

The Book of Proverbs

“Wisdom and the Fear of the Lord: Proverbs as a Book on Faith”

Week 7: Proverbs 9, “Wisdom Contrasted with Folly”

I. Proverbs 9:1-6, “Lady Wisdom Invites Everyone to Her Banquet”

1. How is the language in verse 1 similar to what is found in chapter 8(22-31)?
2. What is the significance of the number 7?
3. Considering our discussion in ch 8, what do “pillars” probably refer to? (See also 1 Sam 2:8; Ps 75:3)
4. The Feast of Salvation is a recurring theme in Scriptures. Read Is 25:6-9 and Matt 22:1-10. Where is this Feast prepared for us?
5. To whom especially is the invitation extended? How is this in a way an indication of our growth in faith from our Baptism?

II. Proverbs 9:7-12, “Do Not Reprove a Scoffer”

6. Why can you expect furor or abuse from trying to correct the scoffer?
7. How do we see this in our culture today?

8. Who will be the one to heed your instruction?

9. How is this also a hint for how we should receive criticism?

III. Proverbs 9:13-18, “The Way of Folly”

10. How does she try to seem similar to Lady Wisdom, yet betrayed by her character?

11. How does this show that folly can be disguised as wisdom and fool some people?

12. How does lazy woman Folly’s banquet compare to hard-working Wisdom’s?

13. What is the ultimate contrast being made? (vs 6 and 11 versus v 18)

Memory Verse for Today:

Proverbs 9:9, “Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.”

Proverbs 9:12, “If you are wise, you are wise for yourself;
if you scoff, you alone will bear it.”