

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 109

Wisdom for the Christian



2018

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. (Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



LESSON

Let's look at the big picture - wisdom for the Christian. We saw in our last lesson that the opposite of wisdom is foolishness and the fact is that we are all born foolish. We need God's wisdom.

The book of the Proverbs has a lot of practical information about the difference between foolishness and wisdom. For example: **Prov 14:24** "The crown of the wise is their riches, but the folly of fools is foolishness."

Here are a few more examples:

Prov 10:8 "The wise of heart will receive commands, but a babbling fool will be ruined."

Prov 10:23 "Doing wickedness is like sport to a fool, and so is wisdom to a man of understanding."

Prov 12:16 "A fool's anger is known at once, but a wise man conceals dishonor."

Prov 15:5 "A fool rejects his father's discipline, but he who regards criticism is sensible."

Prov 17:10 "A criticism goes deeper into one who has understanding Than a hundred blows into a fool."

Prov 18:2 "A fool does not delight in understanding, but only in revealing his own mind."

Prov 19:1 "Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than he who is rebellious in speech and is a fool."

Prov 28:26 "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but he who walks wisely will be delivered."

Prov 29:11 "A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back."

Let's now turn to the New Testament epistles to get the rest of the story and the rest of the story is this: God did something about the foolishness in man once and for all, at the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.



So here is the joining together of Proverbs and James and the letters of Paul in the New Testament. What did God do about our fool? Hint: that old man of ours was the fool. That's right: our fool - that old man of ours and it was crucified with Christ on the cross! Old man folly was crucified with Christ.

Rom 6:1-11 "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? (2) May it never be! How shall we who died to sin (with Jesus on the cross) still live in it? (3) Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into (identified with) Christ Jesus have been baptized into (identified with) His death? (4) Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *united with Him* in the likeness of His resurrection, (6) knowing this, that our old (man) self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; (7) for he who has died is freed from sin. (8) Now if we have died with Christ (and we have), we believe that we shall also live with Him, (9) knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. (10) For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. (11) Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

This is fantastic, kids!!! We are dead to our fool – our old man - foolishness, and we are alive to wisdom – God's Wisdom!

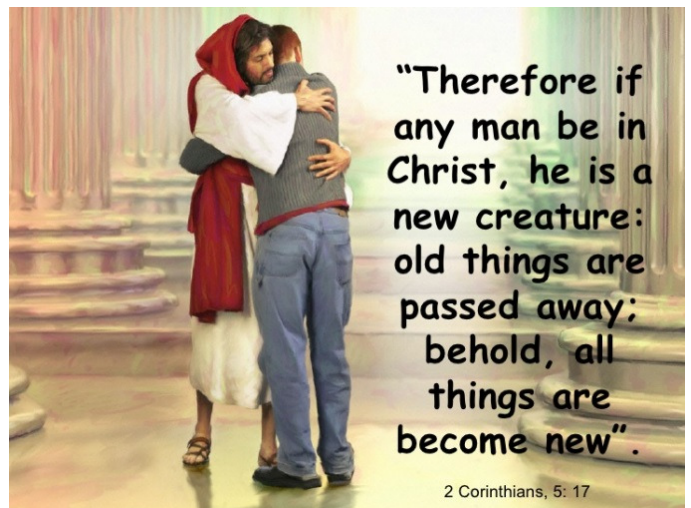
Here's something else that is totally radical about how our God saved us fools. He did it through a message that seemed foolish - to the fool! 1 Cor 1:18-25 "For the **word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing (all unbelievers), but to us (believers) who**



are being saved it is the power of God. (19) For it is written, 'I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.' (20) Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? (21) For since in the wisdom of God the world through its (human) wisdom did not come to know God, **God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.** (22) For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; (23) but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, (24) but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks (all people who are not Jews), Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (25) Because **the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.**"

And on top of that for the believer in Christ, we find our wisdom in Christ. He is our wise man. The very heart and essence of wisdom belongs to Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 1:26-31 "For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; (27) but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, (28) and the despicable things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may crush the things that are, (29) so that no man may boast before God. (30) But by His doing **you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God,** and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, (31) so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS BOAST IN THE LORD."

The New Man is our wise man. We become the new man or creation the moment we believe in Jesus for our salvation. Col 3:9-11 "Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old (man) self with its evil practices, (10) and **have put on the new (man) self** who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One (Jesus) who created him (11) a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek (all people who are not Jews) and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all."



The New Man is Christ, in whom are hidden all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And you have already put Him on. You are in Him and Jesus is in you forever. Col 2:1-3 "For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face, (2) that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, (3) in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Christ has become for us wisdom, as well as righteousness. This is truly amazing! Our wise man died 2,000 years ago and then He rose from the dead, never to die again and the moment we believed in Christ, we died with Him and were raised with Him. That changed EVERYTHING for us. Now we are dead to our fool and alive to God in Christ Jesus!!!! Think about this for a while, kids. This is truly amazing.

So, for us Christians this wisdom, these passages are a most SWEET thing. In **Proverbs 24:13-14** it says that wisdom is like honey. **"My son, eat honey, for it is good, yes, the honey from the comb is sweet to your taste; (14) know that wisdom is thus for your soul; if you find it, then there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off."**



Where do you get honey? It comes from a beehive, of course.



So here we humans were...we wanted to taste the sweetness of the honey, but as long as the bee had its sting we were afraid of getting too close to the hive. We didn't want to get stung because it hurt too much until Jesus came and died and rose again. Then the curse was lifted and death lost its sting. 1 Cor 15:51-58 "Behold, I tell you a mystery (the rapture of the Church); we will not all sleep (die), but we will all be changed, (52) in a moment, in the twinkling of an

eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead (in Christ) will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. (53) For this perishable (body) must put on the imperishable (body), and this mortal (body) must put on immortality (body). (54) But when this perishable (body) will have put on the imperishable (body), and this mortal (body) will have put on immortality (body), then will come about the saying that is

written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in Victory (of Jesus on the cross). (55) 'O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?' **56) The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; (57) but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (who took it all away!!!)."**

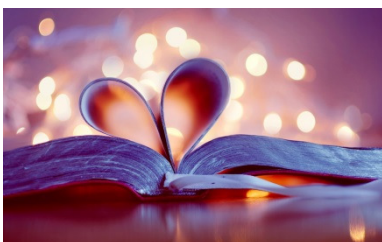
1 Cor 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always thriving in the work of the Lord, knowing that your hard work is not without success in the Lord."

So we can go right to the beehive without any fear because the bee no longer has sting.



The Book of Proverbs is a beehive for us because it tells us all about wisdom. That wisdom drips with honey and its message was as sweet as the honey from the honeycomb.

You see when the Book of Proverbs first was written, it was during the age of the Law that was given to Moses by God and the people under the law lived in fear of the law. They were in fear of the curses promised in the Law for disobedience. They were in fear of the anger it created between them and God. They were in fear of the wages of sin which is death!



BUT good news!!!! Christ's victory on the cross took the sting out of the books of the Law period for us! Thank you Father for your beautiful gift of Jesus who takes the sting out!!! He replaced it with love, and life, no condemnation.





No more curse. Gal 3:13-14 "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us - for it is written, 'CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE' (14) in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

No more enmity or hate. Eph 2:13-22 "But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who made both *groups into* one (Jew and Gentile) and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by eliminating in His flesh the enmity (hate), *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in rules, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile (make peace between) them

both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity (hate). (17) AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR; (18) for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. (19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's family, (20) having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, (21) in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, (22) in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit."

No more hostile certificate of debt. Col 2:14 "...having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross."

No more penalty for believers. Isa 53:5 "But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment for our well-being *fell* upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed."

No more bondage. Heb 2:14-15 "Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, (15) and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives."

No more fear. 1 John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love."

No more condemnation. Rom 8:1 "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

About fear...1 John 4:15-19 "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. (16) We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him. (17) By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have **confidence** in the Day of Judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. (18) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. (19) We love, because He first loved us. We don't live in fear any longer. We don't live in fear of the law. We no longer fear sin or death."



Praise God we don't live in fear any longer. We are such blessed people you know. We are the people of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ and that means VICTORY over sin and death. That means freedom from the curse of sin. We have freedom from slavery to the law and VICTORY over death itself. We come back on the scene after passing through death and onto resurrection. WOW are we ever

blessed by our heavenly Father through His Son, Jesus. Hang on to this WISDOM because it will give you PEACE every day of your lives.

Wisdom was always honey but it used to be in the beehive that was surrounded by stinging bees – the law, sin, and death (the wages of sin, enforced by the law).



But ever since Jesus died on the cross and rose again from being dead, these bees have lost their sting.



And so we get to come and go to the beehive freely without any fear of being stung.



See how sweet the honey is now. It is so sweet because wisdom of what Jesus did for us has freed us from the pain and the curse of the sting of sin, the law and of death.

Now we have had a mystery revealed to us...that this wisdom is really love's workshop for us from God. The Book of Proverbs is love's workbook. We can see it tied onto the instructions to the church in Ephesians 4 and 5 and also in the prescription of love in Romans 12.



More Wisdom for you, Kids: do you want to honor your father and mother? Here's how...[Proverbs](#), [Ephesians](#) and [Romans](#) to name just a few!



You want to work with your hands so you have something extra to share with those in need? Then come on over to the workshop. It's a beehive of activity. It's a beehive of the wisdom of how to do it.

You want to learn how to make the most of your time in these evil days? Come on over to [Proverbs](#) and learn how it's done. The daily workout routine for the new man or woman in Christ is [Proverbs](#). Whenever you read [Proverbs](#) or any other book written during the times of the Law, remember that we now live and serve in **the newness of the Spirit** not the oldness of the letter of the Law. [Romans 7:6](#) "But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter."

The letter of the Law kills, but the Spirit gives LIFE! 2 Cor 3:6 “..who also made us adequate *as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter (of the Law) but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.*”

You know that the Old Testament books...*Proverbs, Psalms, Genesis, and Deuteronomy* all were written during the period of the Law but we now through the Lord, Jesus Christ and His WONDERFUL, POWERFUL work on the cross had given us freedom to work with the Holy Spirit to creatively weave the spirit of these Old Testament principles into the fabric of our lives. And the greatest of these principles is LOVE.



Always carry your identification with you – who you are **in Christ**. It's like being at the zoo and how much difference it makes to have that protective fence between you and the lion!



Until next time...

Close in prayer.

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