



# Sermon Notes — Pastor Thomas Keys, SRMBC

Wisdom—The Principle Thing II: The Value of Wisdom Scriptures: Proverbs 2:1—11

## INTRODUCTION

In 2004, a painting was brought to PBS' Antiques Roadshow for appraisal. It was purchased from Anna Mary Robertson for \$10.00 in 1942. It was discovered that the artist, Anna Mary Robertson, was the famous "Grandma Moses" and the painting was appraised at \$60,000.00. As of 2019, the painting titled "Checkered House" was worth about \$100,000.00 dollars.

My point is that there are things in this world that people value and chase after, but have no real lasting value (money, things, power, pleasure...) And there are things that like this painting that at first seem like it's not worth much, and devalued by many – but upon closer examination, are the most precious of all. Isn't the same true about the Word and Wisdom of God? People today put so much value on the wisdom of entertainers, politicians, and the like – but neglected and not realized the value of the Word of God that leads us to salvation, blessings and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## SERMON POINTS

As we look at chapter 2 of Proverbs we are given a picture of King Solomon the richest and wisest man ever, sitting his son down for some "real talk" about life and the wisdom that God provides that will make you prosperous and avoid the pitfalls of the rest of the World. O, How we need parents to their children about being Godly followers of Jesus Christ.

And beloved, many of the problems we see in our world are the results of our failure to listen to the Heavenly Father's wisdom from His written Word the Bible, and from the Living Word, Jesus His Son. So here is Solomon schooling son and setting the stage for a successful and blessed life, by showing him the eternal value of God's wisdom. What I want to do in this message is help us to understand the Pursuit, the Person and Purpose of Wisdom that we would see its value and see our value as well.

### I. Determination To The Pursuit Of Wisdom (2:1–5)

As a fan of Saturday morning cartoons, I used to watch the Bugs Bunny and Roadrunner show faithfully. I was always intrigued by Wile E. Coyote and his posit of the Road runner. While the coyote never caught the Roadrunner, you must admire the fact that he did everything he could do to catch him. In other words, the wisdom of God is valuable, but it doesn't just drop in your lap out of nowhere. We've got to take action and t put in some work of effort to obtain it. As we look at verses 1 – 5 of chapter 2. Note the verbs the father uses in the passage (**receive, treasure, incline apply, cry out, lift up, seek, search**). the point is clear, God's wisdom that He provides is only given to those who are determined to actively pursue it.

WISDOM is a prize only available to people willing to work to find it. Many of us "old heads" as kids have the memory of prizes in the cereal box. But the prize would always be at the bottom. There was this understood rule among parents that children could not just reach in and pull out the prize but had to eat their way to the it. The prize at the bottom of that cereal box would not be easily attainable! God's wisdom is the prize that we receive every time we seek Him feed on His Word and in His Worship and Praise. O beloved come over here where the table is spread, and the feast of the Lord is going on – God is serving His wisdom by the bowlful

### II. Recognition Of The Provider Of Wisdom (vv. 6–8)

I remember when I got my first place away from my mom and dad's house in Philly. It was so great to finally be free from my parents rules. But then... my first set of bills (water, gas electric, phone) came in the mail – and I discovered that my parents really knew what they were talking about... My point is that we need to recognize the God we serve as One who means what He says and says what he means. We would do well to listen Him and what He says – Because of who His is and the only source of wisdom that was true before is true today and will be true forever

We need to recognize the Lord's authority. That's because the Lord is the Only source of real wisdom in the world. One of wisest things a person can know is that as smart as you are - you don't have all the answers – Only the Lord does.

We need to recognize his reliability and His security. The truth is that God loves us and He is good and want the best for His people. God say I know the plans I have for you – to prosper you and bring you to an expected [blessed] end (Jer. 29:11). Even when we face difficulties that were not our fault or that we caused because we stepped away from His wisdom—we can rest in His protection.

EF Hutton was an American stock brokerage firm founded in 1904 by Edward Francis Hutton and his brother. EF Hutton ran a commercial – where a guy turns to his conversation partner and asks about her broker's advice. She "Well my broker is E.F. Hutton, and E.F. Hutton says ..." Boom! The whole party scene freezes and goes totally silent – and the announcer would say "***When E.F. Hutton talks, people listen...***"

The idea was that EF Hutton's advice that was so reliable it would be wise to stop what you're doing and listen. Today, EF Hutton has since gone out of business, but the [wisdom] of the Word of God will last forever. God is speaking – Are you listening?

### III. Application Of The Purpose Of Wisdom (vv. 9–11)

I know you've heard this story of a man who got a flat tire in front of an insane asylum as he was changing the tire the lug nuts fell off the car and rolled into the sewer. Frustrated and not knowing what to do one of the patients in the asylum looked out the window and told the guy what to do. First take one lug nut off the 3 tires and put those lug nuts on the spare tire. That should hold the tire on long enough for you to get to a gas station or auto shop.

There is a saying that people use in our circles that goes this way: "When you know better, you do better..." And beloved the more we know of God's wisdom, the more we embrace and find our joy in following God's wisdom, the better we can identify Satan's tricks and see ourselves as God sees us— prosperous, more than conquerors, strong and mighty in the Lord. We are the kings and priest of the Most-High God – who can't be blocked or stopped and can do all things in Christ!!!

As I close, I remember once, the managers at my job invited our whole staff out to Scotts Restaurant of a Christmas Luncheon. Well, some of my co-workers scoffed at the invitation, and stubbornly decided not to attend. After having dessert, it came time to pay the bill. I asked the waiter to come over and bring me the bill. He left only to come back a few minutes later and declare that I had no bill. He told me that if the managers had picked up the tab for everyone.

Now, I would have been a fool and would not have been incredibly wise to sit there and argue with the waiter. It would not have been wise to not accept the gift. All I could do was say thank you. I showed gratitude for a price that had already been paid.

God wants us to accept His gift. He has paid our tab. Some people are fools because they refuse to accept God's free gift. The price of salvation has already been paid and God's Son has picked up the tab.

- ♦ Jesus Death On Cross and picked up our Tab
- ♦ Jesus Burial in the Tomb Put away our tab
- ♦ Jesus Resurrection Paid Our Sin Tab in full
- ♦ Now I am free to walk in the Wisdom of God and to Celebrate in the Worship of God
- ♦ And through God's Wisdom I will see all the Blessings of God toward me. my church and my family

O, beloved, the wisest things any of us can do – is to know that Jesus has paid it all and walk in the wisdom that come with knowing and following Him.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- ♦ How much do you value the wisdom from the Word of God? In what ways can you better discover more of His wisdom.?
- ♦ Who has God placed in your life to impart wisdom into you?
- ♦ Who in your life needs to hear and see God's wisdom from you?
- ♦ What areas of your life to most need to apply God's wisdom?