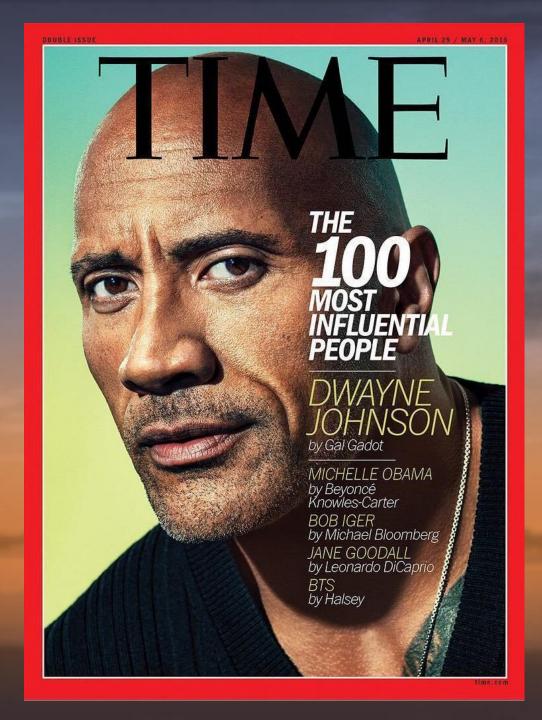


WHERE WISDOM BEGINS

Proverbs 1:1-7







THE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

"The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel..."

PURPOSE

"To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight..."

1) To know wisdom and instruction

2) To understand words of insight

TO KNOW WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION

"...to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth..."

TO UNDERSTAND WORDS OF INSIGHT

"...to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles."

"Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance..."

"What if we have many advantages in our lives, but not wisdom? If we have love but not wisdom, we will harm people with the best of intentions. If we have courage but not wisdom, we will blunder boldly. If we have truth but not wisdom, we will make the gospel ugly to other people."

"Fearful posture toward the world will render you unskillful as an ambassador for Christ."

"If we have technology but not wisdom, we will use the best communications ever invented to broadcast stupidity. If we have revival but not wisdom, we'll use the power of God to throw the church into reverse gear....Wisdom knows how to spread the gospel with no embarrassing regrets.... Wisdom is God's grace manifested in our lives to make them a beautiful reflection of God's ways to the world."

WHERE DOES WISDOM BEGIN?

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction..."

Until we embrace a healthy understanding of the fear of the Lord, we will never truly walk in wisdom.

"People believe what they want to believe so they can do what they want to do."

"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil." "In the fear of the Lord one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge."

"The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death."

"Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day." "So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied."

"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience."

"Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day." "Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience."

"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died..."

"There is no fear of God before their eyes."

"Fear is an emotional response that excludes indifference."

"In God, you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that- and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison, you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you."

"And I said: 'Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

"I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!"

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

JOHN 3:16

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him."

JOHN 3:36

"But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.'"

"Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: 'Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

"...and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.' And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him."

Walking in the fear of the Lord, or as we sometimes say, surrendering to Jesus, is walking within a community of image bearers who under the rule and reign and wisdom of God, are loving one another, and living on mission together.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."