

“Where Shall Wisdom Be Found?”

Job 28:1-28

The text is taken from verse 12.

The message in this chapter of the book of Job is found throughout Scripture – especially the Old Testament. It is a very important theme in the Poetical Books because of the very nature of those books.

In this chapter, Job is continuing his “answer” to Bildad, and his other friends that were there. In this portion of his lengthy answer he is pointing out that true wisdom is not found in the things, or areas, that Bildad, Zophar and Eliphaz purported it to be. True wisdom, as found here and in several other places in the Bible, is only found in a right relationship with God – a relationship that Job had, regardless of what his friends said.

Many today are pursuing wisdom, are pursuing understanding – are looking for reasons to answer the question, “Why?” The only way they will find true answers, as we will find here, is through the God of the Bible. True wisdom, in any form, is only truly attainable through the mind of Christ, and as a true believer in Him. There may be worldly wisdom that can be found apart from Christ, but the true wisdom that man is seeking, the wisdom that will answer questions that science and research cannot, is only found in Him.

There is a continuation here from the previous chapter – where Job was showing the uselessness of the wicked, and their end. In the first part of this chapter before us, we find, that, no matter what that wicked man does to find riches and wisdom he will not find it on his own.

I. WISDOM IS NOT FOUND IN CREATION ALONE – vs. 1-11

A. *Although God is the Creator, the wisdom spoken of here cannot be found just by observing creation. Creation can lead to the Creator, where wisdom is found, but true wisdom cannot be found in creation alone.*

Psalm 19:1-2

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

² Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

Romans 1:17-20

¹⁷ For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

¹⁹ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

B. *It's not found deep in the earth, no matter how much mining is done, no matter how far down you go – vs. 1-3, 9-11.*

C. *It's not found on top of the earth, no matter how good the soil, no matter how good the farmer – vs. 4-6.*

D. *It's not found in the places that are difficult to access – vs. 7-8.*

II. WISDOM IS NOT FOUND IN RICHES – VS. 12-19

A. *This is abundantly clear in all of Scripture – no amount of money or wealth can buy the wisdom that only God can give – vs. 12-15.*

B. *Not only can it not be bought by gold, but to compare gold or anything else precious, to it cannot be done – vs. 16-19.*

III. WISDOM IS ONLY FOUND IN GOD – VS. 20-28

A. *Without God, true wisdom and understanding will be hid, and will not be revealed – vs. 20-22.*

B. *Only God knows where true wisdom lies, and it is only through Him that we can find it – vs. 23-27.*

C. *What is wisdom and understanding, then?*

1. "The fear of the Lord" is wisdom – knowing who God is and accepting Him is wisdom.
2. "To depart from evil is understanding" – putting what we know of God and His will to practice in our lives is understanding.

Deuteronomy 4:5-7

⁵ Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

⁶ Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

⁷ For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

Psalm 111:10

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Proverbs 1:7

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 9:10

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Conclusion: Wisdom, in the Poetical Books, is personified as Christ – He is the ultimate Wisdom. When man “gets” Him they have found Wisdom, or, Wisdom has found them.