

The Way of Wisdom 1: Choose Your Partners Proverbs 1

Life is full of choices.

Proverbs is “Wisdom Literature,” advice on how to succeed in life by making wise choices.

Wisdom is practical knowledge (1.1-6)

² ...for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; ³ for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair; ⁴ for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—

Wisdom is knowledge that gets into your bones, knowledge that changes your life.

Wisdom is rooted in knowing God (1.7)

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Prov 9.10)

Not the kind of fear that makes us afraid of God so that we run away from him.

When the Bible calls us to fear God it means that we should be aware of who it is we’re talking about and treat him with appropriate respect and awe.

As we have a proper respect for God we are better equipped to live in this world that he has created and entrusted to us.

There are only two options

Foolishness (1.8-19)

When Proverbs calls somebody as a “fool” or “simple” it isn’t making a judgement on their intellectual ability. It’s a comment on how they run their lives.

Or Wisdom (1.20-33)

The life of the wise person turns out radically differently from the life of the fool. ³² *For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them;* ³³ *but whoever listens to me [wisdom] will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.”*

So, choose your partners for the dance of life