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The Blessings of Sound Wisdom

"He layeth up Sound Wisdom for the righteous."

(Proverbs 2:7)

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Preface

When the righteous plead with the LORD, "Order my steps in Thy Word" (Psalm 119:133), they become stewards of the "Sound Wisdom" the LORD has treasured-up for them. His Word becomes their Staple in life. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). His Counsel becomes their only Guide in a humanistic world. "Thou shalt guide me with Thy Counsel, and afterward receive me to glory" (Psalm 73:24). His Wisdom proves that "the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness" (1Corinthians 3:19).

I wouldn't trade the security and safety there is in Christ Jesus for all the health benefits and promises of all the insurance companies in the world, because "safety is of the LORD" (Proverbs 21:31). I wouldn't trade the One Who is called "The Health Of My Countenance, and My God" (Psalm 43:5), for all the medicines and health techniques, whether "time-honored" or "state of the art", before which this world wishes me to bow. I wouldn't trade away all the deep riches inherited in the Person of my LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ, "riches of the full assurance of Understanding, to the acknowledgment of the Mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ" (Colossians 2:2), for the opportunity to inherit all the so-called "wisdom" of all the universities the world over. I wouldn't trade "His Secret" that "is with the righteous" (Proverbs 3:32), for all the sought-after secrets with which this world can entice. "Yea doubtless, and I count ALL THINGS but loss **for the Excellency of the Knowledge of Christ Jesus my LORD**: for Whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ." (Philippians 3:8).

- Ephesians 2:7 "That in the ages to come He might show the Exceeding Riches of His Grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."
- Ephesians 3:8 "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this Grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the Unsearchable Riches of Christ."
- Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to His Riches in glory by Christ Jesus."
- Colossians 1:27 "To whom God would make known what is the Riches of the glory of this Mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you**, The Hope Of Glory."

- Hebrews 11:26 "Esteeming the reproach of Christ Greater Riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he [Moses] had respect unto the recompense of the Reward."

The righteous (that is, the ones who fit His description of righteousness, e.g., "if ye keep My Commandments, ye shall abide in My Love" [John 15:10]-- [Topical Links on Sound Doctrine](http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Fellowship/Topical.Links.On.Doctrine.html)-- <http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Fellowship/Topical.Links.On.Doctrine.html> --) will heed His exhortation and reap the blessings of a life directed by His Wisdom. "My son, let not them ["Wisdom... Understanding... Knowledge" (Proverbs 3:19-20)] depart from thine eyes: **keep** Sound Wisdom and Discretion: so shall they be Life unto thy soul, and Grace to thy neck" (Proverbs 3:21-22).

The Wisdom of the LORD's Proverbs: Commands Lovingly Obeyed Reap Rewards

From the Book of Proverbs--

- 2:1-5 "1 My son, if thou wilt receive My Words, and hide My Commandments with thee; 2 So that thou incline thine ear unto Wisdom, and apply thine heart to Understanding; 3 Yea, if thou criest after Knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for Understanding; 4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; 5 **Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the Knowledge of God.**"
- 2:6 "For the LORD **giveth Wisdom**: out of His mouth cometh **Knowledge** and **Understanding**."
- 2:7 "He **layeth up Sound Wisdom** for the righteous: He is a **Buckler** to them that walk uprightly."
- 2:8 "He **keepeth the paths of Judgment**, and **preserveth the way** of His saints."
- 2:9 "Then shalt thou **understand Righteousness**, and **Judgment**, and **Equity**; yea, **every good path**."
- 2:10-14, 16-19 "10 When Wisdom *entereth into thine heart*, and Knowledge is *pleasant unto thy soul*; 11 Discretion **shall preserve thee**, Understanding **shall keep thee**: 12 **To deliver thee** from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; 13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; 14 Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked... 16 **To deliver thee** from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; 17 Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the Covenant of her God. 18 For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead. 19 None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of Life."
- 2:20-22 "20 That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. 21 For the upright **shall dwell in the land**, and the perfect **shall remain in it**. 22 But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it."
- 3:1-2 "My son, forget not My Law; but let thine heart keep My Commandments: For **length of**

days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

- 3:3-4 "Let not Mercy and Truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find **favour and good Understanding in the sight of God and man.**"
- 3:5-8 "5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In ALL thy ways acknowledge Him, and He **shall direct thy paths.** 7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. 8 It shall be **health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.**"
- 3:9-10 "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall **thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**"
- 3:11-12 "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of His correction: For whom **the LORD loveth** He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.
- 3:13-18 "13 **Happy** is the man that findeth Wisdom, and the man that getteth Understanding. 14 For the merchandise of it is **better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.** 15 She is **more precious than rubies:** and all the things thou canst desire are **not to be compared** unto her. 16 **Length of days** is in her right hand; and in her left hand **riches and honour.** 17 Her ways are ways of **pleasantness,** and all her paths are **peace.** 18 She is a **Tree of Life** to them that lay hold upon her: and **happy** is every one that retaineth her."
- 3:19-20 "The LORD by Wisdom hath **founded the Earth;** by Understanding hath He **established the heavens.** By His Knowledge the **depths are broken up,** and the **clouds drop down the dew.**"
- 3:23-24 "Then shalt thou **walk in thy way safely,** and thy foot shall **not stumble.** When thou liest down, **thou shalt not be afraid:** yea, thou shalt lie down, and **thy sleep shall be sweet.**"
- 4:1-2 "Hear, ye children, the Instruction of a Father, and attend to know Understanding. For **I give you Good Doctrine,** forsake ye not My Law."
- 4:3-4 "For I was **My Father's Son, tender and Only Beloved in the sight of My mother.** He taught Me also, and said unto Me, Let Thine heart retain My Words: keep My Commandments, and **Live.**"
- 4:5-6 "Get Wisdom, get Understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the Words of My mouth. Forsake her not, and she **shall preserve thee:** love her, and she **shall keep thee.**"
- 4:7-8 "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get Wisdom: and with all thy getting get Understanding. Exalt her, and she **shall promote thee:** she shall **bring thee to honour,** when thou dost embrace her."

- 4:9-10 "She shall give to thine head an **Ornament of Grace**: a **Crown of Glory** shall she deliver to thee. Hear, O My son, and receive My sayings; and the **years of thy life shall be many**."
- 4:11-13 "11 **I have taught thee** in the way of Wisdom; **I have led thee** in Right Paths. 12 When thou goest, **thy steps shall not be straitened**; and when thou runnest, **thou shalt not stumble**. 13 Take fast hold of Instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy **Life**."
- 4:20-27 "20 My son, attend to My Words; incline thine ear unto My Sayings. 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are **Life** unto those that find them, and **Health to all their flesh**. 23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are **the issues of Life**. 24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. 25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. 26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let **all thy ways be established**. 27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil."
- 5:1-2 "My son, ATTEND unto my Wisdom, and BOW thine ear to my Understanding: That thou mayest REGARD Discretion, and that thy lips may KEEP Knowledge."

The Precious Wisdom of the LORD Blesses Our Way To Heaven with Riches to Cast at His Feet

The path to Heaven is paved with God's Wisdom, "because strait is the gate, and narrow is The Way, which leadeth unto Life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:14). Like Pilgrim found out, in John Bunyan's "[The Pilgrim's Progress](http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Stories/Bunyan.Pilgrims.Progress.html)"-- <http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Stories/Bunyan.Pilgrims.Progress.html> --, when we lose our "scroll" which is the Counsel of His Word, we "therefore which believe He is Precious" (1Peter 2:7), grieve our Precious LORD. Upon repentance, we must then backtrack to regain that which we lost, and long again for "the Word of the LORD [that] was Precious in those days" (1Samuel 3:1). "How Precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!" (Psalm 139:17). Only then can we walk again in His Wisdom. Only then will our Walk be blessed with Understanding and Discretion to avoid the pitfalls and "sloughs" that threaten our progress.

Follow Christ Jesus as our Example, "for even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an Example, that ye should FOLLOW HIS STEPS" (1Peter 2:21). Strengthened and cleansed "with the Precious Blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot" (1Peter 1:19), we "ought [ourselves] also so to walk, even as He walked" (1John 2:6). And if it means we must walk in this life "halt or maimed" before entering Heaven, then so be it. "Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee [or cause you to sin], cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire... For it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell" (Matthew 18:8; 5:30).

- James 3:6 "And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell."

- Revelation 21:27 "And there shall in no wise enter into [Heaven] any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie."

The Precious Wisdom of our Precious LORD instructs us to "lay up for yourselves Treasures in Heaven". "19 Lay **not** up for yourselves treasures upon Earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves Treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). The Word of God teaches us that "The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it" (Proverbs 10:22). These riches, or "Treasures" are *not merely monetary*, nor are they *merely material*. "Blessings of the LORD" do surely give our physical bodies warmth, comfort, and satisfaction; but the "True Riches" which bless us deep to our souls are the "Exceeding Riches of His Grace" found only in Christ Jesus.

- Luke 16:11 13 "Who will commit to your trust the **True Riches**?... No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the One, and love the other; or else he will hold to the One, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."
- Ephesians 2:7 "That in the ages to come He might show the **Exceeding Riches of His Grace** in His kindness toward us **through Christ Jesus**."
- Ephesians 3:8 "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this Grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles **the Unsearchable** [or, limitless] **Riches of Christ**."
- Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to **His Riches in glory by Christ Jesus**."
- Colossians 1:27 "God would make known what is **the Riches of the glory of this Mystery** among the Gentiles; **which is Christ in you**, the Hope of glory:"
- Colossians 2:2 "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and **unto all Riches of the full assurance of Understanding**, to the **acknowledgment of the Mystery** of God, and of the Father, and of Christ."

"True Riches"--

1. follow us to Heaven,

("Blessed are the dead which die in the LORD from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their **works do follow them**" [Revelation 14:13]),

2. and are the "gold, silver, [and] precious stones"

("For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, **which is Jesus Christ**. Now if any man build upon this Foundation gold, silver, precious stones... If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a Reward" [1Corinthians 3:11-12,14]),

3. that come with The Reward we so joyfully cast at our Saviour's feet.

("The four and twenty elders fall down before Him that sat on the Throne, and worship Him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the Throne, saying, **Thou art worthy, O LORD**, to receive glory and honour and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created" (Revelation 4:10-11).

We desire the "Greater Riches" that Moses desired because of **The Reward our Saviour so richly deserves**. "Esteeming the *reproach of Christ* **Greater Riches** than the treasures in Egypt: for he [Moses] had respect unto the recompense of The Reward" (Hebrews 11:26).

Conclusion

Let the Full Strength of the Word of God be the Full Counsel that guides your life of faith and trust in Him. *His Wisdom will be your blessing*. Think His Thoughts. Walk His Ways. Fulfill His Will as if it were your own. "Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Don't limit God with hindrances of your own making. "Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel" (Psalm 78:41). Live by His Wisdom and He will "open you the windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Malachi 3:10).

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be **perfect**, be of **good comfort**, be of **one mind**, live in **peace**; and **the God of Love and Peace shall be with you**" (2Corinthians 13:11).