<u>The Book of PROVERBS</u> <u>Chapter 3</u> "<u>Rewards From God's Wisdom!</u>"

> FIVE REWARDS FROM SEEKING GOD'S WISDOM:

- Reward #1 - God's Wisdom Brings Fulfillment! (v1-12)

(v1-2) God's laws bring long <u>LIFE</u> and <u>PEACE</u>!

(v3-4) Practice <u>MERCY</u> and <u>TRUTH</u> and find <u>FAVOR</u> and HIGH <u>ESTEEM</u> with God and man! (v5-6) TRUST God and He shall DIRECTION your paths!

- Noah was directed to an ark of salvation!
- Abraham was directed to Paradise!
- Moses was directed through the Red Sea to victory!
- Joshua was directed into the blessings of the Promised Land!
- Peter was directed to <u>walk_on water</u>!
- Lazarus was directed to live again!
- Paul was directed to reach the world for Christ!

(v7-8) Fear the LORD and depart from <u>EVIL</u>—this brings <u>HEALTH</u> and <u>STRENGTH</u> to your body! (v9-10) <u>HONOR</u> the LORD with our firstfruits! - <mark>2 Corinthians 9:6-8</mark> (i.e.- Zachaeus a cheerful giver-Luke ch. 19:1-10)

(v11-12) His chastening, His correction, His LOVE! - John 15:1-2 - "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 1 Corinthians 11:32 - But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. Hebrews 12:7-11 - If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

- Reward #2 - God's Wisdom Brings Happiness! (v13-18)

(v13-16) God's wisdom is richer than silver, gold, and rubies—health, riches and <u>HONOR</u>! (v17-18) God's wisdom brings pleasantness, peace—a tree of life and <u>HAPPINESS</u>!

- Reward #3 - God's Wisdom Brings Security! (v19-26)

(v19-20) God's wisdom and understanding <u>CREATED</u> the earth, the atmosphere, outer space, the oceans and the watering systems for all to flourish!

(v21-23) God's wisdom brings life to the soul, grace, safety and <u>STABILITY</u> in life! (v24-26) God's wisdom gives you a good night's <u>SLEEP</u>, no fear, confidence in God and His protection!

- Reward #4 - God's Wisdom Brings Neighborly Kindness! (v27-30)

(v27-28) Do good and <u>HELP</u> your neighbor! (v29-30) Don't do evil to your neighbor and do not <u>STRIVE</u> with them (Luke 10:25-37)

- Reward #5 - God's Wisdom Brings Blessings & Glory! (v31-35)

(v31-32) <u>WATCH</u> out for the oppressor and the perverse person (v33-35) Be just—get <u>BLESSED</u>! Be humble—get <u>GRACE</u>! Be wise—get <u>GLORY</u>! (Don't be a fool – Luke 12:16-21)