

The Elements of Wisdom: Which part of wisdom do we want?

Fear of the LORD – Keep your tongue from evil, guile; do good not evil; seek and pursue peace: Ps 34:12-15 What man [is he that] desireth life, [and] loveth [many] days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD [are] upon the righteous, and his ears [are open] unto their cry.

Pro 9:10 The fear of the LORD is **the beginning of wisdom**: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Pro 15:33 The fear of the LORD is **the instruction of wisdom**; and before honour is humility.

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

Proverbs 1:7 The FEAR OF THE LORD [is] the **beginning of knowledge**: [but] fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 8:13 The FEAR OF THE LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Discretion-- Get wisdom...be good, and discretion will follow.

Pro 10:19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

Pro 2:11-12 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil *man*, from the man that speaketh froward things;

Discretion is avoiding being with evil people, to avoid evil appearances or actions of evil.

Ps 112:5 A **good man** sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Pro 19:11 The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and *it is* his glory to pass over a transgression.

Understanding – Know the holy, depart from evil, obey, treat others right.

Understanding is the knowledge of the holy. (Pro 9:10) "...and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." "

Job 28:28 ... "and to depart from evil is understanding."

Understanding causes you to hold your peace. (Pro 11:12) to be slow to wrath. (Pro 14:29) to obey God's commands. (Ps 111:10)

Understanding causes you to walk uprightly. (Pro 15:21) You must hear reproof to get understanding (Pro 15:32) Understanding causes you

to have life. (Pro 16:22) Understanding keeps you from problems (Pro 2:11) Understanding keeps you from the rod. (Pro 10:13)

You will not need punishment if you have understanding. Understanding gives you an excellent spirit. (Pro 17:27)

Obedience – Get obedience by loving God and decide to obey.

Deu 4:5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

Deu 4:6 Keep therefore and do *them*; **for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations**, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

Pro 6:32 *But* whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he *that* doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

A man of understanding will not be in direct disobedience...A man of understanding also realizes there is a consequence. (He has prudence.)

Dilligence – Go to the ant, consider her ways. (Pro 6:6)

Dilligence is actually part of understanding. A person who understands will not be slothful. (Pr. 24:30)

Pro 12:24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Righteousness – We can be made righteous by Christ; then, follow him. Rom 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Pro 8:8 All the words of my mouth *are* in righteousness; *there is* nothing froward or perverse in them.

Pro 4:11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

Pro 2:7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

Ps 11:7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 18:24 Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

Humility – Decide to humble yourself.

Mat 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall **humble** himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

2Ch 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Ps 10:17 LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt **prepare their heart**, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

Pro 16:19 Better *it is to be* of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Isa 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; **I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble**, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

A. Humility allows you to hear reproof!!! The fool does not abide where he will hear reproof.

(Pro 15:31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.)

Pro 15:32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Pro 17:10 A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

Pro 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left *to himself* bringeth his mother to shame.

B. Reproof in itself does not always give wisdom, because the fool does not let even his father instruct him.

Pro 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

Pro 15:12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

Love – Meditate on what God has done for you. The love of Christ constrains us to live for him. (2Co 5:14)

Love is directly related to obedience. We will not obey God unless we love him. We show Christ that we love him by obeying him.

(John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.) A wise man obeys the two MOST IMPORTANT commandments!

A. If we are going to love God and others, we must guard what goes into our heart!!!

Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life. (**This is what a wise man does with all diligence, above all else**)

B. What we love shows how much wisdom we have. We can love the world, or love God...

Mat 6:24 No man 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.

C. We can love ourselves, or see others' needs and love them – Pro 22:9 He that hath a **bountiful eye** shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor. John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. Gal 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

D. A wise man will love wisdom, love the Bible, and meditate on it. The wisdom to obey is related to loving the right things!!

Ps 119:97 O how love I thy law! *it is* my meditation all the day.

Integrity – Become just, desire to be innocent.

Pro 20:7 The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.

Pro 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Pro 19:1 Better is the poor that walketh in his **integrity**, than *he that is* perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

Pro 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Pro 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!