

WISDOM AND FOLLY

THE INVITATION TO WISDOM

PROVERBS 9

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars.

² She has slaughtered her beasts;

she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

³ She has sent out maidens; she calls from the tops of the city,

⁴ “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!

To him who lacks sense she says,

⁵ “Come, eat my bread and drink the wine I have mixed.

⁶ Leave the simple, and live; walk in the way of understanding.”

⁷ Whoever corrects a scoffer gets abuse;

he who rebukes a wicked man gets injury.

⁸ Do not rebuke a scoffer or he will hate you;

rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

⁹ Instruct a wise man and he will be even wiser;

teach a righteous man and he will increase in learning.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied; years will be added to your life.

¹² If you are wise you are wise for yourself;

if you scoff you alone will bear it.

¹³ The woman Folly is loud; she is simple; she knows absolutely nothing.

¹⁴ She sits at the door of her house;

she takes a seat on the tops of the city,

¹⁵ calling to those who pass by,

¹⁶ “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”

To him who lacks sense she says,

¹⁷ “Stolen waters are sweet and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”

¹⁸ But he does not know that the dead are there;
that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

THE FEAR OF THE LORD (YHWH) IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM

Fearing God means taking God with the utmost seriousness

WISDOM IS . . .

The habit of observing and accepting the patterns given by the Creator
as the terms for living life

Both intellectual learning and embodied practice

Slowly fostered

NEXT STEPS

Embrace practices which foster wisdom in your life:

Immerse yourself in the scriptures

Encourage curiosity and actively explore the world

Ask questions and listen to doubts

Be humble (you can’t learn if you know it all)

Put learning into practice

Slow down

Resources:

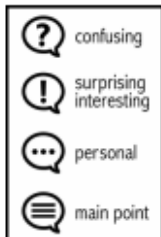
“The Attentive Life “ by Leighton Ford

“Becoming Whole and Holy” by Brown, Dahl, and Corbin Reuschling

“The Good and Beautiful God” by James Bryan Smith

The Examen of St. Ignatius

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NOTES - The icons below may be helpful as you take notes on the outline.



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