

## Proverbs 8:1-36

Continues with a young man who has been examining the literature of the different colleges. Both the school of wisdom and the school of human philosophy are bidding for his application.

In contrast to the evil woman of chapter 7, another "woman called Wisdom is sending out an invitation to him with a note of urgency. Classes are about to begin, and pressure is being put upon this young man to make a life-altering choice.

Wisdom is personified as a prophetess to whose call, the son should be mindful of. Wisdom calls everyone to come and be made wise but first Wisdom praises her own moral excellence and worth. Since the Lord did not create the world without her. Verse 22 appears to speak of the pre-incarnate Christ who is revealed as the Wisdom of God, but the foremost prominence in the context is about God's own use of wisdom in creating the universe.

**All primary passages are from the New American Standard Bible**

**Proverbs 8:1-3:** *Does not wisdom call, and understanding lift up her voice?<sup>2</sup> On top of the **heights** beside the way, Where the paths meet, she takes her stand; <sup>3</sup> Beside the gates, at the opening to the city, At the entrance of the doors, she cries out:*

- **Wisdom has nothing to hide and is available to everyone, being found in the most prominent of [redacted] and public places and she makes herself available to all who will listen. The candidness, as well as her public exposure, contrast with the secrecy and intrigues of the wicked adulterers from chapter 7. Our Creator intended for wisdom and knowledge to be readily available to all who desire her and will enter through the narrow gate the leads to life. To gain wisdom we must desire her, pray to God to give it. She is always available but to receive it we must desire her and pray to receive it.**

**We read in James 1:5 "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without criticizing, and it will be given to him." (HCSB)**

**As we have observed in our own culture, young people are continually enticed and lured to leave the school of wisdom by the various cults and "isms" that are on the social media, in the music of the day and fortified by the internet with their secret chat rooms ringing the doorbells of the student's mind and there is no excuse for the people of God to be doing the same thing.**

**I am thankful for the youth ministers who are in the schools sharing God's wisdom through Bible clubs and are faithful to teach in their churches the validity of God's Holy Word as well as personally witnessing the truth of the Spirit that indwells them.**

- ***Does not wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ and understanding lift up her voice?***

**Proverbs 8:4-5:** *"To you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of men. <sup>5</sup> "O **naive** ones, understand prudence; And, O fools, understand wisdom.*

- **Whosoever will hear the cry!! It is like a sermon in a vast auditorium crying out for the patronage, pleading for them to listen and heed the call. Perhaps grandpas are able to understand more than the college graduate because they have a desire to know their maker and a willingness to learn righteousness and receive wisdom from Him.**

**The purpose of wisdom is to impart discernment to the \_\_\_\_\_, divinely inspired information to the ignorant, enabling a person to ponder their choices before sinning. It is God's truth, which can guide us to perfection and to happiness, teaching us is everywhere. God wisdom surrounds us constantly. Wisdom is omnipresent if we fail to see Him it**

is not for the want of light but from the lack of spiritual insight and the illumination of His Word. We cannot find language to express the value of the illumination given through the Spirit of Christ. His greatness is so robust that He offers many ways to hear the countless voices of wisdom as it speaks through His creation. We must open our ears to hear the virtue, and observe the piety, which emulates in whispers, and at times in thunders, issued from the whole of nature and of life.

**Proverbs 8:6-7** "Listen, for I will speak noble things; And the opening of my lips will reveal right things. <sup>7</sup> "For my mouth will utter truth, And wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

➤ To \_\_\_\_\_ is a principle that is reiterated throughout the Word. Our Bible instructs us to hear. We are to listen to His Word and assimilate it into our inner being. If we will open our heart to hear the truth of God's Holy Word, His Spirit will use it to renew our flesh trained mind that we may grow in grace.

➤ Nature everywhere testifies to the infinity of its Author. Consider that the very principle forces of life that manifest in all living creatures that are so infinitely various in the myriad forms that they assume. Our God alone is the author of the **impenetrable mystery** of life. His Mouth will \_\_\_\_\_ only truth, all else is an abomination. Wisdom about the vigor of life has not been given to even the shrewdest of scientist, the life that fills the earth, air, and sea with motion, growth, activity, and joy.

Wisdom is a voice that utters mysteries from the world of humanity, who alone are given the power to contemplate our Creator, understand His will for us and share in the upkeep of God's garden. There are two wooers for the heart of man. The

one suggests the pleasures of our five senses of the flesh, the other the delights of divine comfort and security. The earthly suitor is the world, the heavenly suitor is Christ. wisdom is absolute truth. According to John 1:1, Jesus is the Word and of it, He says in John 17:17, ***Thy Word is Truth.*** Those who are wise speak nothing but the absolute truth. Anything but the truth is an abomination (displeasing to God).

**Proverbs 8:8-9;** *"All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; There is nothing crooked or perverted in them. <sup>9</sup> "They are all straightforward to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge.*

➤ **If the Word of God appears to be perverted and convoluted the problem is in the mind of the listener. The one who applies his mind to the wisdom of God will understand and gain moral knowledge and the insight to recognize truth. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:13-16; [We are] *not like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the Israelites could not stare at the end of what was fading away, <sup>14</sup> but their minds were closed. For to this day, at the reading of the old covenant, the same veil remains; it is not lifted, because it is set aside [only] in Christ. <sup>15</sup> Even to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts, <sup>16</sup> but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.*" (HCSB)**

**Are you thinking that they cannot understand because there is a veil over their minds and therefore, they are not responsible for their inability to grasp the truth? Understanding doesn't depend on your I.Q. or the time that you spend in the Word, it depends on what is inside of you. Does God's Holy Spirit tabernacle there? The passage that we have just read states that "*whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.*" Do you find yourself tongue-tied when confronted with some pithy little pits from hell that point to potential errors in Scripture? When I first received**

**Christ, I was overwhelmed by them since I had been on the counter-culture side of the argument my whole life and could mimic the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ignorant, verbatim, without truly understanding any of it, but I felt smart. The victory was as ego satisfying as a one-legged man on a roller skate competing with a boy that left his skates home.**

**The problem is not in the Word of God, the problem is with human wisdom built on human logic alone, and apart from the internal council of the Holy Spirit who alone is able to reveal and unravel the mysteries of the Word of God; and the committed believer who is steadfast in their faith, the Scriptures are all plain to him and right to them that seek the truth.**

**Here is the good news, because the Bible is godly wisdom with the intent to lead men to Christ, it really is as simple as the words "I believe", yet it so complex that the person with the highest I.Q. among men could never plumb its depths without the help of God's indwelling counselor.**

**<sup>i</sup> "A great man of the Middle Ages said, "I had many problems until I came to Christ." We may call them intellectual problems, but they are really heart problems. The Word of God is clear and unambiguous. The gospel message is so simple it cannot be misunderstood if your heart is open to receive the truth, but there can be and often is, deliberate, willful resistance to the gospel. That is a problem of the heart and not of our intellect."**

**Proverbs 8:10 "Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold."**

**➤ This is just saying true wisdom is to be preferred above the greatest wealth of this world, and \_\_\_\_\_ is more**

valuable than the finest gold. The things of this world are not even comparable to the wisdom and knowledge of God. The Bible reveals in Revelation 21:21 that the Light and Glory of our Lord is so dominant that they have left gold with so little luster that it is used to pave the street. “. . . *The broad street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.*” (HCSB)

In this life, if we gain just the wisdom of Job {`eejobe} we will discover that neither gold or silver amount to anything of value compared to the wisdom and knowledge provided by our Lord to His adopted children. Then we will truly begin to walk out the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 6:33; ***"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you."***(HCSB)

**Proverbs 8:11:** "For wisdom [is] better than rubies, and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it."

➤ The psalmist repeats what is reiterated in verse 10 this time adding additional valuables to the mix such as the wealth afforded by jewels, nothing can compare to the assets of God that He is willing to share with His adopted children. In this particular sense His gift is personified in the person of the living word, Jesus Christ; for it is Christ alone who is revealed in the Word; it is Christ Spirit who teaches men everywhere the true understanding of Jesus' person and the way that He provides for our salvation. The most valuable thing a young person can gain in this life is insight into his Creator who desires to bless him with all things through the power of the new birth and the indwelling \_\_\_\_\_ of God's Holy Spirit.

**Proverbs 8:12** "I, wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions."



**Without prudence, knowledge can be dangerous. We have all heard the witty phrase; "I have just enough knowledge to be dangerous" and without the wisdom and prudence offered by God's Holy Spirit, the saying is actually very true. What is Prudence? It is correct practical judgment; the skill of judging what we are to do, what we are not to do, and the insight to distinguish between the good and evil while we discern the degrees of each. That said, we should note that many people are prudent but lack godly wisdom. They can be superficially cautious, calculating and even sagaciously observant, but apart from God's Spirit, they are never wise. In Christian living wisdom dwells with prudence and is especially beneficial as we learn to fend off our adversary, the devil, who encourages us through his myriads of minions to act brashly carelessly heedlessly recklessly and with unwariness which are all functional tendencies of our flesh. We must always remember that we are God's ambassadors and therefore we must act with prudence and godly wisdom. Godly wisdom gives us the ability to govern and discipline ourselves by the use of reason combined with insight from God's Holy Spirit making us sagacious and shrewd in the management and fulfilling of the calling that God has tasked us with, always acting with caution and circumspection concerning the dangers of our fleshly desires, and Satan's deceit to derail us from the narrow way. Two passages come to mind, the first in Proverbs 21:16; *The man who strays from the way of wisdom will come to rest in the assembly of the departed spirits.* <sup>(HCSB)</sup> And the second in Ephesians 1:7-8: *In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence.* <sup>(NKJV)</sup> Can you see that wisdom and prudence go hand in hand throughout the Word of God?**

**The only security in wisdom is when it lies in a positive assertion and practical affirmation of the whole doctrine coupled with the spiritual discipline of prudence in its purity and truth. There are many today who choose the comfort of religion through a self-imposed adherence to the Law in this life and ignore the ramifications of their commitment to it in the Next. A pastor friend states that a lack of prudence in this manner, leads a new Christian to almost always become pharisaical, pushing their new-found wisdom with the rational dictates of the Law rather than leaning on the side of \_\_\_\_\_ in the application of godly principles that formed the Law. We read in Romans 7:5, *For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions operated through the law in every part of us and bore fruit for death.* The good news is that Jesus came to free us from the death penalty imposed by the Law, but through Christ propitiation, only the death penalty has been appeased, the principles that formed the unchangeable Law remains as God's guiding principles. Romans 8:2; *because the Spirit's law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.* (HCSB)**

**Compiler's note: The Law commanded that the Hebrews not eat certain animals: Leviticus 11:3: *Among the animals, whatever divides the hoof, having cloven hooves and chewing the cud--that you may eat,* and then God's word lays out the application of the principle in Leviticus 11:7: *and the swine, though it divides the hoof, having cloven hooves, yet does not chew the cud, is unclean to you,* and Scripture reaffirms the Law in Deuteronomy 14:6. (NKJV) The Israelites may not have known the reason not to eat animals like the horse, but in principle, they carry an infectious disease called trichinosis.**

**Trichinosis is a disease caused by eating meat that has not been thoroughly cooked and contains cysts (larvae, or immature worms) of *Trichinella spiralis*. *Trichinella spiralis* can be found in pork, bear, walrus, fox, rat, horse, and lion.**



**We can apply the principle to today's world, by knowing that meat should be cooked to a hundred and sixty degrees to make it safe. How many have died from undercooked shellfish?**

**The text asserts that there is an inseparable connection between godly insight, discipline, and prudence. None can be productive in our called-out lives without the other. We personally witness this by the corruption in our own government where wisdom and prudence have been separated, no longer in due submission to the providence of God. The annals of the history of the world and the more recent histories of nations and families are replete with the catastrophic end of those proud politicians who thought to govern without God and to be prudent without religion.**

**Verse 13 is an illustration that prudence and wisdom go hand in hand, prudence and wisdom apply to every aspect of life.**

**Proverbs 8:13** *"The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, arrogance, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."*

➤ **We learned earlier that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Fear is devout reverence to the Supreme Being who reigns over all. God hates evil. If we are His, we hate what He hates.**

**As we said in previous verses, pride and arrogance have no place with us. We are no more than what God has called us to, each of us are a building block on the firm foundation of Christ. If we have pride, it should be pride in that we are His and not our own. We are either children of light following the Lord, or we are children of Satan and follow him. We must \_\_\_\_\_ evil to please God and turn from even the appearance of evil.**

**It is better to listen than to speak unless the words in our mouth are placed there by the Lord. Smugness, pride, and arrogance are the opposite of being humble. The Lord loves the humble person. The opposite of the way of the Spirit is the way of the devil. The adverse mouth comes from an evil heart and speaks ungodly things.**

**Wisdom hates what God hates. The highest virtue is humility (submission to God), and therefore wisdom hates pride and self-exaltation above all.**

**Proverbs 8:14** *"Counsel [is] mine, and sound wisdom: I [am] understanding; I have strength."*

- **Wisdom loves the things of the Lord and abhors all the evil that we have already considered. Now wisdom is saying what it is. We know that wisdom is strength. When we think about God's offer to Solomon, he could have asked God for riches, worldly power or recognition and fame, but he instead asked for wisdom and as we know, wisdom brought to Solomon all of those side benefits. Through Wisdom, God made him the wealthiest man in the world bringing him the greatest fame in all of the known world. Understanding is a side benefit of wisdom, as well. Wisdom is comprehensive.**

**God's goal for each saved individual is that we become more and more like Christ, we read about the attributes of Christ including His steadfastness and wisdom In Isaiah 11:1-5; *Then a shoot will grow from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him— a Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ and understanding, a Spirit of counsel and strength, a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.<sup>3</sup> His delight will be in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, He will not execute justice by what He hears with His ears,<sup>4</sup> but He will judge the poor righteously and execute justice***

***for the oppressed of the land. He will strike the land with discipline from His mouth, and He will kill the wicked with a command from His lips. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be a belt around His loins; faithfulness will be a belt around His waist.***  
**(HCSB) We should seek this Spirit of the Lord if we are to have these things.**

**Solomon understood the gravity of his position.**

**Proverbs 8:15-16** *"By me kings reign, and princes decree justice." "By me, princes' rule, and nobles, [even] all the judges of the earth."*

➤ **Solomon's desire from God was to have the wisdom to rule the people fairly with justice. Monarchs are more in need of wisdom than common ordinary folk because their decisions can bring either consternation or joy, relative to the justice and compassion that can be shown. True justice and mercy come with the leadership of a God-fearing man and the conviction of the Holy Spirit. We read in Romans 13:1-3; *Everyone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist are instituted by God. <sup>2</sup> So then, the one who resists the authority is opposing God's command, and those who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but too bad. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have its approval.***  
**(HCSB)**

**Kings and rulers should fear God and remember that they hold their position because God has ordained it. there is a coming judgment where they will have to give an answer for their wisdom and justice or lack of!**

**Proverbs 8:17** *"I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me."*

➤ Solomon learned this \_\_\_\_\_ in his life. By the time he became King, he had discovered that when he sought answers, God gave him the wisdom needed to overcome. He fully comprehended that it was God who had given him this unique wisdom.

Our heavenly Father is prepared to give us His wisdom if we are willing to meet the conditions of asking His Holy Spirit to indwell us we read in Luke 11:13: "*If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?*" (HCSB) Perhaps you will recall Jesus words in John 14:26: "*But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.*" (NLT2) Keep in mind that the Holy Spirit speaks to our minds with the word of God stored within us. If you want clear and cognitive instruction, store the word of the Lord deep within the well of your spirit so that His Spirit can draw from it streams of living water. Jesus gives us this counsel in John 14:21; "*Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.*" (NLT2)

**Wisdom's love for the one who receives it is proven by the benefits mentioned in the upcoming verses 18-21.**

**Proverbs 8:18** "Riches and honor [are] with me; [yea], durable riches and righteousness."

➤ Solomon, as a young king was given great wisdom, he was \_\_\_\_\_ed with the leadership of Israel. He experienced its wealth as a firsthand benefit. For you and me,

depending on God's calling, we should observe Jesus' counsel in Matthew 6:19-21: ***"Don't collect for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> But collect for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*** (HCSB)

**Proverbs 8:19;** *My fruit is better than solid gold, and my harvest than pure silver.*

➤ We read in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 3:10-14; God's blessing to Solomon. ***Now it pleased the Lord that Solomon had requested this. <sup>11</sup> So God said to him, "Because you have requested this and did not ask for long life or riches for yourself, or the death of your enemies, but you asked discernment for yourself to understand justice, <sup>12</sup> I will therefore do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and understanding heart so that there has never been anyone like you before and never will be again. <sup>13</sup> In addition, I will give you what you did not ask for: both riches and honor so that no man in any kingdom will be your equal during your entire life. <sup>14</sup> If you walk in My ways and keep My statutes and commands just as your father David did, I will give you a long life."*** (HCSB)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's Spirit, the riches which believers obtain from Christ is better than gold, even fine gold, for as we submit to the Father and accept the propitiation of His Son on behalf of our own sin debt, he adopts us into His family, and we become Joint Heirs with Jesus. Romans 8:14-17: ***All those led by God's Spirit are God's sons. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father!" <sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit***

***that we are God's children,<sup>17</sup> and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—seeing that we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*** (HCSB)

**Proverbs 8:20** *I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice,*

- **When we follow the leading of the Father, literally walking in the way of the Spirit of righteousness, that is the standard of Christian conduct, and all of His dealings are in agreement with the demands of divine \_\_\_\_\_ recorded in His Holy Word.**

**Proverbs 8:21** *giving wealth as an inheritance to those who love me and filling their treasuries.* (HCSB)

- **God loves those that love Him, and it is His desire that those who love Him will inherit substance, along with true and lasting blessings; the promise has both physical and eternal results, God is our provider and through Him, we have an \_\_\_\_\_. We read in Philippians 4:19 *And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.* (HCSB) This promise to the church in Philippi is a confirmation of the Word from the Son in Matthew 6:25; "***This is why I tell you: Don't worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Isn't life more than food and the body more than clothing?*** (HCSB) Did you notice the final part of the statement about life? Our death doesn't end our lives and Jesus has promised us as His disciples and ambassadors that He will fill our treasury with treasure that doesn't rust or suffer an assault of moths, giving them as possessions which will outlast this world. Additionally, in the fellowship of believers, we can find complete happiness when we are united with Christ and the brethren in bonds of love.**

**Having thus spoken of His work, of His office,** Christ next gives information concerning His person.

**Proverbs 8:22-23:** “*The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. <sup>23</sup> I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.*” (KJV)

➤ **These next few passages give us some insight into the person of Christ. We know that He created everything. Reading in John 1:3: *All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.* This doctrine is confirmed in Colossians 1:16-17; *For everything was created by Him, in heaven, and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and by Him, all things hold together.***

**And then the psalmist address something different that should affect the way that all believers view life in this age of unsympathetic and repeated child abortions, now in some states up to the point before the umbilical cord is cut. Here is an interesting bifurcation, was the psalmist speaking of himself, or Wisdom or was it a *double entendre* when he wrote that He (Christ) \_\_\_\_\_ him before the foundation of the world. Perhaps it was a reference to both, for in verse 16 of a passage from Psalm 139; we read that a baby’s name is written in the Book of Life before a single day was lived. Psalm 139:13-16: *For it was You who created my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother’s womb. <sup>14</sup> I will praise You because I have been remarkably and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful, and I know [this] very well. <sup>15</sup> My bones were not hidden from You when I was made in secret when I was formed in the depths***

*of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all [my] days were written in Your book and planned before a single one of them began.* (HCSB)

Let's take just a moment and go down this rabbit hole. Unlike the popular hymn that we all sing and love, "There is a new name written down in Glory" This passage along with Malachi 3:16-18 are the only two places that I am aware of that speak of our names being written in God's book of Remembrance or Life, however, Exodus 32:32 Moses alludes to the book when he is found pleading for the fledgling nation, saying; *"Now if You would only forgive their sin. But if not, please erase me from the book You have written."* In the next verse God is speaking and He is rather blunt: Exodus 32:33: *The LORD replied to Moses: "I will erase whoever has sinned against Me from My book."* Psalm 69 is prophetic of Christ and the Messianic period as it is referred to seven times in the New Testament. After paragraphs of diatribe against wrongdoers' verse 28 renders this in exacerbation. "Let them be erased from the book of life and not be recorded with the righteous." (HCSB)

We read in Deuteronomy 29:20 where the Lord alludes to the Book of Life: *The LORD will never pardon such people. Instead, his anger and jealousy will burn against them. All the curses written in this book will come down on them, and the LORD will erase their names from under heaven.* (NLT2) Which is what Psalm 69:28 states; *"Erase their names from the Book of Life; don't let them be counted among the righteous."* (NLT2)

To the Spirit-filled and born-again faithful follower, Jesus promises in Revelation 3:5 *"In the same way, the victor will be dressed in white clothes, and I will never erase his name from the book of life but will acknowledge his name before My Father and before His angels."* (HCSB)



Remember who Solomon is writing about; Wisdom as an attribute of Christ but not necessarily the person of Jesus, however, we are told that it is the Wisdom of Christ and that Wisdom was with God in the very beginning of creation. We, along with Solomon are dabbling with an attempt to understand the triune nature of our God, that is limited by our flesh and experiences that are thwarted with human reasoning. Did you choke when we read Prov.8:12 where Solomon wrote, "*I, Wisdom, share a home with shrewdness and have knowledge and discretion.*" With that as background lets group Proverbs 8:22-30 together and read them as Wisdom (herself <sup>[vs.1]</sup>).

**Proverbs 8:22-30** *"The LORD made me at the beginning of His creation, before His works of long ago. <sup>23</sup> I was formed before ancient times, from the beginning, before the earth began. <sup>24</sup> I was born when there were no watery depths and no springs filled with water. <sup>25</sup> I was delivered before the mountains and hills were established, <sup>26</sup> before He made the land, the fields, or the first soil on earth. <sup>27</sup> I was there when He established the heavens, when He laid out the horizon on the surface of the ocean, <sup>28</sup> when He placed the skies above, when the fountains of the ocean gushed out, <sup>29</sup> when He set a limit for the sea so that the waters would not violate His command, when He laid out the foundations of the earth. <sup>30</sup> I was a skilled craftsman beside Him. I was His delight every day, always rejoicing before Him. (HCSB)*

Many believe that Wisdom speaks of the second person of the triune nature of the Godhead. Whether it is Him or whether He possesses all wisdom does not matter. Perhaps the NASB along with the KJV offers a better rendering of the passage using the words "The LORD possessed me" instead of the phrase "made me". The Holy Spirit and the Father are one

with each other. Proverbs 8:22-23 "*The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old.*"<sup>23</sup> "*From everlasting, I was established, From the beginning, from the earliest times of the earth.*" (NASB) When Wisdom is personified, He claims credit for everything that God created as does our Christ.

Just as the Word is Jesus, Wisdom in this sense, is too. This is the wisdom of God that we see here. This is wisdom far beyond our Comprehension.

Compiler's Note: verse 24 goes into detail about when all of the earth was created, Wisdom already existed. It is important to notice that verses 24 to 36 parallel the creation account in Genesis 1:1 to 13. According to Proverbs 8:25-26 Wisdom was with God before the mountains were settled before the hills were formed, He was brought forth:" The account doesn't vary when it is laid out in the Psalms. Psalm 90:2: *Before the mountains were born, before You gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, You are God.* (HCSB)

What we should take away from this is that Wisdom and God seem to be overlapping. Intricate descriptions of what had not been created set the time factor when wisdom began, driving home the eternal nature of both God and His Wisdom. John 1:1-3 the best job of explaining the Godhead. The Wisdom of God is written in His Word, therefore, Wisdom and the Word are eternal. We read; "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.*"

**Proverbs 8:31** *Rejoicing in the world, His earth, and having my delight in the sons of men.*

➤ **We can take comfort in this, God has not abandoned us, He still delights in His Creation and when our God rejoiced**

over His creation, wisdom was also rejoicing, especially is His \_\_\_\_\_ over the creation of mankind, who alone in the physical creation has the capacity to appreciate wisdom and truth and to know our Creator. To those who are born-again and filled with His Spirit of Wisdom who renews our mind, we are "keeping *our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God's throne.*" We are being restored to the state of the creation of Adam, body, soul, and Spirit. (Hebrews 12:2 HCSB) God's desire is that we live godly lives directed by His wisdom.

**Proverbs 8:32-34** "And now, [my] sons, listen to me; those who keep my ways are happy. <sup>33</sup> Listen to instruction and be wise; don't ignore it. <sup>34</sup> Anyone who listens to me is **happy**, watching at my doors every day, waiting by the posts of my doorway.

- **The blessed of the Lord are the ones who walk in His ways. God promises great blessings throughout the Bible to all who keep His commandments. Those who refuse God and His wisdom are children of the evil one. We read in Psalm 1:1-2: *How \_\_\_\_\_ is the man who does not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path of sinners or join a group of mockers! Instead, his delight is in the LORD's instruction, and he meditates on it day and night.* (HCSB)**

**Proverbs 8:35-36:** *For the one who finds me finds **life** and obtains favor from the LORD, <sup>36</sup> but the one who misses me harms himself; all who hate me love death.* (HCSB)

- **We read in John 1:4 this testimony "Life was in Him, and that life was the light of men." John, tells how there is life in the Word. As we said before, the Word, Wisdom, and the Godhead are not possible to separate. When we are born**

anew, we find new Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ accompanying our flesh. As we are renewed in our mind (Rom.12:2) we will find *“favor and high regard in the sight of God and man.”* [Proverbs 3:4 (HCSB)] Solomon reveals God’s secret to a happy life and a blessed after-life in Proverbs 7:2-4; *Keep my commands and live; protect my teachings as the pupil of your eye. <sup>3</sup> Tie them to your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup> Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,” and call Understanding [as your] relative.* He also lists the corollary of rejecting godly Wisdom and happiness through our Creator in Proverbs 15:32; *Anyone who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever listens to correction acquires good sense. Solomon continues the thought in Proverbs 11:19-20; Genuine righteousness [leads] to life, but pursuing evil [leads] to death. <sup>20</sup> Those with twisted minds are detestable to the LORD, but those with blameless conduct are His delight.* (HCSB)

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<sup>i</sup> Through the Bible J. Vernon McGee