

Wisdom Lived
Proverbs 3:1-35
Wednesday 6, 2026
New Baptist Church

The background of the entire image is a rustic wooden surface with vertical planks. Scattered across the left and center are several stalks of golden wheat, some in sharp focus and others blurred, creating a sense of depth and texture.

THE THRESHING FLOOR

Proverbs 3:9-10 “Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;



Threshing Floors of the Bible

Threshing floors served several purposes:

- As agricultural processing facilities and places of commercial activity.
- As places that have symbolic meaning.
- As neutral places of gathering.
- As places of political treaty.
- As places of mourning.
- As places of sacrifice.
- As building sites.





View of a threshing floor in the Hill Country of Ephraim.















Bible References to Thrashing Floors?

- **Ruth 3:3-6:** Ruth meets Boaz.
- **2 Samuel 24:18-25 / 1 Chronicles 21:18-26:** David buys the threshing floor.
- **Matthew 3:12 / Luke 3:17:** John the Baptist's prophecy of Jesus.

(Deuteronomy 26:1-4)

2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ...4 Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;




Once the grain had been threshed and winnowed, the first portion — *the reshit* — was set aside. Not the leftover. Not what was easy to spare. The first. It was placed in a basket, carried to the sanctuary, and given to the LORD. (Deuteronomy 26)

Proverbs 3:9 has Deuteronomy 26 in mind. The Israelite who did this was making a confession. He was saying, with his hands full of grain, that the harvest was not his own. He had threshed it. He had winnowed it. But he had not made it grow. The LORD had. And the first portion belonged to the One who gave it.



Proverbs 3:9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;



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Proverbs 1

The Purpose of the Book of Proverbs (1-6)

to **KNOW** wisdom and instruction, to **UNDERSTAND** discernment, to **RECEIVE** instruction, wise dealing, righteousness, to **GIVE** prudence, knowledge, guidance...

Where the Path to Wisdom Begins (7)

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;

Three Voices

1. The Father: Where one learns the fear the Lord (8-9) (**The Home**)

2. The Enticer: Where one DOES NOT learn the fear the Lord (10-19)

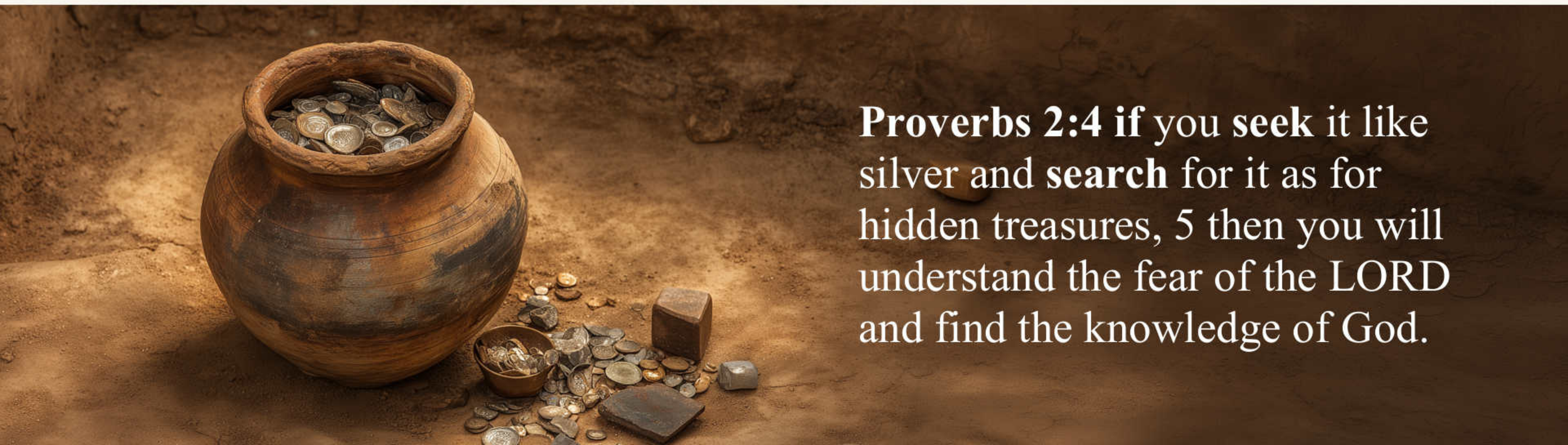
3. *Wisdom Crys out in the Streets (20-22)*

The Offer (23) - **23** If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.

Proverbs 2:1-22

- *The Benefits of Wisdom*

1. Knowledge of God Himself (vv. 5–8).
2. Moral discernment for daily life (v. 9).
3. Internal transformation and protection (vv. 10–11).
4. Deliverance from the two great destroyers (corrupt people and corrupt desires) (vv. 12–19).
5. Covenant security and endurance (vv. 20–22).



Proverbs 2:4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2: Wisdom Must Be Sought For

Proverbs 3: *Wisdom Must Be Lived*

First **MY Son**: Wisdom Lived Toward The Self (Inward) (1-10)

Second **My Son**: Wisdom Lived Toward God (Upward) (11-20)

Third **MY SON**: Wisdom Lived Toward Neighbor (Outward) (21-31)

- 32-35: **(the wise and fools)** - Two Persons, Two Houses, Two Attitudes, Two Rewards

Proverbs 3: *Wisdom Must Be Lived*

First MY Son: Wisdom Lived Toward The Self (Inward) (1-10)

1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,

- **Forget** (תִּשְׁכַּח, tishkach) — to lose from memory, to let slip.
- **My teaching** (תּוֹרָתִי, torati) — torah.
- **My commandments** (מִצְוֹתַי, mitsvotai) — mitzvot.
- **Keep** (יִצֹר, yitsor) — to guard, to watch over, to preserve.

. The mind remembers; the heart keeps.

2 for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

- **Length of days** (אֶרֶךְ יָמִים, orek yamim) — duration. A long life.
- **Years of life** (שָׁנוֹת חַיִּים, shenot chayyim) — years that are alive.
- **Peace** (שָׁלוֹם, shalom) — wholeness, completeness, settled welfare.

Compare this to what the world can give??

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First MY Son: Wisdom Lived Toward The Self (Inward) (1-10)

1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,

2 for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

3 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

- **Steadfast love (חֶסֶד, hesed)** — covenant loyalty, loving-kindness, the love that does not let go.
- **Faithfulness (אֱמֶת, emet)** — truth, reliability, trustworthiness. what does not fail.

Love without faithfulness is sentiment. Faithfulness without love is mere duty. Together, they are covenant.

4 So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

Other Examples of - “In favor with God and man”

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4 So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

- **Trust** (בְּטַח, *betach*) — to lean on, to be confident in,
- **With all your heart** —
- **Do not lean** (אַל-תִּשָּׂא, *al-tisha'en*) — Do not put your weight down
- **Your own understanding** (בִּינָתְךָ, *binatekha*) — *binah*. Discernment.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

- **Acknowledge** (דָּעֵהוּ, *da'ehu*) — relational knowing. Know Him in all your ways.
- **Make straight** (יַיֶּשֶׁר, *yeyasher*) — to clear of obstacles..

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- 4 So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
- 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
- 7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
- 8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.
- 9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; 10 then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

- **Honor (כָּבֵד, kabbed)** — weight, glory. To honor is to give weight to, to treat as heavy, to acknowledge as significant.
- **Firstfruits (רֵאשִׁית, reshit)** - the first portion

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Second MY Son: Wisdom Lived Toward The Lord (Upward) (11-20)

11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof,

- **Despise** (אֶל־תִּמָּאֵס, al-timas) — to reject, to spurn, to treat as worthless.
- **Discipline** (מוֹסֵר, musar) — formative correction,
- **Be weary** (אֶל־תִּקְוֹץ, al-taqots) — to loathe, to feel disgust at.
- **Reproof** (תּוֹכַחַת, tokhachat) — correction, rebuke to expose wrong

12 for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

13 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding,

- **Blessed** (אֲשֵׁרֵי, ashre) — happy, fortunate, the man whose life is going well.
- **Gets** (יִפְיֵק, yaphiq) — to draw out, to obtain.

14 for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

15 She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

16 Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.

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15 She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

16 Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.

17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

- **Pleasantness (נְעִים, no'am)** — sweetness, delight, beauty.

- **Peace (שְׁלוֹם, shalom)**

18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.

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18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called
blessed.
19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the
heavens; 20 by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the
dew. When you walk in wisdom, you are walking in the grain of the universe. You
are aligning your life with the very pattern by which God made everything.

Proverbs 3: *Wisdom Must Be Lived*

Third MY Son: Wisdom Lived Toward Others (Outward) (21-31)

21 My son, do not lose sight of these — keep sound wisdom and discretion,

• **Lose sight** (אַל-יָלֻזוּ, **al-yaluzu**) — to slip away, to depart from view.

22 and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. 23 Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble.

24 If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes, 26 for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.

27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. 28 Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you.

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27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. 28 Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you.

29 Do not plan evil against your neighbor, who dwells trustingly beside you.

30 Do not contend with a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm.

31 Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways,

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The Wise and The Fools (32-34)

32 for the devious person is an abomination to the LORD, but the upright are in his confidence.

- **The devious person** (נָלוֹז, *naloz*) — the twisted one,
- **Abomination** (תּוֹעֵבָה, *to'evah*) — What God hates.
- **Upright** (יְשָׁרִים, *yesharim*) — straight, level.
- **Confidence** (סוֹד, *sod*) — the intimate counsel. The friendship of the king.

33 The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous.

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34 Toward the scorers he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor.

35 The wise will inherit honor, but fools get disgrace.

- **Inherit (יִנְחָלוּ, yinchalu)** — receive as a permanent possession,

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