

# Christ in All The Scriptures

## Proverbs - Part 1

### Introduction

There is the possibility that we can relegate Proverbs a book with a lot of excellent instruction but little else. However, such is not the case for in every Biblical book there is found some aspect of the Lord, of God, the Holy Spirit and the gospel, and Proverbs is no exception. Within its pages there are three wonderful truths relating to our Lord. They are:

- a) "The fear of the Lord" which was a characteristic of His life.
- b) Wisdom, that which He personified.
- c) Concerning God the questions are asked, "What is His name, and what is His son's name?" (ch. 30:4)

A word of caution, when we hear speakers speaking of the Messianic Psalms i.e. Psalms 22, 69, 88, they do not mean to imply that all that is written in the Psalm is about the Lord. Strictly speaking, the term "Messianic" refers to a limited portion of the Psalm. For instance, in Psalm 69 the words in verses 5-6 and 22-29 cannot apply to the Lord. The same truth applies to the book of Proverbs. All that is said about wisdom in chapter eight is not all about the Lord. However, by wisdom He speaks excellent things (ch. 8:6-9); creating works (ch. 8:22-29). Verse 30 is still speaking about "wisdom" but in its broad application it shadows the Lord.

In Proverbs, wisdom is associated with other virtues:

- a) Prudence, "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions" (ch. 8:12)
- b) Discretion and understanding, "When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee" (ch. 2:10, 11)
- c) Instruction, "To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding" (ch. 1:2)

The wisdom of God is demonstrated in:

- a) Creation (Col. 1:13-18; Jer. 10:12; 51:15)
- b) Redemption (1 Cor. 1:30)
- c) Christ who is the wisdom and power of God (1 Cor. 1:24)

### Christ lived in the fear of God as Lord

What does the "fear of the LORD" mean?

- a) After the introductory comments Proverbs begins with the statement, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge" (ch. 1:7), and again, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding" (ch. 9:10). With such statements it is my understanding that any knowledge which does not take the holy character of God into consideration is deficient. Restricting oneself to the expression, "the fear of the LORD", What does the expression mean? It is my understanding that it means to live as life will be lived in the celestial eternal state with God constantly and consistency being all in all. That is, God being the source and empowerment, He was glorified by every attitude, activity, word, motive and goal. Then each of us shall hold God in holy reverence, speaking to God and acting for God in holy esteem.

The natural man has no fear of the Lord and thus stands in contrast to the Lord.

- a) It takes a very short time to realize that humanity has no fear of God. From early days they take His Holy Name in blasphemy and associate it with all kinds of blasphemous wording. It is deemed humorous when jokes are made concerning Him; the so called comedians mock His Person, power and His penalizing for sin; the governments and sports of this earth have no time for the celebration of His Son's resurrection but debase it into a day of sports and governing. Seldom does one ever hear of a King, President, Dictator, peers, Nobleman etc., in any rank whither it is political or judicial, speaking of prayer to the Almighty. The scriptures are true, "There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Psa. 36:1; Rom. 3:18). Consequently, there is no fear of His awesomeness which is very intimidating of His wrath (Matt. 10:28; Heb. 10:31); "Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee" (Jer. 10:7), or respect that

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is His due. "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" (Rev. 14:7).

- b) One of the characteristics of the early church was that they lived in the fear of the Lord (Acts 9:31). Because there was a lack of the fear of the Lord, a number in the church at Ephesus had left their first love (Rev. 2:4) which was the love they had for the Lord and works they did for Him. Working and christian service without love for the Lord becomes a clinical functioning. The lack of the fear of the Lord resulted in holding wrong doctrine, i.e., the doctrine of Balaam (Rev. 2:14) and held the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes (Rev. 2:15). The lack of fear of the Lord resulted in women being allowed to teach the saints, and this can happen not only in words but in behaviors, dress, etc. (Rev. 2:20).

How different was the Lord whose entire life was lived in the fear of the Lord (Heb. 5:7)? We know this by the boundaries set on His words, His works, and in how He spoke to God the Father.

- a) The boundaries set on His words:
  - i) "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him" (Jn. 3:34); "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (Jn. 8:47).
- b) The boundaries set on His works:
  - i) "But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me" (Jn. 5:36); "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (Jn. 9:4); "Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me" (Jn. 10:25); He will not obey the suggestions of the devil (Matt. 4:2-11) and will rebuke that which is from the devil as He did with the storm on the sea (Mk. 4:39); the man who was demon possessed (Mk. 5:2-16) and give release to the woman who was bent over (Lk. 13:16). Not a work was done, not an action committed that was not according to the will of God.
- c) In how He spoke to the Father and about the Father:
  - i) In answer to the request of the disciples, "Lord teach us to pray", the first words uttered by the Lord were, "Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name" (Lk. 11:2). The first major lesson was the Name of the Lord was to be held in reverence and great respect. Even though He was co-eternal and co-equal with the Father yet so completely human and fully identified as man, He reverences the Father. There was no "Hello Daddy", "the big Man upstairs" etc. To Christ, the Moral Governor of the universe was Father, Holy Father, Abba Father, My Father, Righteous Father. The disciples were instructed to speak to God as "Our Father". There was no place for casualness or sloppy language. Today saints need to be taught that "Abba" does not mean "Daddy", it is the utterance of a child's lips in trust.
- d) His goals
  - i) The Lord said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work" (Jn. 4:34). There was never any unnecessary talk or activity in the life of the Lord. Everything He said and did was with the sole purpose to shew God, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (Jn. 1:18); and the Father, "Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" (Jn. 14:9). In manifesting God and the Father and in declaring His name He finished the work God gave Him to do, "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do" (Jn. 17:4). At Calvary He finished the full execution of God for sinners and their sins (Jn. 19:30).

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Space prohibits the musing on how the fear of God affected His motives, His enablements and His judgments. However, may these few thoughts lead us into deeper appreciation of what the fear of the Lord is as manifested by the Lord.

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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