

“God’s Offer of Wisdom”

Proverbs 1:20-33

3/10/21

Outline Adapted from an Outline by John Phillips:

1. Wisdom Is Offered – 20-23

Wisdom is personified as a virtuous woman.

This “Wisdom” is the Son of God Himself (prophecy of Messiah – Jeremiah 23:5)

“In (Christ) are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” – Colossians 2:3

Wisdom is the voice of the God of creation (the creation shouts of God’s existence, omnipotence, holiness and beauty – Psalm 19:1-4)

Many people choose not to hear this voice – Romans 1:18-22

If a person responds to God’s “natural revelation” through creation God will make more known to them. He will reveal His “special revelation” – Jesus Christ. That revelation comes from God’s Word.

“Simple ones” – naïve, gullible, ignorant, immature, easily influenced

They live as if there is no God and no eternity

“Scoffers” – when the “simple ones” reject God’s wisdom they eventually become “scoffers.”

They scoff at God and what He has said. They scoff at those who follow God.

“Fools” – obstinate nonbelievers who won’t listen to the truth

“Turn” – The Hebrew word is the word for repentance. Combines two elements: turn from evil and turn to good.

“My Spirit” – The Holy Spirit

2. Wisdom Is Rejected – 24-33

(1) The Refusal – 24-25

“Stretched out My hand” – Wisdom has stretched out her hand through creation and God’s written Word

(2) The Reactions – 26-28

1. Derision – 26

“Laugh” – doesn’t mean God finds calamities of those who refuse Him funny. It’s a godly delight in His vindication.

2. Distress – 27

3. Desperation – 28

(3) The Reason – 29-30

(4) The Results – 31-33

1. The Law of Reaping – 31

Wisdom's patience is great, but not endless

“Fruit of their way” – reap what they sow (Galatians 6:7-8)

“Have their fill of their own devices” – they will suffer the full consequences of their sin (Romans 6:23)

2. The Law of Retribution – 32

Verse 32 sums up the end of the fool and verse 33 sums up the security of the one who embraces wisdom.

“The complacency of fools” – the fool assumes he/she is secure right up to the moment judgment overwhelms him/her.

3. The Law of Relaxation – 33

“Listens to Me” – mark of a wise person

“Will dwell secure” – knowing God is in control and knowing of God's care

Psalm 4:8

Psalm 16:8

Psalm 23:4

“At ease” – freedom from worry

Conclusion:

For those who have chosen the path of wisdom, the rest of Proverbs shows how it is worked out in your life.