

Morning Watch

Monday 4/26

Related Verses

**Prov. 9:10**

10 The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**Prov. 3:19**

19 Jehovah by wisdom founded the earth; He established the heavens by understanding;

**Prov. 8:30**

30 Then I was by Him, as a master workman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

**1 Cor. 1:23-24, 30**

23 But we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,

24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

**Col. 1:16-17**

16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.

17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;

Suggested Reading

Wisdom is the Spirit of God (cf. Exo. 28: 3; Deut. 34: 9), which is also Christ; thus, it can be poured out upon man (Prov. 1: 23). This is very clear in the New Testament: those who receive wisdom are those who are filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 6: 3, 10). First Corinthians 12: 8 says that a word of wisdom is given to man through the Spirit; thus, we cannot receive the words in Proverbs by our natural concepts. Rather, we need to let the Spirit of God be poured upon us so that we may receive wisdom. (CWWL, 1956, vol. 1, p. 506)

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Blessed is the man who finds wisdom.... She is more precious than corals, and nothing we desire compares with her. Length of days is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who

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lay hold of her, and happy are those who hold her fast (Prov. 3: 13-18; 8: 11).

We should not let wisdom depart from our sight, but we should keep sound wisdom and discretion. They will be life for our soul and a graceful ornament for our neck (3: 21-22). The real beauty is wisdom and discretion.

In certain portions of Proverbs the wisdom of God is personified. This personification of God's wisdom is the second of the Trinity, the Son of God. Christ is the personified wisdom of God.

Jehovah by wisdom founded the earth; He established the heavens by understanding (3: 19). This One by whom Jehovah founded the earth and established the heavens is Christ, who is the wisdom of God.

In 8: 22-31 personified wisdom says that Jehovah possessed her in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. Wisdom was set up from eternity, from the beginning, before the earth was. When there were no depths, wisdom was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, wisdom was brought forth; when He had not yet made the earth and the fields, nor the first dust of the world. When He established the heavens, wisdom was there; when He inscribed a circle upon the surface of the deep, when He made firm the skies above, when the fountains of the deep became strong, when He set for the sea its boundary, that the waters should not transgress His commandment, when He marked out the foundations of the earth; then wisdom was by Him, as a master workman. Wisdom was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him, rejoicing in His habitable earth; and wisdom's delight was in the sons of men. Again, this personified wisdom refers to Christ.

In verses 12 through 21 we are told that wisdom dwells with prudence and finds knowledge and discretion. Counsel and sound wisdom are hers. Wisdom is understanding and has might. By wisdom kings reign, and rulers decree justice. By wisdom princes rule, and nobles—all who judge righteously. Wisdom loves those who love her, and those who seek wisdom diligently will find her. Riches and honor are with wisdom, enduring wealth and righteousness. Wisdom's fruit is better than gold, even fine gold; and her yield than choice silver. Wisdom walks in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of justice, that wisdom may cause those who love

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her to inherit substance and that she may fill their treasuries. Once again, this personified wisdom signifies Christ. If we have Christ as wisdom, we have everything, including spiritual things and material things. (*Life-study of Proverbs*, pp. 9-11)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1953, vol. 2, pp. 213-223; *CWWL*, 1956, vol. 1, pp. 268-273, 501-507, 509-519

**Further Reading:** *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 1*

**Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 8 – Sections: Gold, Precious Stones, And Pearls; The Divine Building With Transformed Humanity**

Tuesday 4/27

Related Verses

**Rom. 11:33**

33 O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and untraceable His ways!

**Rom. 16:25, 27**

25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel, that is, the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which has been kept in silence in the times of the ages

27 To the only wise God through Jesus Christ, to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Eph. 3:9, 11**

9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

**1 Cor. 2:6-7, 10**

6 But we do speak wisdom among those who are full-grown, yet a wisdom not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are being brought to nought;

7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,

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**10** But to us God has revealed them through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

**Col. 1:27-28**

**27** To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

**28** Whom we announce, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom that we may present every man full-grown in Christ;

**Col. 3:16**

**16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

**Suggested Reading**

Ephesians 1 speaks of the power of God (vv. 19-20), chapter 2, of the grace of God (vv. 5-8), and chapter 3, of the wisdom of God. God is very wise, and the universe reveals His wisdom.

We need to see the difference between wisdom and knowledge. In Colossians 2:3 the two are mentioned together. Wisdom is both higher and deeper than knowledge. Wisdom is seen in the initiation of something, for example, in the formulation of a new invention, and knowledge is seen in the practical application. If you have only knowledge and lack wisdom, you will not be able to initiate anything nor to invent anything. God is the unique Initiator. He has initiated many things, not by His knowledge, but by His wisdom. When He comes in to apply what He has initiated, He displays His knowledge.

In our case, wisdom is in our spirit, and knowledge is in our mind. If you do not know how to get into your spirit, you may have a great deal of knowledge, but you will not have any wisdom. But if you are a person in the spirit, you will be wise. Furthermore, in your mind you will have knowledge, prudence. (*Life-study of Ephesians*, pp. 267-268)

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Wisdom is different from cleverness and deeper than cleverness. It is possible to be clever without being wise. For example, a criminal may be very clever, but he is altogether lacking in wisdom.

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The revelation of the mystery of Christ, the church, by the Holy Spirit concerns God’s wisdom in a mystery. In 1 Corinthians 2:6 and 7 Paul says, “We do speak wisdom among those who are full-grown, yet a wisdom not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are being brought to nought; but we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory.” God’s wisdom is Christ (1 Cor. 1:24), who is the hidden mystery predestined, pre-designated, and foreordained before the ages, in eternity, for our glory. According to 2:7, God’s wisdom is in a mystery; it is a mysterious wisdom. God’s wisdom is the wisdom which has been hidden and which God predestinated before the ages for our glory. God’s wisdom is our destiny, and this destiny was determined by God, decided by Him, beforehand. In eternity God determined our destiny. He predestined His wisdom to be for our glory. This means that in eternity He decided that His wisdom would be our destiny and glory.

As God’s center and as our portion for our enjoyment, Christ is God’s wisdom in a mystery, a wisdom that is deep and profound, beyond human understanding. Within God there is something which Paul describes as wisdom in a mystery. This wisdom has been hidden and predestined before the ages for our glory. As believers we have a destiny, and this destiny is the ultimate and consummate portion of our enjoyment. God’s wisdom in a mystery has not only been hidden but also predestined by God to become our destiny for our glory. (The Conclusion of the New Testament, pp. 91, 2089)

When we live in the oneness of the Body of Christ and express this Body in the various local churches, the result will be: (1) God’s crushing of Satan under our feet (Rom. 16:20a), (2) our enjoying the grace of Christ and the peace of God (v. 20b), and (3) the giving of glory to the only wise God (vv. 25-27). This is the peak of our church life. No matter how many saints or local churches there are on earth, in the various places we all give glory to the only wise God. (*CWWL*, 1990, vol. 3, “A Deeper Study of the Divine Dispensing,” p. 442)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Proverbs*, msgs. 1-2

**Further Reading:** *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 2*

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**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 8 – Sections: The Two Ends Of The Bible Reflecting Each Other; God’s Building In Exodus**

**Wednesday 4/28**

**Related Verses**

**Prov. 8:12**

**12** I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, And I find knowledge and discretion.

**1 Cor. 1:24**

**24** But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**Col. 2:2-3**

**2** That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,

**3** In whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden.

**Luke 2:40, 52**

**40** And the little child grew and became strong, being filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him.

**52** And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature and in the grace manifested in Him before God and men.

**Mat.11:19**

**19** The Son of Man came eating and drinking; and they say, Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. Yet wisdom is justified by her works.

**1 Cor. 2:6-7**

**6** But we do speak wisdom among those who are full-grown, yet a wisdom not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are being brought to nought;

**7** But we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,

**James 1:5**

**5** But if any one of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and does not reproach, and it will be given to him.

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Suggested Reading

Proverbs 8:1 and 12 and 9:1 speak of wisdom, the reality of which is Christ. In Matthew 11:19 the Lord Jesus, referring to Himself said, “Wisdom is justified by her works.” Wisdom is Christ (1 Cor. 1:24, 30). Whatever Christ did was done by the wisdom of God, which is Himself. This wisdom was justified, vindicated, by His wise deeds.

In Matthew 11:19 some authorities read “children” instead of “works” (see Luke 7:35). Being children is a matter of life. We are not students of wisdom caring merely for the knowledge of wisdom. We are children of wisdom caring for the life of wisdom. Because we have the life of Christ, we have the life of wisdom. As children of wisdom, the believers in Christ justify Christ and His deeds and follow Him as their wisdom.

Christ is not only God’s power, but also God’s wisdom (1 Cor. 1:24). He has been made wisdom to us from God (1 Cor. 1:30). Wisdom is for planning and purposing, whereas power is for carrying out and accomplishing what is planned and purposed. In God’s salvation Christ crucified is both God’s power and His wisdom. We need Christ as both power and wisdom. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 481, 315)

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Paul told the Colossian believers that all the treasures of genuine wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Christ [Col. 2:3]. This is the spiritual wisdom and knowledge of the divine economy concerning Christ and the church. Wisdom is related to our spirit, and knowledge is related to our mind (Eph. 1:8, 17).

Moreover, wisdom and knowledge refer to all the “stories” of God. All the stories of God are wisdom and knowledge. All the wisdom and knowledge pertaining to God’s stories are hidden in this Christ who is the mystery of God. Therefore, Colossians 2:6-7 indicates that we who have received Christ Jesus the Lord should walk in Him and be rooted and built up in Him.

God is the unique source of wisdom and knowledge. All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in the Christ who is the mystery of God. Because the church in Colossae had been invaded by pagan philosophy, Paul was helping the Colossians to trace wisdom and knowledge to their true source in God. Christ is the

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mystery of God, who alone is the source of all wisdom and knowledge.

The fact that wisdom and knowledge are embodied in Christ is proved by His spoken words, especially those recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and John. In these books, the Lord spoke about the kingdom and about life. The Lord’s words recorded in these books contain the highest philosophy. None of the teachings of the philosophers, including the ethical teachings of Confucius, compare to them. The concept in the Lord’s words is deep and profound. Anyone who makes a thorough study of philosophy will have to admit that the highest philosophy is that found in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Truly all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in Him. Since wisdom and knowledge are stored up in Christ as a treasure, we cannot have wisdom and knowledge unless we have Christ.

If we exercise our being to contact the Lord, Christ as the life-giving Spirit will saturate our spirit and our mind. Then we also will have in our experience the wisdom and knowledge that are hidden in Christ. In this way we will experience Him as the mystery of God. We should not be like the Colossians, who allowed pagan philosophy to defraud them of the wisdom and knowledge hidden in Christ. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3557-3558)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1956, vol. 2, “Three Aspects of the Church, Book 1: The Meaning of the Church,” ch. 3

**Further Reading:** *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 3*

**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 8 – Sections: God’s Building In The New Testament; The Tabernacle Of God; The Aggregate Of All The Lampstands**

Thursday 4/29
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Related Verses

**1 Cor. 1:30**

**30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

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**Rom. 8:23**

**23** And not only so, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting sonship, the redemption of our body.

**Rom. 5:18**

**18** So then as it was through one offense unto condemnation to all men, so also it was through one righteous act unto justification of life to all men.

**Rom. 6:19, 22**

**19** I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification.

**22** But now, having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end, eternal life.

**Rom. 11:36**

**36** Because out from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

**Rom. 12:2**

**2** And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

**John 1:14**

**14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

**Phil. 3:21**

**21** Who will transfigure the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of His glory, according to His operation by which He is able even to subject all things to Himself.

**1 Pet. 1:18**

**18** Knowing that it was not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, that you were redeemed from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers,

Suggested Reading

Christ as the wisdom of God flows unceasingly from God to us to be our present and practical wisdom in our experience. As we face certain problems and realize that

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we do not know how to handle them, we should apply Christ as our wisdom. If we remain with the Lord to receive His dispensing, He will be transmitted into us as the wisdom to handle all kinds of problems and matters. This is to apply Christ as wisdom in our daily life.

Wisdom may be understood as the way to do things. If we have wisdom, we will know the proper way to do things, but if we are not wise, our way of doing things will be foolish. In order to have the best way to do things in our daily life, we must have wisdom. Christ as wisdom to the believers is actually the divine way. Hence, wisdom in 1 Corinthians 1:30 is equal to the way in John 14:6, a verse in which the Lord Jesus says, “I am the way.” God’s way is His wisdom. If we enjoy Christ and participate in Him, we will have Him as our wisdom, as our way. This wisdom comes from our enjoyment of Christ. Day by day and hour by hour we should live in the spirit and exercise the spirit to call on the name of the Lord Jesus. If we do this, we will enjoy Christ and have Him as our wisdom, that is, our way of doing things. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 3122)

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Christ has become wisdom to us from God. In 1 Corinthians 1:30...Paul does not say that Christ became our wisdom; instead, he says that Christ became wisdom “to us from God.” The expression *to us from God* indicates something present, practical, experiential, and ongoing in the way of transmission. For Christ to become wisdom to us from God indicates that there is the transmission of Christ as wisdom from God to us for our daily experience. Paul composed verse 30 in the particular way he did in order to point out to the believers that Christ should continually become wisdom to us from God.

God Himself in Christ is wisdom to us, constantly transmitting Christ, His wisdom, into us as the divine element that constitutes us wise persons.

Christ became wisdom to us from God as three vital things in God’s salvation: (1) righteousness (for our past),... (2) sanctification (for our present),... and (3) redemption (for our future)... It is of God that we participate in such a complete and perfect salvation, which makes our entire being—spirit, soul, and body—organically one with Christ and makes Christ everything to us. On the one hand, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption cover three stages of God’s salvation:

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regeneration in the spirit (for our past), sanctification in the soul (for our present), and redemption in the body (for our future).

On the other hand, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption refer to three aspects of the nature of God’s salvation that we need to experience daily in our Christian living and work. Today in our living and work we need Christ as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. Every day we need to be righteous, we need to be sanctified, and we need to be redeemed in all matters of our living. Christ, the wisdom of God transmitted into our being, is doing everything within us to make us righteous in our deeds and to sanctify us in our nature. Hence, whatever we do must be righteous and holy. Not only so, Christ as the wisdom of God redeems us from all things other than God (1 Pet. 1:18). Every day our living and work must be righteous, holy, and redeemed. Even our entire being should be righteous, holy, and redeemed. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3122-3123)

Further Reading: *CWWN*, vol. 36, “Christ Becoming Our Wisdom,” pp. 165-185

**Further Reading:** *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 4*

**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 8 – Sections:** *The City and Its Street; Twelve Foundations and Twelve Gates; Precious Stones; The Length, Breadth, and Height of the City*

<b>Friday 4/30</b>
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**Related Verses****Eph. 3:10**

**10** In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church,

**Eph. 6:12**

**12** For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

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**Eph. 3:8-9**

**8** To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

**9** And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

**Eph. 4:3-6**

**3** Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace:

**4** One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

**5** One Lord, one faith, one baptism;

**6** One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Rom. 15:6**

**6** That with one accord you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Rev. 12:10**

**10** And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

**Suggested Reading**

[Ephesians 3:10] says that through the church the multifarious wisdom of God is made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenlies. These rulers and authorities are the angelic rulers and authorities, both good and evil. The passage here especially refers to the evil ones—Satan and his angels. According to the New Testament, Satan has his kingdom, his angels, and his sphere of rule. Satan’s sphere of rule is in the air and on the earth. The book of Daniel indicates that all nations on earth are under the rule of Satan in the air. Therefore, through the church God makes His wisdom known not mainly to human beings but to those rebellious angels who are the followers of God’s enemy. (*Life-study of Ephesians*, p. 268)

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If you are a person full of wisdom, the more troubles and difficulties you have, the more wisdom you will

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express....You need trouble in order to display your wisdom.

God also needs trouble. He even needs an adversary, Satan....When I was young, I wondered why God did not cast Satan into the lake of fire immediately when he rebelled against Him. I questioned why God gave Satan so much freedom. I also asked why God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden of Eden. If this tree had not been there, man would not have fallen. But without Satan and without the tree of knowledge, God's wisdom cannot be fully manifested. Satan and the tree of knowledge have created many opportunities for God's wisdom to be manifested in a multifarious way, that is, in various ways and aspects and from many angles. The Greek word translated "multifarious" indicates that God's wisdom has many sides, aspects, and directions. Only through problems can all the aspects of God's wisdom be manifested.

In Ephesians 3:10 Paul declares that God's multifarious wisdom is made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenlies through the church. The church is the Body of Christ, the joint-heirs, and the joint-partakers. The church is composed of those who once were ruined, corrupted, and damaged. Before we were saved, we were vipers, poisonous serpents. Furthermore, we were dead in trespasses and sins. Moreover, we were scattered and divided, utterly unable to be one. Thus, all the members of the church were in a hopeless situation. Nevertheless, God in His wisdom is able to make us the church. Now we are not only redeemed, saved, cleansed, freed, liberated, and regenerated—we are also united. We are one with God and with one another. Therefore, we are the church. The church is God's greatest boast. Although you may not care that much for the church, God cares very much for the church. Sometimes God may say, "Look, Satan, I have taken the very people whom you have ruined and I have made them into the church. Do you have the wisdom to do such a thing? You do not have this wisdom, but I have it."

The church through which God's wisdom is so marvelously displayed is God's masterpiece. In the eyes of God the most wonderful thing in the universe is the church, for through the church God's multifarious wisdom is made known to Satan and his angels. The day is coming when Satan and his angels will be put to shame. They will realize

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that everything they have done has given God the opportunity to manifest His wisdom. In the same principle, our failures, mistakes, defeats, and wrongdoings have also given God opportunities to display His wisdom. (*Life-study of Ephesians*, pp. 268-270, 272-273)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Ephesians*, msg. 31; *CWWL*, 1965, vol. 1, "The Vision, Practice, and Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ," chs. 1, 3

Further Reading: *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 5*

Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 8 – Sections: *No Temple; The Glory of God as the Light and the Lamb as the Lamp; The Throne of God and of the Lamb*

Saturday 5/1
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**Related Verses****Heb. 11:10**

10 For he eagerly waited for the city which has the foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God.

**Rev. 21:2**

2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

**Heb. 11:13, 16**

13 All these died in faith, not receiving the promises but seeing them from afar and joyfully greeting them and confessing that they were strangers and sojourners on the earth.

16 But as it is, they long after a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed of them, to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

**Heb. 12:22**

22 But you have come forward to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem; and to myriads of angels, to the universal gathering;

**Heb. 13:14**

14 For we do not have here a remaining city, but we seek after the one to come.

**Rev. 3:12**

12 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

**Rev. 21:3**

3 And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

**Gal. 4:26**

26 But the Jerusalem above is free, which is our mother;

**Gal. 4:31**

31 So then, brothers, we are not children of the maidservant but of the free woman.

**Suggested Reading**

The New Jerusalem is designed and constructed by God. Speaking of Abraham, Hebrews 11:10 says, "He eagerly waited for the city which has the foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God." The Greek word for *architect* in this verse can also be translated either "builder" or "artificer." This indicates that God is a skillful designer and a top craftsman. As such an Architect and Builder, God certainly has not designed and built a physical city.

Ephesians 2:10 reveals that the church is God's masterpiece. The Greek word for *masterpiece*, *poiema*, means something which has been written or composed as a poem. Poetry expresses the writer's wisdom. Through the church as a poem written by Him God makes known His multifarious wisdom (Eph. 3:10). The New Jerusalem, as the ultimate consummation of the church, will be full of wisdom. God designed the New Jerusalem with His wisdom, and this city will display His wisdom for eternity. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 2029)

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To say that the New Jerusalem is a physical city depreciates God's wisdom and belittles Him as the eternal, wise Architect. If we realize that the New Jerusalem is a sign which signifies spiritual and divine things, we shall begin to see the wisdom of God in this city. God is a wise Designer and Craftsman who designs such a city to be a

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full manifestation of His multifarious wisdom. Furthermore, in His wisdom God constructs the New Jerusalem by dispensing Himself as the Architect and Builder into our being.

God's design is revealed in the book of Ephesians....In chapters 1 and 3 Paul speaks of God's economy, which is God's plan with a design. Surely, God has not designed a material city, and He has no intention of building a material city. God has designed and built a spiritual entity for His corporate expression.

The city of the living God was seen from afar, longed after, and waited for by the Old Testament saints (Heb. 11:13b, 16a, 10a)...[Abraham] sojourned in the land of promise as a pilgrim, even as an exile and an expatriate, longing after a better country, a heavenly one (Heb. 11:16). Isaac and Jacob followed him in the same steps, living on earth as strangers and sojourners and waiting for the God-built city of foundations.

In eternity past the Triune God made a plan, and throughout the centuries He has been carrying out His economy. The Son came through incarnation, lived on earth for thirty-three and a half years, died on the cross, was resurrected, and then ascended. Since His ascension, the Spirit has been working out many wonderful things. Surely, as the conclusion of all this, God will not build a material city for His redeemed people to live in. The New Jerusalem is a city, but it is not a physical, material city.

Hebrews 11:10 indicates that God is the Architect and the Builder of the New Jerusalem....This is "the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem" (Heb. 12:22), "the Jerusalem above" (Gal. 4:26), "the holy city, New Jerusalem" (Rev. 21:2; 3:12), which God has prepared for His people (Heb. 11:16), and the tabernacle of God in which God will dwell with men for eternity (Rev. 21:3). As the patriarchs waited for this city, so we also seek it (Heb. 13:14).

Consider the New Jerusalem as it is revealed in the New Testament. Who other than God is capable of designing such a city? Only God as the supreme Architect is able to design it. The New Jerusalem was designed by the eternal, divine Architect. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 2029, 2683, 56)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msgs. 6, 9, 29, 45, 187, 190, 193, 256, 307, 337, 344

**The Multifarious Wisdom of God**

**Further Reading:** *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 8, Day 6*

**Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 8 – Sections: The Bride, The Wife Of The Lamb**

**Hymns, #23****1**

In all Thy wisdom, Father God,  
According to Thy will,  
Eternal purpose Thou hast made  
That all Thy Son might fill.

**Chorus**

How deep and rich Thy wisdom is,  
O who can search and trace?  
Yet, Father God, in it we find  
Thy mercy and Thy grace!

**2**

How wondrously Thou mad'st all things,  
O who can know Thy mind?  
All are of Thee, thru Thee, to Thee,  
Thy wisdom here we find.

**3**

Thy wisdom shuts up all in sin,  
That mercy may be shown,  
That none may boast in anything  
But in Thyself alone.

**4**

In wisdom, by the cross, Thou hast  
For us redemption made,  
That in our spirit we may have  
Thyself, the treasure, laid.

**5**

Thy wisdom thru Thy Church is known  
By principalities,  
Thru us Thy wisdom manifold  
Shown in the heavenlies.

**6**

When in the new Jerusalem  
In mercy we will boast,  
Thy wisdom will be known for aye  
Unto the uttermost.

**Lord's Day 5/2****Related Verses****Rev. 1:11**

**11** Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.

**Rev. 4:11**

**11** You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

**Rev. 21:9-11**

**9** And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

**10** And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

**11** Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

**Rev. 22:16**

**16** I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.

**2 Cor. 13:14**

**14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**John 9:3**

**3** Jesus answered, Neither has this man sinned nor his parents, but he was born so, that the works of God might be manifested in him.

**Eph. 1:11**

**11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

**Morning Watch**

**The Multifarious Wisdom of God**

**Col. 1:9**

9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

**Further Reading**

*Life-Study of Proverbs msgs. 1, 2*

*CWWL 1956* vol. 2 “Three Aspects of the Church Book

1: The Meaning of the Church” chap. 3

*Life-study of Ephesians msg. 31*