

Creation and Wisdom

Introduction

In this first study we look at the relationship between wisdom and the Word of God, especially within the context of Creation. From Genesis 1 we learn that God created and rules His world by speaking and that His Word gives Life and Order to all that He has made. From Proverbs 3 & Proverbs 8 we learn that there is an intimate link between this creative word of God and wisdom. Wisdom seems to be the creative genius according to which God plans, the blueprint according to which He works. Creation with its order, structure and purpose thus bears testimony to the wisdom of its Creator. As we shall see in the next study there is thus a key connection between living wisely within God's world and knowing and obeying the Word of God. The wise person is the person who lives life within God's world in accordance with God's Word.

Study Questions

These questions help you to see clearly what the text is saying.

Read: Genesis 1vs1-2vs3; Psalm 33vs6.

- Note:**
- a. God is the main subject of all the action described in the passage.
 - b. The phrase "the heavens and the earth" in 1vs1 and 2vs1-3 is a synonym for "everything that exists."
 - c. There is a close link in Genesis 1vs2,3 and Psalm 33vs6 between the Spirit of God and God's speech.
 - d. The Key words *good, separated, and called*.
 - e. The pattern of repeated words and phrases.

Answer the following questions:

1. What activity of God occurs more than any other?
2. What happens when God speaks? How does the text teach this?
3. How does God's Spirit (Breath) link with God's Word?

4. What word shows that creation conforms to God's plan?

5. How does this passage teach God's rule over creation?

Read: Proverbs 3vs13-20; Proverbs 8vs1-36

- Note:**
- a. The identification of wisdom with God's understanding and knowledge.
 - b. The relationship between *wisdom*, *the LORD* and *the Word*.
 - c. The comparison between *wisdom* and *the Tree of Life*.

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the link between wisdom, the LORD and His word?

2. What place does wisdom have within God's creative work?

Think it Through

1. In the Introduction to this study we described wisdom as the *blueprint* by which God created. In the light of what you have learned do you agree with this definition?

2. From what we have learned thus far, what do you think it means to be a wise person?