

September 8th – The Source of All Wisdom

“And when they say to you, ‘Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,’ should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” (Isa. 8:19-20)

People seek wisdom in a number of places. Often we seek the counsel of friends or coworkers. Some folks turn to books or even to the magazines that line the supermarket shelves. Still others turn to TV, radio, internet, and a number of other media outlets. I even know some people who look to horoscopes seeking wisdom for the day. Back in Isaiah’s day, some of his countrymen were in the habit of visiting mediums and spiritisms to gather wisdom from the dead!

Isaiah profoundly reminds Israel of her source of wisdom: “Should not a people seek their God?” Why are we so inclined to seek wisdom from other humans when the supernatural Creator of the universe has given us all the guidance we need? His wisdom is contained the Word of God – “to the law and to the testimony!” Rather than running to gather conventional wisdom, we should run to take our Bible off the shelf and seek the insight that rests with our Maker.

Just in case anyone were unclear, Isaiah offered his people one more condition – “If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” In other words, if what someone is telling us does not line up with the Bible, then it needs to be discarded. All of us should seek to be like the Bereans of Acts 17 – we should be in the habit of searching the Scriptures to confirm the things we have seen and heard. The psalmist said it best, “The Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:105).