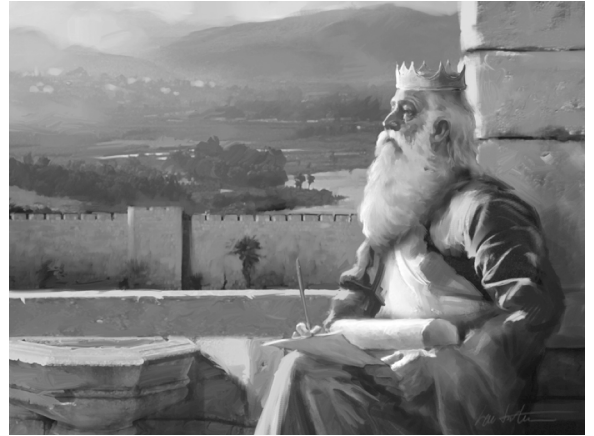


HOW DO WE MAKE GOD’S WISDOM OUR OWN?

1. Value wisdom.

A. Proverbs 3:13-18, 19-20, 21-24. “Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living; the other helps you make a life” (Sandra Carey). “Life is a gift of nature; but beautiful living is the gift of wisdom” (Greek Adage).

B. Ecclesiastes 10:10! “**Wisdom** is a deep understanding of people, things, events or situations, resulting in the ability to choose or act to consistently produce the optimum results with a minimum of time and energy. Wisdom is the ability to optimally (effectively and efficiently) apply perceptions and knowledge and so produce the desired results. Wisdom is comprehension of what is true or right coupled with optimum judgment as to action. Synonyms include: sagacity, discernment, or insight. Wisdom often requires control of one's emotional reactions (the "passions") so that one's principles, reason and knowledge prevail to determine one's actions” (Wikipedia).



2. **Appreciate the high cost of even a little foolishness.** Ecclesiastes 9:18-10:1. Learn the truth of PROVERBS 8:32-36; 9:12; 15:31-32; 19:3; Ecclesiastes 7:15 the easy way!

3. Be humble.

A. Proverbs 11:2; 26:12; 28:26; Romans 12:16B, “Do not be wise in your own estimation.”

B. “A man only becomes wise when he begins to calculate the approximate depth of his ignorance” (Glenn Carlo Menotti). “The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing” (Socrates). “In seeking wisdom thou art wise; in imagining that thou hast attained it - thou art a fool” (Lord Chesterfield). “A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool” (Shakespeare).

C. Proverbs 30:32.

4. **Be in awe of God.** Job 28:12, 23-28; Proverbs 3:5-8.

5. **Don’t expect the world to appreciate the wisdom of God.** Ecclesiastes 9:13-17; 1 Corinthians 3:18.

6. **Seek wisdom.** Proverbs 4:5A, 7; 18:15. “No man was ever wise by chance” (Seneca). Learn, obey, evaluate!

A. **Truly.** Isaiah 29:13-14.

B. **Diligently.** Proverbs 2:2-5, 6-8, 9-10. “Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it” (Einstein). “He who devotes sixteen hours a day to hard study may become at sixty as wise as he thought himself at twenty” (Mary Wilson Little).

C. **Always.** Proverbs 9:9. “Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever” (Mahatma Gandhi). “I do not think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday” (Abraham Lincoln).

7. **Be quiet and listen.** Proverbs 18:2; “Wise men speak because they have something to say; fools because they have to say something” (Plato); Job 13:5; “Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk” (Doug Larson).

8. **Remain wise.** Proverbs 23:23. Remember Solomon! Ecclesiastes 4:13; 7:25-26.

9. **Share wisdom.** Job 26:3-4A; Proverbs 31:26. Pray as well as preach! Colossians 1:9-10.