

# PROVERBS

## WISE WORDS FOR REAL LIFE

The Vision of Wisdom | August 18, 2024

Proverbs 4:18-19 *The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.*

### THE STRUGGLE OF WISDOM

Psalm 73:1-14 *Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. <sup>2</sup> But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. <sup>3</sup> For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. <sup>4</sup> They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. <sup>5</sup> They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills. <sup>6</sup> Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. <sup>7</sup> From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits. <sup>8</sup> They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. <sup>9</sup> Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth. <sup>10</sup> Therefore their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance. <sup>11</sup> They say, "How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?" <sup>12</sup> This is what the wicked are like - always free of care, they go on amassing wealth. <sup>13</sup> Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. <sup>14</sup> All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.*

Sometimes walking the path of wisdom brings a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ between what we see/feel and what God say's is true.

### THE VISION OF WISDOM

Psalm 73:15-20 *If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed your children. <sup>16</sup> When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply <sup>17</sup> till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. <sup>18</sup> Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. <sup>19</sup> How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! <sup>20</sup> They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies.*

To see the way of wisdom, we must \_\_\_\_\_ in the "sanctuary of God" – listening to His Word, following His Spirit, connecting with His people; not to reinforce a myth, but to \_\_\_\_\_ us of what is true.

### THE DELIGHT OF WISDOM

Psalm 73:21-28 *When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, <sup>22</sup> I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. <sup>23</sup> Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. <sup>24</sup> You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. <sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. <sup>26</sup> My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. <sup>27</sup> Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. <sup>28</sup> But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.*

When we re-establish our \_\_\_\_\_ about God, we are refreshed in our \_\_\_\_\_ toward life.

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