eat and drink and be glad. Then joy will accompany them in their toil all the days of the life God has given them under the sun.