Proverbs 8:1-36 Work & Presence of Wisdom – With God Before Creation

The Excellence of Wisdom

^{1.}Does not wisdom cry out, And understanding lift up her voice?

 2 She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, Beside the way, where the paths meet.

 $^{\rm 3}$ She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, At the entrance of the doors:

⁴ "To you, O men, I call, And my voice *is* to the sons of men.

⁵ O you simple ones, understand prudence, And you fools, be of an understanding heart.

⁶ Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, And from the opening of my lips *will come* right things;

⁷ For my mouth will speak truth; Wickedness *is* an abomination to my lips.

⁸ All the words of my mouth *are* with righteousness; Nothing crooked or perverse *is* in them.

⁹ They *are* all plain to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge.

¹⁰ Receive my instruction, and not silver, And knowledge rather than choice gold; ¹¹ For wisdom *is* better than rubies, And all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her.

¹² "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, And find out knowledge and discretion.
¹³ The fear of Yahweh (the LORD) *is* to hate evil;

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

¹⁴ Counsel *is* mine, and sound wisdom; I *am* understanding, I have strength.

¹⁵ By me kings reign, And rulers decree justice.

¹⁶ By me princes rule, and nobles, All the judges of the earth.*

¹⁷ I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me.

¹⁸ Riches and honor *are* with me, Enduring riches and righteousness.

¹⁹ My fruit *is* better than gold, yes, than fine gold, And my revenue than choice silver.

²⁰ I traverse the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice,

²¹ That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, That I may fill their treasuries.

²²" Yahweh (the LORD) possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old.

²³ I have been established from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth.

²⁴ When *there were* no depths I was brought forth, When *there were* no fountains abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills, I was brought forth;

²⁶ While as yet He had not made the earth or the fields, Or the primal dust of the world.

²⁷ When He prepared the heavens, I *was* there, When He drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ When He established the clouds above, When He strengthened the fountains of the deep,

²⁹ When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰ Then I was beside Him *as* a master craftsman;* And I was daily *His* delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

³¹ Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight *was* with the sons of men.

³² "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways.
 ³³ Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain *it*.

³⁴ Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.

³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from Yahweh (the LORD);

³⁶ But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death."

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Facts Revealed:

 \Rightarrow ·Does not wisdom cry out, And understanding lift up her voice?

She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, Beside the way, where the paths meet.

She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, At the entrance of the doors: [Proverbs 8:1-3]

- ♦ Call and availability of Wisdom & Understanding.
- ☆ "To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men.

O you simple ones, understand prudence, And you fools, be of an understanding heart.

Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, And from the opening of my lips *will come* right things;

For my mouth will speak truth; Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

All the words of my mouth *are* with righteousness; Nothing crooked or perverse *is* in them.

They *are* all plain to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge. [Proverbs 8:4-9]

- $\Leftrightarrow \text{ Wisdom's call to all the suns of men.}$
- ♦ Her desire is to impart understanding and prudence (discretion, caution) to the simple (modest, unpretentious, unassuming, meek, humble, ignorant)
- \diamond The words of Wisdom are excellent and right.
- ♦ Wisdom speaks in all truth.. The words of Wisdom are righteousness and plain to those who find knowledge and understanding.
- ♦ Wisdom hates words of wickedness crookedness, and perverseness.

- Receive my instruction, and not silver, And knowledge rather than choice gold; For wisdom *is* better than rubies, And all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her. [Proverbs 8:10-11]
 - \diamond Instruction and knowledge are of more value than silver and gold.
 - \diamond Wisdom is the greatest thing one can desire.
- ☆ "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence (forethought) And find out knowledge and discretion (good judgment).

The fear of Yahweh (the LORD) is to hate evil;

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

Counsel *is* mine, and sound wisdom; I *am* understanding, I have strength. [Proverbs 8:12-14]

- \diamond Wisdom comes with carefulness, knowledge, and good judgment.
- ♦ The Fear of Yahweh is to hate evil.
- ♦ Wisdom hates pride, arrogance, the evil way, and the perverse (vulgar & wicked) mouth.
- \diamond Wisdom possesses good counsel, sound wisdom, and understanding.
- ♦ Wisdom has strength (power, effectiveness).
- \Rightarrow By me kings reign, And rulers decree justice.

By me princes rule, and nobles, All the judges of the earth.*

I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me. [Proverbs 8:15-17]

- \diamond Wisdom is essential for all righteous kings, rulers, princes, nobles, and judges.
- \diamond Wisdom is available to all who seek her diligently.
- \diamond Wisdom loves those who love her.
- ☆ Riches and honor *are* with me, Enduring riches and righteousness.

My fruit *is* better than gold, yes, than fine gold, And my revenue than choice silver. I traverse the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice,

That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, That I may fill their treasuries. [Proverbs 8:18-21]

 \diamond Great rewards are described for those who possess wisdom.

"Yahweh (the LORD) possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old.

I have been established from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth.

When *there were* no depths I was brought forth, When *there were* no fountains abounding with water.

Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills, I was brought forth;

While as yet He had not made the earth or the fields, Or the primal dust of the world.

When He prepared the heavens, I *was* there, When He drew a circle on the face of the deep,

When He established the clouds above, When He strengthened the fountains of the deep,

When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth,

Then I was beside Him *as* a master craftsman;* And I was daily *His* delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight *was* with the sons of men. [Proverbs 8:22-31]

♦ Wisdom described her part in Yahweh's creation of all things.

 "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain *it*. Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.

For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from Yahweh (the LORD); + But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death." [Proverbs 8:32-36]

- \diamond Wisdom's call and promises.
- ♦ Blessings for those who listen diligently to instruction and follow wisdom's ways.
- ♦ Whoever finds wisdom finds life and obtains favor from Yahweh.
- \diamond Whoever sins against wisdom imperils his own soul.
- \diamond Whoever hates wisdom, loves death.