

## Topics in Proverbs

### I. Wisdom's First Steps - The Fear of the Lord - Pt 2

A. Involves a Subject

B. Involves an Object

C. The Content of the Fear of the Lord

1. Involves Revelation - There Is Much to Learn

2. Involves Direction - There Is Much to Do

a. The Fear of Yahweh must and can be taught

i. **2 Kgs 17:24-28**

- Not emotions - they were afraid of the gods of the land - vs 26

- They had to be taught the fear of Yahweh - vs 28

ii. **De 17:18-19**

- The king was to make a copy of the law, read it all the days of his life

- In the time of ongoing revelation and the business of running a country the king was expected to have daily bible study - that he might learn the fear of Yahweh

b. There is a vital connection between the Fear of the Lord and Righteous Godly Living

i. Job 28:28

- Part A - 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom,

- Part B - And to depart from evil is understanding.'"

ii. Ps 128:1

- Part A - Blessed is every one who fears the LORD,

- Part B - Who walks in His ways.

iii. Pro 8:13

- Part A - The fear of the LORD is to hate evil;

- Part B - Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

iv. Ps 111:10

- Part A - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

- Part B - A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

v. De 5:29

- Part A - 'Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me

- Part B - and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

vi. Ps 112:1

- Part A - Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,

- Part B - Who delights greatly in His commandments.

3. Involves Relationship - There Is A Person to Fear

a. Requires Forgiveness

i. Ps 130:3-4

- If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

- But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.

ii. Forgiveness in order to Fear - **Ps 130**

- Calling on God from the Depths -not approaching God as a peer - vs 1-2
- God's forgiveness is affirmed - apart from forgiveness, we would all be doomed - vs 3-4
- Declaration of total dependence on God - waiting on God, hoping in His word - vs 5-6
- Israel called to trust in God, His loving-kindness and redemption
- clinging to God in reverence calls to others to do the same - vs 7-8

iii. Fear brings Friendship - Ps 25:14

- with those who fear Him, is The secret of the LORD
- And He will show them His covenant.

b. Requires Humility

i. Pro 22:4

- Line A - By humility and the fear of the LORD
- Line B - Are riches and honor and life.

ii. the Hebrew statement is terse - No verbs, No English syntax

- Line A - By humility the fear of the LORD
- Line B - riches and honor and life.

iii. "Humility" and "the Fear of the Lord" seemingly are equated

iv. Another translation equates "humility" as a reward of "the Fear of the Lord" like riches and honor and life

v. Which is correct? Remembering the Author - Solomon

- How did he become wise? - **1 Kgs 3**
- Humility, the basis of his request for wisdom from God - vs 5-9
  - Solomon Declares God's Lordship - vs 5-7
  - Solomon Declares his immaturity and his need for the Lord's wisdom to do the Job God has given him - vs 7-9
- examine what God gives him for his correct analysis of his situation - vs 10-13 - riches and honor and life

vi. Humility is

- not thinking less of yourself than you ought
- not comparing yourself to others, being a subjective standard
- but thinking as much about God as you ought especially as one sees himself in light of who God is

v. The Fear of the Lord is

- Seeing God for who He really is: vast, infinite, holy, perfect, limitless in power and glory.
- Seeing myself as who I really am: puny, limited, dependent in every way for my very existence, morally defiled by nature and by choice, in need of grace, forgiveness, and wisdom that God can give

c. Requires Fear

i. not shrinking away in terror though it may be included

ii. Offering to God acceptable worship with reverence and awe, because God is a consuming fire - Heb 12:28-29