

If Wisdom, Then Life

Proverbs 2:1–22

If Wisdom, Then Life

In Proverbs 2 God imparts wisdom to the young by urging them to pursue more wisdom. The wisest thing you can do is pursue wisdom itself.

But why is it wise to devote yourself to pursuing wisdom?

Solomon composed a poem for his son(s) with two verses:

I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11) – 8

II. Wisdom Is Deliverance (12–22) – 7

If Wisdom, Then Life

1 Kgs 3 – ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this thing [wisdom] and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, ¹² behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you”

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1 Kgs 4 – ²⁹ Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is on the seashore. ³⁰ Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the sons of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt... ³⁴ Men came from all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.

If Wisdom, Then Life

I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

1. You must receive wisdom (1–2)

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**Ps 119:11 – Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I might not sin against you.**

**Prov 4:23 – Watch over your heart with all diligence,
For from it flow the springs of life.**

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I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

1. You must receive wisdom (1–2)
2. You must seek wisdom (3–4)

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Prov 8:17 – I love those who love me;
And those who diligently seek me will find me.

If Wisdom, Then Life

I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

B. To *find* wisdom is to *find* God (5–8)

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Ps 14:1 – The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”

Prov 1:7 – The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

**Jer 8:9 – “Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD,
And what kind of wisdom do they have?”**

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John 6:68 – “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.”

Jas 1:5 – ...if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

If Wisdom, Then Life

I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

B. To *find* wisdom is to *find* God (5–8)

C. To *know* God is to *know* how to live (9–11)

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God's Character

Wisdom

A vertical double-headed arrow, rendered in a dark blue-grey color, connects the text 'God's Character' at the top to 'Me' at the bottom. The word 'Wisdom' is centered horizontally and vertically within the shaft of the arrow.

Me

If Wisdom, Then Life

I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

B. To *find* wisdom is to *find* God (5–8)

C. To *know* God is to *know* how to live (9–11)

II. Wisdom Is Deliverance (12–22)

A. From the way of the crooked (12–15)

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John 3 – ¹⁹ “...men loved the darkness rather than the Light for their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.”

Isa 5 – ²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness;
Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! ²¹ Woe
to those who are wise in their own eyes And clever in their
own sight!

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I. Wisdom Is Worthy Work (1–11)

A. Wisdom is work (1–4)

B. To *find* wisdom is to *find* God (5–8)

C. To *know* God is to *know* how to live (9–11)

II. Wisdom Is Deliverance (12–22)

A. From the way of the crooked (12–15)

B. From the way of the sensual (16–19)

C. To the way of the righteous (20–22)

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Deut 30 – ¹⁹ “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, ²⁰ by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”