

## Ain't Nothing Like Wisdom

Text: Proverbs 8:1-36

### Introduction

In Proverbs chapter 8, we find the personification of wisdom. Wisdom is alluded to as a person, that beckons the simple (vv. 4-5). The Bible teaches that the “*simple*” are those who are yet naive, and untaught.

### Wisdom's Introduction

The introductory verses of this chapter stand in stark contrast to the verses of chapter 7. John Phillips observes,

“The harlot's house was down a back street, but Wisdom's voice sounds from the mountaintops. The harlot prowled the streets and lurked at the intersections, but Wisdom stands on the great highways of life where the principal caravan routes cross. The harlot could not wait to close the door on her victims and her vice, but Wisdom takes her stand by the city gates where the multitudes come and go. Had the harlot's husband listened to Wisdom as he urged his camels out of the city, he would have turned around and gone home to put his house in order. His marriage surely was more important than his money. At least Wisdom would have told him so.

The fact that wisdom can be found everywhere is significant. It is not hard to find if we have ears to hear, eyes to see, ready minds, and receptive hearts.”

How does God make simple people wise? How does He disperse wisdom? The Psalmist tells us that it is by His Word (cf. Psa. 19:7).

How do we know if we are wise? What are the qualities of wisdom? Solomon describes the beauty of wisdom in very descriptive terms. By the time he reaches verse 11, he declares its value more than that of rubies (cf. Job 28:18). Notice why wisdom adds value and beauty to life.

#### I. Wisdom Is Always \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 6-7).

A. Speaks what is \_\_\_\_\_ (v.6; i.e., as opposed to inappropriate; cf. 15:23; 25:11).

1. She always has the right \_\_\_\_\_ at the right time.
2. She is always willing to \_\_\_\_\_ her words (cf. vv. 4-5).

B. Speaks what is \_\_\_\_\_ (v.7; as opposed to false).

1. She has a mouth of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. She hates that which is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### II. Wisdom Is Always \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 8-11).

A. Consistent in \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Eph. 4:29; Jam. 3:1-3).

1. She never utters a \_\_\_\_\_ word (“*All the words...*”).

2. She never utters a \_\_\_\_\_ word (“*nothing forward...*”).
- B. Consistent in \_\_\_\_\_ (v.9; i.e., they’re the same at any time).
1. Easy to be \_\_\_\_\_ (“*plain*” = straightforward).
  2. Easy to be \_\_\_\_\_ (“*right*”)
- C. Consistent in \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 10-11).
1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom (v.10).
  2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom (v.11).

**LIFE PRINCIPLES #18:** \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Wisdom Is Always** \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 12-13).

- A. What wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ (v.12; i.e., seeking new knowledge).
- Wisdom is involved in the...
1. \_\_\_\_\_ of life (v.12).
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ of life (vv. 22-31; God used wisdom in founding the earth (vv. 22-31)).
- B. What wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ (v.13; cf. 6:16-19; i.e. avoiding any hindrance).
1. The \_\_\_\_\_ for hating evil (v.13a).
  2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of hating evil (v.13b, hate what God hates).

**IV. Wisdom Is Always** \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 14-21).

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 14-16).
1. \_\_\_\_\_ of wise leadership (v.14).
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ of wise leadership (vv. 15-16).
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 17-21).
1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom.
  2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom.

Conclusion: It is the simple’s choice concerning wisdom—Take it or leave it. However, it must be remembered, there is a blessing for taking it, and a penalty for leaving it (vv. 32-36; i.e., life vs. death).