

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 110

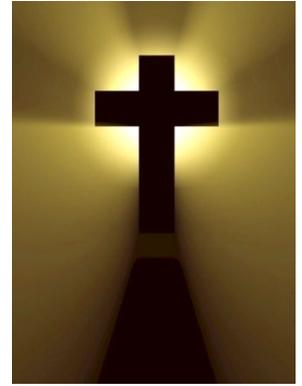
*Wisdom from Proverbs &
The New Testament
For the Christian Today*



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 us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



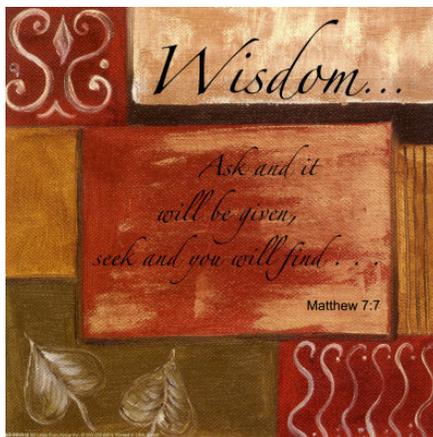
LESSON

OK after that exciting climb up the mountain in our last lesson, we are ready to return to our everyday life and gain some more wisdom from God in **Proverbs**.



The first gift of wisdom from God is our parents. No matter who they are (or aren't), parents (or grandparents or foster parents) bring us face to face with the challenge to respect authority.

If we are blessed, we are given Godly parents or Godly grandparents or Godly coaches who also teach real wisdom to us as young people. **Prov 1:8-9** "Hear, my son, your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching; (9) Indeed, they are a graceful wreath to your head and ornaments about your neck."

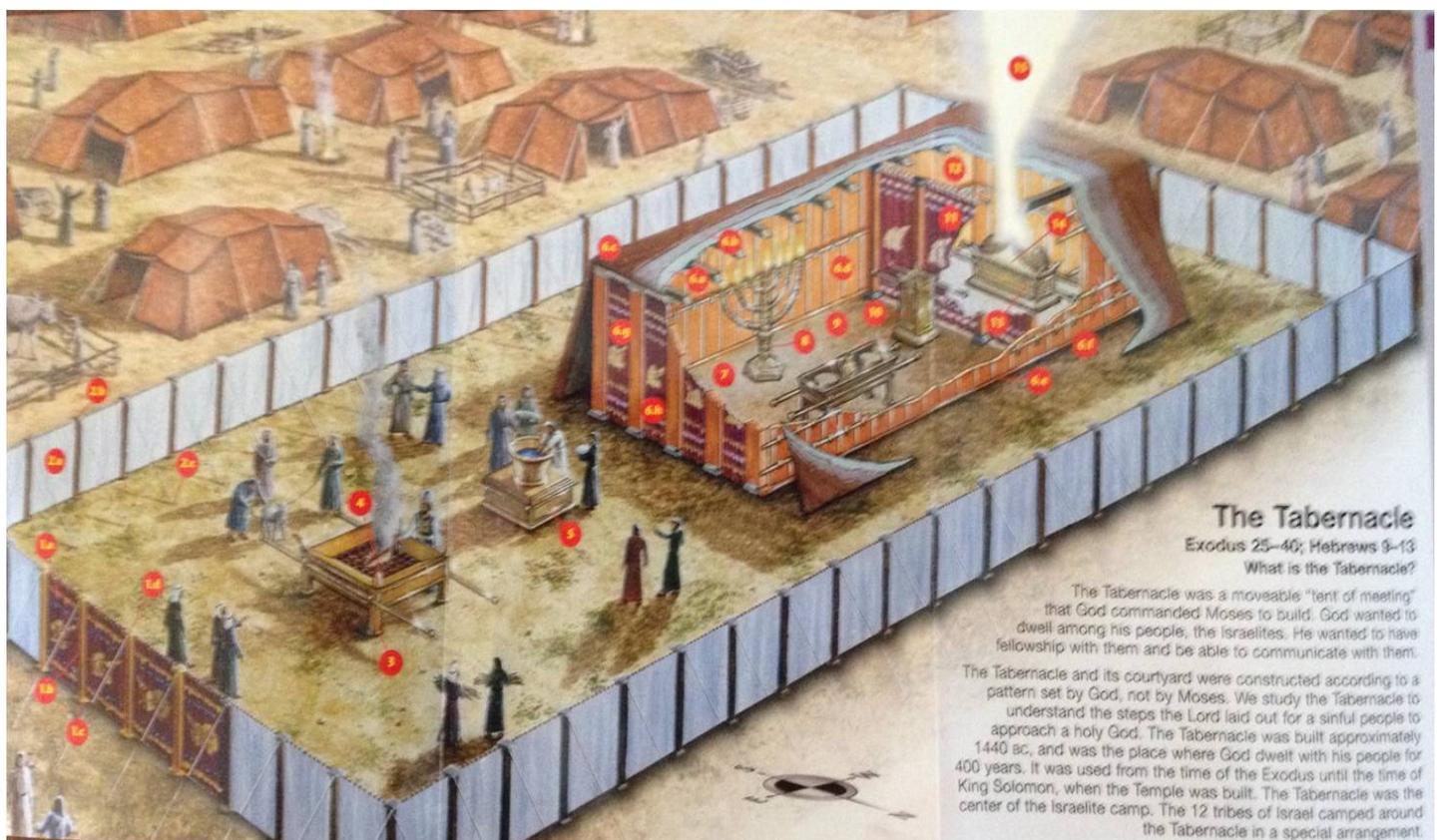


Proverbs gives us amazing wisdom about: young people, discipline, business, marriage, immorality, evil, companions, money, alcohol, the tongue, words, the fool, friends, self-control, and lots more.

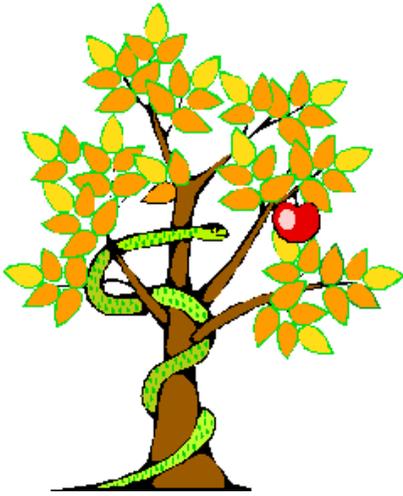
Remember from our last lesson we learned that **James** tells us that there are two types of wisdom: wisdom from above and demonic wisdom, earthly wisdom versus heavenly wisdom, human wisdom versus Spirit wisdom, demonic versus divine wisdom, confusing wisdom versus clear wisdom, and unstable wisdom versus rock solid wisdom.

James 3:13-15 "Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. (14) But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. (15) This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, and demonic."

The first time the word wisdom appears in the Old Testament is in the **Book of Exodus** in connection with the construction of the tabernacle according to the LORD's precise instructions. **Exo 28:3** "You shall speak to all the skillful persons whom I have given with the spirit of **wisdom**, that they make Aaron's garments to sanctify him (set him apart for his work), that he may minister as priest to me."



Notice that wisdom is used with priestly service at the tabernacle. Notice that wisdom, the good kind, **comes from the LORD**. Notice that wisdom is found where there is **work to be done** in obedience to the exact instructions given by the LORD. **Exo 25:8-9** "Let them construct a sanctuary for me that I may dwell among them. (9) According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it." Notice that wisdom is connected with skill and is tied together with craftsmanship.



At another time in the Bible, in the Garden of Eden, notice that the first time Satan appears on the scene he is described as crafty and that one of the reasons Eve ate the fruit was because she was deceived by his demonic wisdom into thinking it was desirable to make one wise to disobey God!!

The devil is a stickler for trying to deceive you into going against God's wisdom, Kids. Don't fall for it. Read through all the passages in this lesson several times. Know what you have in Jesus so you don't get fooled.

Go for the wisdom which is tied to the Holy Spirit because He is our TRUE teacher regarding the Word...the Bible...WISDOM...THE GOOD KIND!

Ok, kids, let's be honest. There are parts of God's Word that can be very discouraging if taken by themselves and a lot of it is in the Book of Proverbs. Since we are going to spend more time in the book of Proverbs that can be very discouraging, if taken by themselves.



For example: Prov 6:9-11 "How long will you lie down, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? (10) A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest. (11) Your poverty will come in like a nomad and your need like an armed man."

Ok let's face it, when you read this you may say to yourself, I'm never taking any more naps in the daytime!!

Here's another examples: Prov 14:12-13 "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. (13) Even in laughter the heart may be in pain, and the end of joy may be grief."

Prov 19:9 "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who tells lies will perish." Yikes!!!! Now we all have told lies if we're honest and we have all given false witness. Oh no! We are going to be punished and we will perish!

Bear with this. Here's more: **Prov 28:13-14** "He who hides his sins will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion. (14) How blessed is the man who fears always, but he who hardens his heart will fall into misfortune." We all have hidden our sins, right? But what exactly is hardening the heart? We probably have done that too, since the Bible says it happens. We don't fear always, right? But falling into misfortune is very discouraging.



So you see these verses in **Proverbs** by themselves are discouraging.

All of this is discouraging! However, don't be discouraged. God is not One who confuses, so read on...

Proverbs compares the wise man and the fool. In the Bible bad things are said to happen to the fool. In fact, we are all BORN foolish! More bad news!



So cheer up!!!! Today as Christians we know from the Bible – the Word of God - that we are NOT supposed to be discouraged. We are supposed to be ENCOURAGED by the Word of God. The way to be encouraged by the Word of God is to hold onto or stand firm in what Christ did for us by dying on the cross and being raised from the dead. **He set us free so we don't have to be foolish or discouraged anymore!**

In other words, we turn our study 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. Amen!

What did God do about our fool? Here's a hint: the Old Man of ours was the fool. That's right: our fool - the Old Man of ours - was crucified with Christ on the cross! This is the genius of God's plan for us.

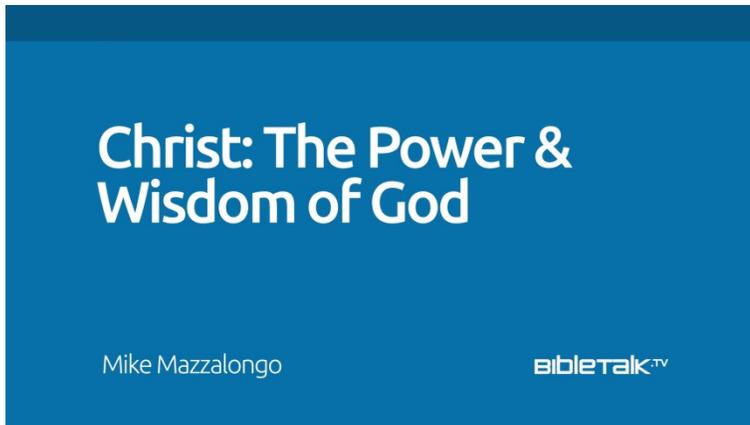


We saw that last week in Romans 6:1-11 "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? (2) May it never be! How shall we who died to sin (with Jesus on the cross) still live in it? (3) Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into (identified with) Christ 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 (believers)**

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 what happened to you the very minute you believed in Jesus Christ for salvation.

Here's something else that is totally radical about how our God in His genius 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 (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 (of the world), AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER (of the world) 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 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 the called, both Jews and Greeks, 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."



On top of that, we believers in Christ, find our wisdom in Christ. He is our Wise Man. The wisest man of God in the world was Solomon but he was just the shadow of Jesus who was to come later. 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 bad things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may cancel out 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."

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 Christ) who created him (11) a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all."

And part of that renewal is our workshop in **Proverbs**. 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 forever once you believe in Him!! This is just amazing, kids. Think about this for a while. You are in Christ and He is IN YOU!!! **Col 2:1-3 "For I (Paul the Apostle) 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 never to die again. This changed EVERYTHING for us. Now we are dead to the fool but alive to God and so, for us Christians, this wisdom and these Proverbs becomes a most SWEET thing.



Remember: the honey being freed from the sting of the bee? **Proverbs** says that wisdom is like honey.



Where do you get honey?

It comes from a beehive, of course. **Prov 24:13-14**

"My son, eat honey, for it is good, yes, the honey from the comb is sweet to your taste; (14) Know that wisdom is like this for your soul; if you find it, then there will be a future, and your hope will not be taken away."

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 and we didn't want to get stung because it hurt too much.



Don't be discouraged! JESUS took the sting of sin when He came to earth, lived a sinless life, died on the cross, rose again from the dead, and the curse was taken away and death lost its sting! Now we have the SWEET HONEY...WISDOM because of Jesus. Thank you, Lord Jesus! We love you. 1 Cor 15:51-58 "Behold, I tell you a mystery; 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 call (at the Rapture); for the trumpet will sound, and the dead (Christians) will be raised imperishable (a new resurrection body), and we will be changed. (53) For this perishable (body) must put on the imperishable (a new resurrection body), and this mortal (body) must put on immortality (a new resurrection body). (54) But when this perishable (body) will have put on the imperishable (a new resurrection body), and this mortal (body) will have put on immortality (a new resurrection 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.**"



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So we can go right to the beehive without any fear of being stung because the bee has lost its sting!

So how shall we be now that we are saved, dear kids? Here's how: 1 Cor 15:58

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, **be firm, immovable, totally faithful in the Lord.**" Keep your feet firmly planted in Wisdom since our roots are now in Jesus.

Another wonderful thing to know about wisdom is that it teaches us that love throws fear away in 1 John 4:15-19. "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he (lives) 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 completed with us, so that we may have confidence in the Day of Judgment (judgment seat of Jesus Christ); because as He is, so

also are we in this world. (18) There is no fear in love; but perfect love throws out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not completed in love. (19) We love, because He (Jesus) first loved us.”



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When we have wisdom from God’s Word, we don’t live in fear of sin or death anymore. Praise God for that.

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. That means freedom from slavery to sin and it means we have in Jesus VICTORY over death itself. Sweet wisdom!

Yes we still have to die physically but we will come back on the scene after passing through death and into resurrection just like Jesus did. Remember, we are in Him and have all His blessings from the cross.

Now we have had a mystery revealed to us that this wisdom is really **love’s** workshop for us and **Proverbs** is **love’s** workbook. We can also see it in the instructions to us in **Ephesians, chapters 4 and 5**. Please read these chapters with your parents or even by yourselves so that you will KNOW what you have in Jesus Christ and be **encouraged** by it.



The world without Jesus is discouragement but as believers in Jesus and with His Word in your souls...the good kind of wisdom for Christians. Now that’s encouragement and it’s sweet as honey.



Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley’s lesson on 1-20-2016
Lighthouse Bible Church
www.lbible.org

