

Wisdom Cries Aloud | Lady Wisdom

Proverbs 9

"Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. 2 She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. 3 She has sent out her young women to call from the highest places in the town, 4 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense she says, 5 "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. 6 Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight." 7 Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. 8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. 11 For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. 12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it. 13 The woman Folly is loud; she is seductive and knows nothing. 14 She sits at the door of her house; she takes a seat on the highest places of the town, 15 calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their way, 16 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" And to him who lacks sense she says, 17 "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." 18 But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol."

I. Wisdom Poetry Gets Underneath The Intellect

Proverbs 1:8-9: *"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, 9 for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck."*

- A. We don't meet a father in the Proverbs who is emotionally aloof. We meet a father who loves his son — a man who entreats his son to hear him.
- B. We also meet a man who emotionally grasps for him. Psalm 42:7 — *"Deep calls to deep..."* (The depths of God longing to be with the depths of you and me.)
- C. We meet a father who longs for son to be dazzled by righteousness and justice.
- D. Why? Implications in the Book of Proverbs:
 - 1. We need to *feel* truth. We need to be moved by truth to walk in the truth.

2. Truth connects with our hearts when it *combusts* in our hearts.

II. So Solomon Arrests His Son's Attention With The Image Of...Women

- A. Elicits an emotional response: Lady Wisdom vs. The Woman Folly
- B. Chapter 1 — Meet Lady Wisdom: Proverbs 1:20 — “**Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; 21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks**”
 - a) She’s urgent (God is urgent): Bold & loud; entreating is all in love (pure love for us)
 - b) She’s unbiased (God isn’t prejudiced): Anyone who would listen to her may come to her
 - c) She’s our most vital organ (God is not a private devotional practice)
 - (1) Gates: entry into a community; protection against enemies; where courts convened; “town halls”; community interaction; center of culture; the public “square”
 - (2) Where the things that matter most are discussed, fretted over...
 - (3) She gets into the weeds of life with us — she has something to say about every situation we can imagine.
 - (4) God’s ways always work and are always right.
- C. Chapter 8 — We meet her again — this time, up close and personal
- D. Chapter 9 — Comparison of Lady Wisdom vs. The Woman Folly

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III. Leaving the Abstract — Lady Wisdom's Counsel

1. Chapters in between (the white stuff between the Oreo cookies)
 - a) Chapter 1 — Meet Lady Wisdom & Words on Friendship/Alliances
 - b) Chapter 2 — Wisdom's Gift: Discretion; caution; discernment
 - c) Chapter 3 — General Practices for Wise Living
 - (1) Obedience
 - (2) Faithful Heart
 - (3) Trust in God
 - (4) Humility
 - (5) Honor God with Assets and Money
 - (6) Be eager to receive discipline/rebuke
 - (7) Be greedy for wisdom
 - d) Chapter 4 — True Success: Gaining Much Wisdom
 - e) Chapter 5 — Fidelity & marriage; finding a worthy spouse
 - f) Chapter 6 — Warnings against foolish living (financially compromised/heavily indebted; laziness vs. working hard; avoid unjust gain; things God hates: pride, lying, betrayal/murder, deceit, false witness/corruption, divisiveness.
 - g) Chapter 7 — Guidance for living in a sex-saturated society (seems to zoom out in this chapter)...when sexual sin is so common it seems natural to follow one's impulses

- h) Chapter 8 — Meet beautiful Wisdom
 - i) Chapter 9 — Lady Wisdom vs. The Woman Folly
2. For Visual Learners — Tying It All Together [SLIDE]

IV. Why speak in Proverbs to his son?

- 1. Wisdom and folly generate an emotional reaction
 - a) Folly is sensational — it strikes us as fun, compelling, thrilling
 - b) Wisdom makes us yawn; it makes us feel tired (because we need to think/process); the payoff doesn't seem to be as fun as it is with folly
- 2. Implication:
 - a) Those who are wise will see this
 - b) Proverbs 1:5 — “**Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance**”