



We've encountered a lot of subjects and traveled down several side paths along the long "walk" of wisdom described throughout *Proverbs*. **But what is the real goal?** You might remember Jesus' words in [Matthew 16:26](#): "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" To make a similar point relating to *Proverbs*, what good will all of the knowledge and wisdom in the world really do for me if I don't have a relationship with the LORD behind the wisdom?

In [Proverbs 8](#), we hear wisdom speaking. Notice what she reveals:

"The LORD possessed me at the \_\_\_\_\_ of his work,  
the first of his acts of old.

Ages ago I was \_\_\_\_\_ up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth." ([8:22-23](#))

"For whoever finds me finds \_\_\_\_\_  
and obtains favor from the LORD..." ([8:35](#))

- 🕒 Let's think about what wisdom is telling us for a moment. In what way does wisdom serve as a kind of bridge between us and the God who created all things?

Listen to the way the LORD is described throughout *Proverbs*. If we open our ears and our hearts, our perspective will be impacted and potential blessings will be revealed.

The way of the LORD is a \_\_\_\_\_ to the blameless,  
but destruction to evildoers. ([10:29](#))

The name of the LORD is a strong \_\_\_\_\_;  
the righteous man runs into it and is safe. ([18:10](#))

- 🕒 What do you think? How is "the way of the LORD" a "stronghold to the blameless"? How is his name "a strong tower"?

Sheol and Abaddon lie \_\_\_\_\_ before the LORD;  
how much more the \_\_\_\_\_ of the children of man! (15:11)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of man is the lamp of the LORD,  
searching all his innermost parts. (20:27)

- 🕒 What goes through your mind when you hear that “the hearts” of man are “open before the LORD”? How ought this to shape the way we think of and relate to the LORD behind the wisdom of *Proverbs*?

We’ve heard a lot of wisdom throughout *Proverbs* about the importance of thinking ahead, but when it comes to our plans? Listen to how respect for the LORD behind the wisdom ought to shape the way we look at our plans...

The \_\_\_\_\_ of man plans his way,  
but the \_\_\_\_\_ establishes his steps. (16:9)

Many are the plans in the mind of a \_\_\_\_\_,  
but it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD that will stand. (19:21)

Notice also that the LORD hasn’t just provided wisdom, he desires a relationship with us.

The LORD is \_\_\_\_\_ from the wicked,  
but he \_\_\_\_\_ the prayer of the righteous. (15:29)

So circling back to where we started in this lesson, let’s hear from wisdom one more time...

“For whoever finds me finds \_\_\_\_\_  
and obtains favor from the LORD,  
but he who \_\_\_\_\_ to find me injures himself;  
all who hate me love death.” (8:35-36)

- 🕒 How would you summarize that message in your own words?

## Proverbs Made Personal

**W**arning: a message of caution I needed to hear...

**I**nsight: a point I need to remember...

**S**trength: I was helped and encouraged to walk in wisdom by...

**E**xalt: God is worthy of honor and praise because...