

I. The Goodness of Wisdom (vv 11-12)**A. Wisdom is like an inheritance (v 11)**

- 1) *Wisdom is good with an inheritance*
- 2) *And profitable to those who see the sun* (Psa 14:2)

B. Wisdom is like money (v 12)

- 1) Providing protection (Psa 91:1-7)
- 2) Providing life (Phil 3:8-11)

C. Uses from the Text

- 1) Redeem the time, pursue wisdom before wealth! (Pr 23:23)
- 2) What will you leave behind? (Pr 13:22)
- 3) What do you serve? (1 Jn 5:20-21)

II. The Work and Wisdom of God (v 13)**A. The relationship between God's work and wisdom**

- 1) The nature of His knowledge, or wisdom, as it relates to His Works
 - a) God's knowledge (as with His being) is intrinsic, in and of Himself (Isa 40:13)
 - b) God's knowledge is not contingent upon the actions of men (Rom 9:10-13; WCF 3.1-2)
- 2) The nature of God's acts
 - a) The works of God are not potential, as if He may or may not carry out His decree (Jn 6:63)
 - b) The works of God are not straining to Him (Psa 121:3-4)
 - c) His will and Word are as sure as His deed (Eph 1:4-6; Gen 3:15; Heb 4:2; Rev 13:8; Heb 9:12, 15).

B. God's Wisdom and Work: (1) Sovereign; (2) Immutable; and, (3) Inscrutable**C. Uses from the Text**

- 1) We must meditate on the works of God (Psa 111:2)
- 2) Rest in the immutability of God's grace.
- 3) Be content in the inscrutability of God's providence.
- 4) Be obedient to the sovereignty of His Law

5) Look to Jesus Christ, the Wisdom of God (1 Cor 1:30)**III. Applications for Each Kind of Providence (v 14)****A. The Reason**

- 1) Adversity and prosperity are ordained by God (Isa 45:6b-7)
- 2) Adversity and prosperity show us our limitations

B. The Application

- 1) *In the day of prosperity be joyful*
 - a) Do good in being clothed with humility (Gen 32:10)
 - b) Do good in praying with thankfulness (Lk 17:17-18; Dt 28:47-48).
 - c) Do good in singing Psalms of thanksgiving (James 5:13)
 - d) Do good in testifying to the grace of God (Jn 9:27)
 - e) Do good in generosity (2 Sam 9:7)
 - f) Do good in maintaining your Christian duties (2 Sam 11:1)
 - g) Do good in pursuing further righteousness (Neh 8:13; Ezra 6:14)
- 2) *In the day of adversity consider*
 - a) Beware anger against the providence of God (Jb 2:9)
 - b) Beware longing for creature comforts (Jonah 4:9)
 - c) See if there are sins which must be repented of (Lk 13:1-5)
 - d) Pray with perseverance (Lk 18:1)
 - e) Consider what benefit the Lord has given you in this severe providence:
 - i. His Fatherly discipline;
 - ii. The pruning of our sin;
 - iii. Building reliance upon Him;
 - iv. Receiving aid from the family of God;
 - v. The exercises of graces [strengthened, and unknown];
 - vi. To be comforted more directly by God's Spirit than only common means
 - f) Remember the duties that are laid before you in the day of adversity: (i) Faith; (ii) Obedience
 - g) Look for deliverance from the Lord (Acts 12:5, 12-17)
 - h) Remember the hope of the resurrection (1 Cor 15:14-20, 58)