**Wisdom Has Built Her House**

**Theme:** The foresight of wisdom

**Text: Hebrew 9:1-6 (Expanded Bible)** Wisdom has built her house; she has made its seven ·columns [pillars; a large house]. **2**She has ·prepared her food [slaughtered her slaughter] and prepared [mixed] her wine; *(wine represents joy and blessing)* she has set her table. **3**She has sent out her servant girls, and she calls out from the highest place in the city *[the location of the Temple, indicating she symbolizes God].* **4**She says to those who are ·uneducated [naive; immature; simpleminded], “·Come in [Turn aside] here, you ·foolish people [who lack sense]! **5**Come and eat my food and drink the wine I have prepared [mixed]. **6**Stop your foolish [naive; immature; simpleminded] ways, and you will live; take the road of understanding.

**Introduction:** The Hebrew word for wisdom is **Khokhmah –** Wisdom from a Hebrew or biblical perspective is applied or skilled knowledge.

Therefore, this word was first used to describe the wisdom of skilled craftsmen who were endowed with wisdom *(khokmah)* by God to build the furnishings for the temple.

**Exodus 31:1-6 (NLT)** Then the Lord said to Moses, **2**“Look, I have specifically chosen Bezalel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. **3**I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. **4**He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. **5**He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft! **6**“And I have personally appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, to be his assistant. Moreover, I have given special skill to all the gifted craftsmen so they can make all the things I have commanded you to make:

A very common Hebrew phrase is *“There is no one as wise as someone with experience.”*

Appropriately, the book of Proverbs opens with a father giving instruction to his son and closes with a mother giving instruction to her son. The idea that is conveyed is that we need to learn wisdom from our parents and other elders who have real life experience.

This is also why the Scriptures declare that *the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord.*

The image of a father and mother in the book of Proverbs is symbolic of God. We are to have a reverential respect of God as we would our parents.

Again, we can see how today’s culture has turned biblical wisdom upside down, by undermining respect for the elderly and parents.

One of the primary reasons that today’s youth are suffering so many problems is because they are receiving nearly all their understanding of life from their peers via. Social media and friendships.

This is completely counterintuitive and contrary to biblical wisdom. People without real life experience are in no position to give instruction to others because they have no understanding of life.

I am convinced that this is one of the major contributing factors to youth suicide. Because so many young people are completely isolated from adults with life experience, they have no life skills to solve their problems.

We need people in our lives who can teach us through what they have learned through experience.

**I. Biblical Wisdom**

 **A. Wisdom from a biblical or Hebrew perspective means to be knowledgeable and skilled at something through practice and experience.**

 **1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NKJV)** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a **wise** *(Grk. sofoj - sofos)* master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. **11**For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **12**Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, **13**each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. **14**If anyone’s work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. **15**If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

 **1. Paul is instructing the believers in Corinth to use godly wisdom to be careful how they build their lives upon the foundation of Jesus Christ. They need to implore godly wisdom in making wise choices with their lives.**

**II. Wisdom Has Built Her House**

 **This is also a very common Hebrew phrase.**

 **A. A person’s house represents a place of security and rest.**

 **Proverbs 9:1-6 (NLT)** Wisdom has built her house; she has carved its seven columns. **2**She has prepared a great banquet, mixed the wines, and set the table. **3**She has sent her servants to invite everyone to come. She calls out from the heights overlooking the city .**4**“Come in with me,” she urges the simple. To those who lack good judgment, she says, **5**“Come, eat my food, and drink the wine I have mixed. **6**Leave your simple ways behind and begin to live; learn to use good judgment.”

 **1. The imagery we are given here is that of a lady wisdom, who has skillfully built her house and is prepared for the future.**

 **2. This is very similar to the image of the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31**

 **Proverbs 31:25-27 (Complete Jewish Bible)** Clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. **26**When she opens her mouth, she speaks wisely; on her tongue is loving instruction. **27**She watches how things go in her house, not eating the bread of idleness.

 **B. A very common theme of Proverbs is to prepare now, so you are ready to face the uncertainty of the future.**

 **Proverbs 24:27 (RSV)** Prepare your work outside, get everything ready for you in the field; and after that build your house.

 **1. Proverbs speaks time and again to the issue of setting proper life priorities. Proverbs 22:3 (NLT)** A prudent person *(someone with foresight or wisdom)* foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.

 **2. One of the common instructions of wisdom is how to make right choices to avoid common pitfalls of the foolish.**

**III. Wisdom Comes from God**

 **A. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of God.**

 **Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)** The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

 **Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of knowledge, *But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

 **1. The fear of God refers to a reverential respect of God and His ways as opposed to the chaos and darkness of the fallen world.**

 **3. Throughout the book of Proverbs we see a contrast drawn between the ways of God and His wisdom as opposed to the ways of the foolishness of the fallen world.**

 **Proverbs 4: 18-19 (NLT)** The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, which shines ever brighter until the full light of day. **19**But the way of the wicked is like total darkness. They have no idea what they are stumbling over.

 **4. How succinctly this describes society today. Despite all our advances in technology, and so-called brilliant thinkers, modern man continues to embrace ignorance and foolishness at every turn.**

 **5. Consider the words of the apostle Paul when compared to Proverbs 4:18-19**

 **6. In Romans, chapter 8, Paul is actually giving us a history of human idolatry and how people who reject God’s wisdom and instruction eventually spiral down into utter stupidity, absurdity an ignorance.**

 **Romans 1:1-32 (NLT)** But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. **19**They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. **20**For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

**21**Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn’t worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. **22**Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. **23**And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

**24**So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other’s bodies. **25**They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. **26**That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. **27**And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved.

**28**Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. **29**Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. **30**They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. **31**They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. **32**They know God’s justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

* **The fear of God and His ways tends to life, while the neglect and disregard for God and His wisdom brings misery, death, and destruction.**

**Conclusion: *“****All the miseries and evils which men suffer from vice, crime, ambition, injustice, oppression, slavery and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible.”* [***Noah Webster***](https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/noah-webster-quotes)