



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE ORION

THE WISDOM THAT IS FROM ABOVE

Proverbs 8:1–36; cf., 1 Corinthians 2:9

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TEXT: PROVERBS 8:1– 36

PROPOSITION: God ,through wisdom, desires to have a living, active, role in your life!

In chapter 8, Solomon is utilizing the literary device known as personification. He takes on the persona of an elegant lady named Wisdom. Lady Wisdom is the opposite of the adulteress found in Proverbs 7.

I. THE CALL OF WISDOM, 8:1–5

A. Wisdom’s Call is Public, 8: 2–3.

B. Wisdom’s Call is Personal, 8:4–5.

II. THE QUALITY OF WISDOM, 8:6–21

A. Wisdom’s Virtuous Words, 8:6-11

1. Noble in Nature, 8: 6a.

2. Moral in Nature, 8:6b.

3. Truthful in Nature. v. 7.

4. Balanced In Nature, 8:8a.

5. Straight Up and Forthright in Nature, 8:8b-9.

6. Valuable in Nature, 8:10-11.

B. Wisdom’s Cognitive Prowess , 8:12–21

- 1. Knowledge and Discretion, 8:12**
- 2. Counsel and Sound Wisdom, 8:14a**
- 3. Understanding and Power, 8:14b**
 - a. Kings rule by wisdom, 8:15–16.
 - b. Judges decree justice by wisdom, 8:15–16.

C. Wisdom’s Gracious Promises, 8:17–21

- 1. Love for those who diligently pursue her, 8:17**
- 2. Prosperity for those who partake of her, 8:19**
- 3. Direction for those who walk in her path, 8:20–21**

III. THE ENGAGEMENT OF WISDOM IN CREATION, 8:22–31

- A. Wisdom’s Existence Before Creation, 8:22–29**
- B. Wisdom’s Participation in Creation, 8: 30**
- C. Wisdom’s Celebration of Creation, 8:31**

IV. THE APPEAL OF WISDOM, 8:32– 36

32 “Now therefore, O sons, listen to me, For blessed are they who keep my ways. 33 “Heed instruction and be wise, And do not neglect it.

- A. The Blessing of Heeding Wisdom’s Appeal, 8:34–35**
- B. The Consequence of Neglecting Wisdom’s Appeal, 8:36**

CONCLUSION:

There is a story about a proud young man who came to Socrates asking for knowledge. He walked up to the muscular philosopher and said, “O great Socrates, I come to you for knowledge”.

Socrates recognized a pompous numbskull when he saw one. He led the young man through the streets, to the sea, and chest deep into water. Then he asked, "What do you want?"

"Knowledge, O wise Socrates," said the young man with a smile.

Socrates put his strong hands on the man's shoulders and pushed him under. Thirty seconds later Socrates let him up. "What do you want?" he asked again.

"Wisdom," the young man sputtered, "O great and wise Socrates."

Socrates crunched him under again. Thirty seconds passed, thirty-five. Forty. Socrates let him up. The man was gasping. "What do you want, young man?"

Between heavy, heaving breaths the fellow wheezed, "Knowledge, O wise and wonderful..."

Socrates jammed him under again. Forty seconds passed. Fifty. "What do you want?"

"Air!" the young man screeched. "I need air!"

"When you want knowledge as you have just wanted air, then you will have knowledge."

M. Littleton, Moody Monthly, June 1989,