

(Prov. 8:9) - In verse 8, wisdom speaks and tells us, “All the words of My mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.” As we have seen, this speaks of Christ, the Lord our righteousness, the very “righteousness of God” (Rom. 1:17), in whom the glory of God in the salvation of sinners by His grace is revealed. All that Christ is and all that He did to redeem us from our sins are in strict accordance with the glory, majesty, and honor of God Almighty as both “a just God AND a Savior” (Isa. 45:21). This is Christ Who is the wisdom of God as He is our Surety, having our sins imputed to Him and His righteousness imputed us, our Substitute, having taken unto Himself a perfect sinless human nature in order to die in our stead, and our Redeemer, having paid our debt to God’s justice in full by the price of His own blood.

These glorious truths “are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.” When our understanding is enlightened by the Spirit of God through the Word of God, when we are blessed of God to have ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts to understand the Gospel truth, the mysteries of the Gospel are plain and right to us. We see how that God’s way of grace in Christ and His righteousness imputed is the only right and good way. The Bible is a sealed book and the Gospel foolishness to all natural men, learned or unlearned, until God gives understanding (2 Cor. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 2:9-14; 1 John 5:20).

(Prov. 8:10-11) - When God reveals Himself in Christ to us, He teaches us this knowledge that is more to be desired than all that the world can offer (John 6:45; 2 Cor. 4:6). Nothing can be even slightly compared with the riches of God in Christ (Col. 2:2-3; Heb. 11:24-26).

(Prov. 8:12) - All the treasures of wisdom, knowledge, and judgment dwell in Christ. He knows the hearts of men, their thoughts, schemes, and devices. He knows the wiles and craftiness of Satan and makes them known to His people, so that they are not deceived (Matt. 24:24; Eph. 6:10-18). False gospels of works salvation or salvation conditioned on sinners are the most evil “witty inventions” of men. They all deny the glory of God and the power of His grace in Christ. They measure righteousness and holiness on the sliding scale of sinful man’s standards rather than the one standard that matters to God - the righteousness of Christ freely imputed and received by God-given faith (Acts 17:31).

(Prov. 8:13) - The fear and reverence of the Lord make His people to hate evil, even when it is found in themselves, especially pride and arrogance (Prov. 3:7; 16:18; 6:16-17). A “froward mouth” speaks things contrary to the truth, to the glory of God, to the Gospel truth, and to the good of His people. The Lord brings us to hate every other way than the way of His glory and grace in Christ (Psa. 119:104, 128). All other ways but Christ are ways of death and damnation.

(Prov. 8:14-16) - These words are all of Christ! He is the subject of God’s counsel, and He is the great and wise Counselor (Isa. 9:6). He counsels His people in the ways of truth, righteousness, and grace. He is the summation of all wisdom and understanding in life, death, judgment, and eternity. He is the fountain, author, and giver of understanding. He has all strength, power, and authority (Matt. 28:18; John 17:2). By Him all things consist, exist, and are held together. Even kings, princes, judges, and magistrates rule by His sovereign power; and they are accountable to Him (Rom. 13:1; Prov. 21:1).

(Prov. 8:17) - This is not to say that God’s love for His people is His response or reaction to their love for Him. None of us by nature love God. As we are naturally born into a state of

sin and spiritual death, we actually hate the true and living God Who saves sinners by His sovereign grace through Christ. If we hate His truth, we hate Him (*John 3:19-20; Rom. 3:18; 1 Cor. 2:14*). This also is not to say that sinful, unregenerate people will seek the Lord of their own “free will.” If left to ourselves, none of us would seek the true and living God according to His revelation of Himself in Christ (*John 6:44; Rom. 3:10-12*). The Bible is clear that if any of us truly love God, it is because He first loved us (*1 John 4:10,19*)

God has set His love on those whom He gave to Christ before the foundation of the world. They are His elect people. God loves them in Christ and sends the Spirit to draw into His family with cords of love (*Hos. 11:4*). The Holy Spirit sheds the love of God abroad in their hearts when they are born again from above (*Rom. 5:5*). Christ loves those who love Him, for He loved them before they loved Him, and they love Him because He loved them. Our love to God in Christ is the evidence, not the cause, of His love for us in Christ. Those who seek Christ are those who see their need of Christ and know the worth and glory of Christ. They shall seek Him early and find Him.

(Prov. 8:18-21) - True riches and the honor that comes from God are found in our Redeemer. All else fades away with the fashion of this world. Christ leads us in the paths of righteousness as a shepherd leads his sheep. The “*way of righteousness*” is the way of the cross that leads to eternal life through Christ Who gave Himself for His sheep. As we stand in His righteousness imputed to us, and as we follow Him in His Word, we are revealed to be joint-heirs with Him. All who have been saved by His grace and brought to believe in and know Him will “*inherit substance*,” that is, the reality of life, glory, and eternal riches as opposed to the vain, shadowy, temporary things of this life.

(Prov. 8:22-31) - Read these verses carefully and note the eternity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His glory and majesty, His oneness with the Father, and the affection the Father has for Him (*John 3:35*). Christ is the Word of God and was in the beginning with God (*John 1:1-14*). He was made Surety of the covenant of grace (*Eph. 1:1-13; 2 Tim. 1:8-10*). If one can grasp the person, power, position, and glory that Christ has with the Father, he can rest and hope with great assurance for the glory that shall be ours in Him (*John 17:20-24*).

(Prov. 8:32-34) - As Christ in the Gospel is the wisdom of God revealed to His people, they all hear, believe, and keep His ways - His ways of salvation, righteousness, and the obedience of faith, are blessed above all people. They are all taught of God and brought to be wise in the things of God (*John 6:45; 2 Tim. 3:14-17*). The Lord brings them to hear, watch, and wait by faith in Christ and under the teachings of His Word of truth and righteousness.

(Prov. 8:35-36) - To find Christ as He is identified and distinguished in the glory of His Person and the power of His finished work of redemption is spiritual and eternal life. To stand before the Lord God washed in the blood of Christ and clothed in His righteousness imputed and received by God-given faith is to obtain the “*favour of the LORD*” (*cf. Eph. 1:6; Heb. 10:19-22*). But all who sin against Him, i.e. who believe not in Christ does violence to “*his own soul*” and, without realizing it, “*love death*.” This is the wisdom of God found only in the glorious Person and finished work of Christ.