

“The Art of Skillful Living – Week 8”

Proverbs 30:1-9

Pastor Jim Oakley – August 18, 2019

THE PARADOX OF WISDOM: Those who think they're wise are foolish, those who think they're foolish are wise.

1) I'M NOT WISE (vs. 1-3)

2) WISE LIKE GOD (v. 4)

3) WISE LIKE GOD'S WORD (vs. 5-6)

4) THE WISE SEEK GOD'S HONOR (vs. 7-9)

Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER: Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1-10, where 1= complete fool and 10 = wise sage?

- 1) What can we gather about the identity of the author of this “oracle”?
- 2) How does this author describe himself in relation to wisdom?
- 3) Be a detective, from vs. 4-9 identify what the author knows about God.
- 4) If he's not ignorant of God, why does he act like he doesn't know anything in vs. 1-3?
- 5) What is the expected answer to the first four questions in v. 4?
- 6) What is significant about the “name of God”?
- 7) Which possible answers best fit the question “what is the name of His son?” and why. (options: 1. Israel, 2. anyone who seeks wisdom, or 3. Jesus)
- 8) What does it mean for God's word to be flawless? (see also Psalm 12:6, 119:140)
- 9) Read Deuteronomy 4:2, 12:32 and Revelation 22:18. How does this connect to v. 6 of our passage today?
- 10) How do people add to God's words and why is it unwise?
- 11) What desires are central to the author in his prayer in vs. 7-9?
- 12) What wise elements of this prayer could you incorporate into your life?
- 13) How can we pray for you this week?

READ AHEAD FOR NEXT WEEK: Proverbs 31:10-31