



Get Wisdom, Choose Wisdom, Guard Wisdom

Proverbs 4:1–27

May 20, 2026 - New Baptist Church



The Ancient Highways of Israel

*The Via Maris
(Way of the Sea)*

The Way of the Patriarchs

The King's Highway

The Way of the Patriarchs



The Way of the Patriarchs



The Way of the Patriarchs



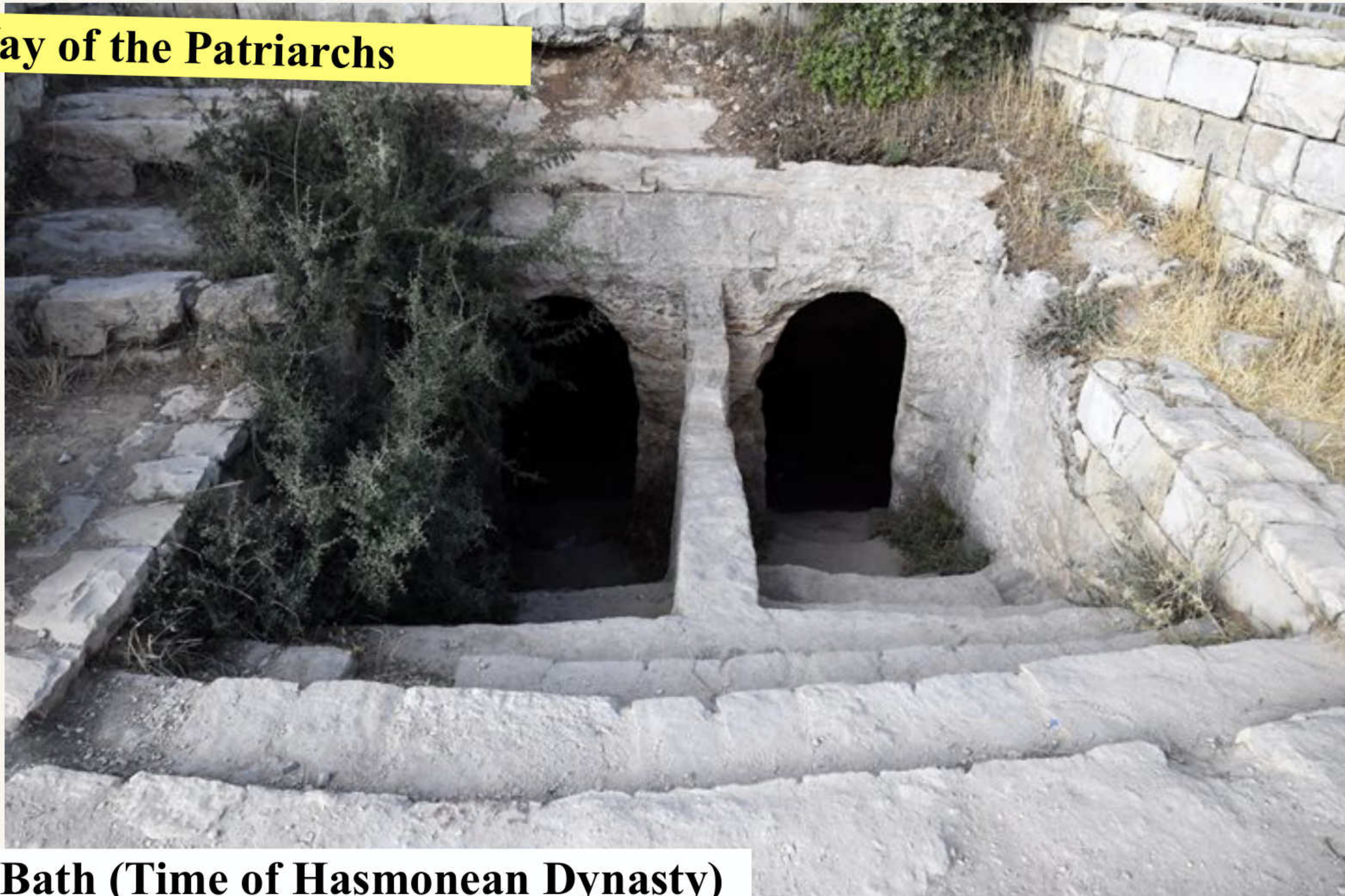
Roman Milestone (110 AD)

The Way of the Patriarchs



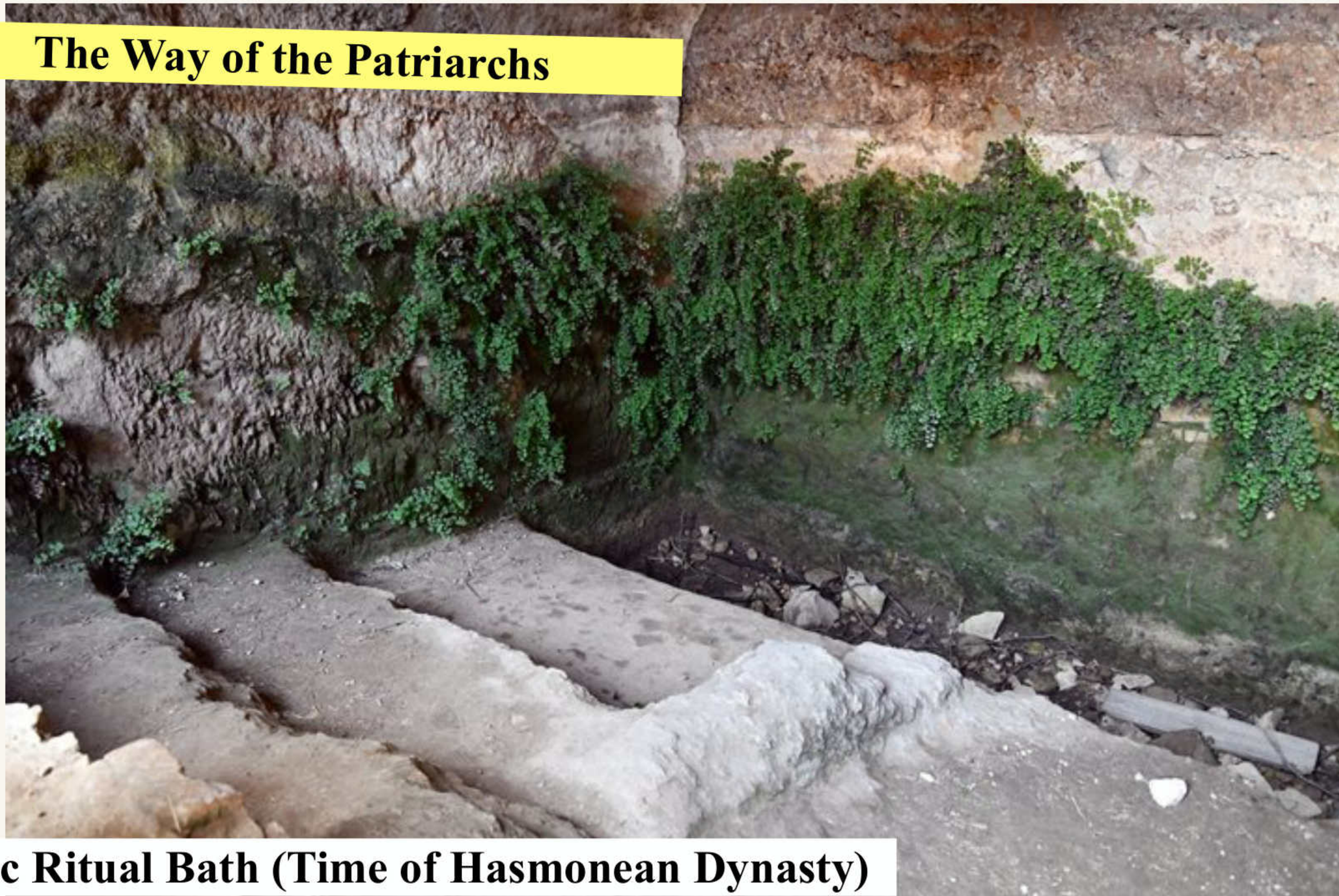
Public Ritual Bath (Time of Hasmonean Dynasty)

The Way of the Patriarchs



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The King's Highway

ENKOMI
ARVAD
HARAN
NISIBIS
NINEVEH
RESAFA
CALAH
TADMOR
DAMASCUS
STRATA
BO
ASHUR
SIPPAR
BABYLON
MEMPHIS
SAIS
MENDES
PELUSIUM
TANIS
HELIOPOLIS
GAZA
BEERSHEVA
NEKHL?
JERUSALEM
JERICO
HAZOR
MEGIDDO
JOPPE
JAFFA
ADOD
RABBATH

Proverbs 1: *The Purpose and Path of Wisdom*

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 1: *The Purpose and Path of Wisdom*

Proverbs 2: *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 1: *The Purpose and Path of Wisdom*

Proverbs 2: *The Benefits of Wisdom*

Proverbs 3: *Wisdom Must Be Lived*

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

Trust the LORD with all your heart, (5)

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

Do not despise His discipline. (11)

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

Do not withhold good (27)

The Wise and The Fools (32-34)

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Proverbs 4: *Wisdom Given, Wisdom Chosen, and Wisdom Guarded*

(You must learn it, you must choose it, you must guard it)

First MY Sons: [Wisdom Given \(1-9\)](#)

Second MY Son: [Wisdom Chosen \(10-19\)](#)

Thrid MY Son: [Wisdom Guarded \(20-27\)](#)

Proverbs 4: *Wisdom Given, Wisdom Chosen, and Wisdom Guarded*

First MY Sons: Wisdom Given (1-9)

1 Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight,

Hear — shema. “To hear and to do”.

Instruction — Formative correction. The shaping of character.

Attentive — To pay attention (ears are alert).

2 for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching.

What I give you is good. Take it. Do not forsake it.

3 When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, 4 he taught me and said to me, “Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live.

There is a generational quality to wisdom

Wisdom is passed down like a family inheritance. This is how wisdom is learned.

Grandfather (David) *Bathsheba*

Father (Solomon)

Son (Rehoboam??)

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The Shema — teach them diligently to your children (Deut 6:7).

The Passover — and when your son asks you, you shall say to him (Ex 12:26).

Psalms 78 — what we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us, we will not hide from their children, but tell to the coming generation (Ps 78:3–4).

No one starts wise. Wisdom is taught.

What happens when a father stops attending church?

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he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my
commandments, and live.
5 **Get** wisdom; **get** insight; **do not forget**, and **do not turn away** from the words
of my mouth. 6 **Do not forsake her**, and she will keep you; **love her**, and she
will guard you. 7 The beginning of wisdom is this: **Get** wisdom, and whatever
you **get**, **get** insight.

Get, Get,

Do not forget, do not turn away, do not forsake her, love her,

Get, Get, Get.

What is the message? GET WISDOM!!

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8 Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her.

9 She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a

beautiful crown." Prize and Embrace Her (Language of Marriage (Covenant love))

Solomon 3:11 — Go forth, O daughters of Zion, and look upon King Solomon, with the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, on the day of the gladness of his heart. The young man who embraces wisdom is, in Solomon's image, a groom on his wedding day

Proverbs 4: *Wisdom Given, Wisdom Chosen, and Wisdom Guarded*

First MY Sons: Wisdom Given (1-9)

Second MY Son: Wisdom Chosen (10-19)

10 Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many.

A father can show his son the way, but the Son must accept

11 I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness.

Taught —I have torah-ed you.

Led — I have walked you in these paths.

A father does not give his son a manual on walking. He walks ahead and the son follows.

12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble. *The son who walks on wisdom's paths can now run.*

13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

DO NOT LOSE WHAT YOU HAVE!! (Get Wisdom - and do not lose her)

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12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble.

13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

14 Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. 15
Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on.

- Do not enter
- Do not walk
- Avoid it
- Do not go on it
- Turn away
- Pass on

What is being said?

Don't walk down that road. Stay away!!

Wisdom is knowing what road to walk on, and what one NOT to walk on.

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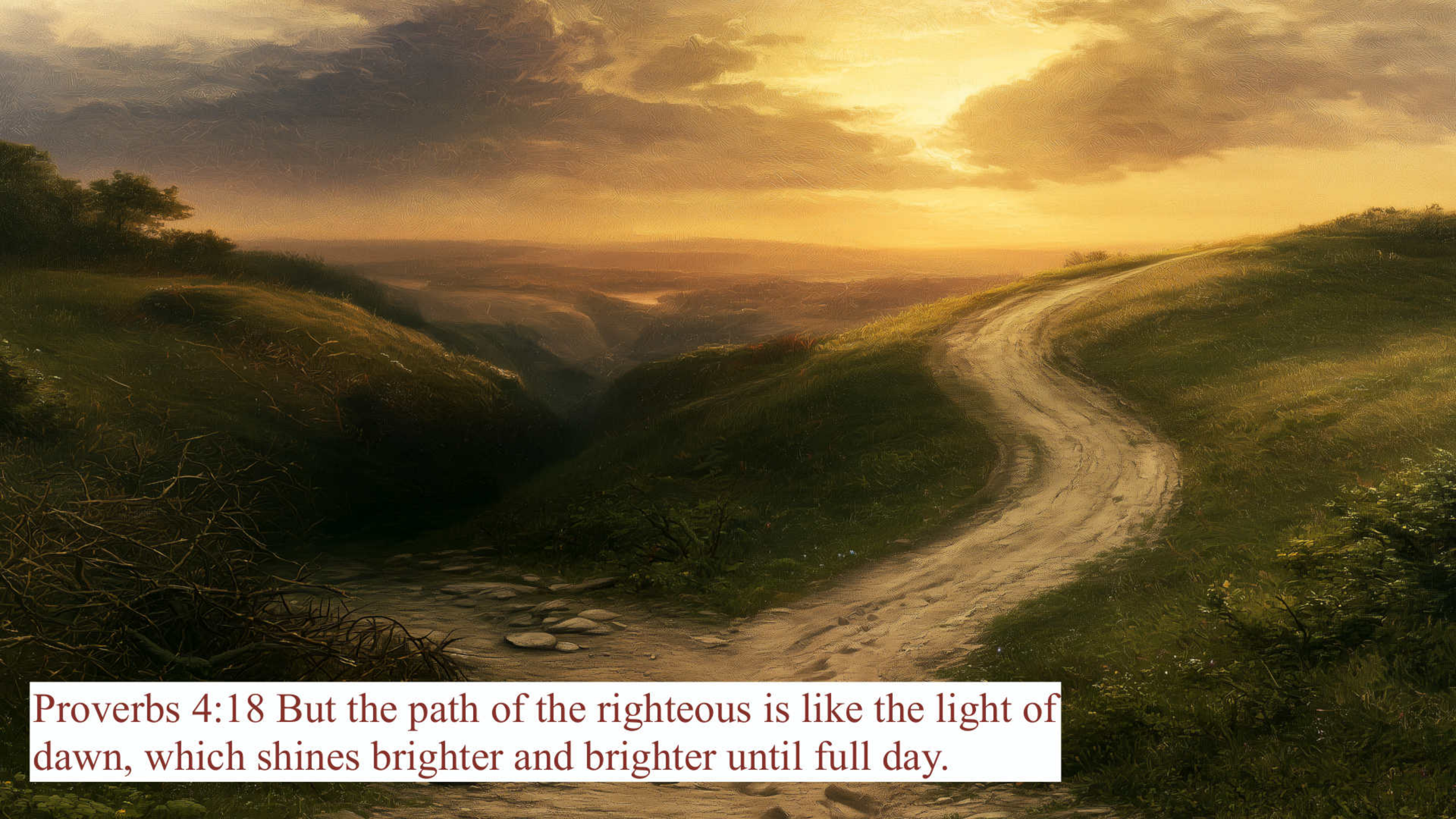
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16 For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble. 17 For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. *The path of the wicked is like an addiction*

18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. 19 The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble. *Light upon the path of the wise gets brighter!*



Proverbs 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

Proverbs 4: *Wisdom Given, Wisdom Chosen, and Wisdom Guarded*

First MY Sons: Wisdom Given (1-9)

Second MY Son: Wisdom Chosen (10-19)

Third MY Son: Wisdom Guarded (20-27)

20 My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. 21 Let them not escape from your sight; **keep them within your heart.** 22 For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. The whole body benefits from wisdom

The Heart: 23 Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

The Mouth: 24 Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.

The Eyes: 25 Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.

The Mind: 26 Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.

The Feet: 27 Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

We guard wisdom by guarding the heart, mouth, eyes, mind and feet



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