

## Day Twenty-Three

*For if you cry for discernment, Lift your voice for understanding; If you seek her as silver And search for her as for hidden treasures; Then you will discern the fear of the LORD And discover the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. -Proverbs 2:3-6*

## Prayers For Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding

The wisdom of Solomon stands preeminent in examples of God's providence in time of need. For it was Solomon himself who approached God from the humble attitude that he was simply unable to lead a nation such as Israel without God's help. God's reply acknowledges Solomon's contrite heart. *"So give Thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Thine?" And it was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. - 1 Kings 3:9-12*

Solomon tells us in the Book of Proverbs that we too can have wisdom for the asking. *My son, if you will receive my sayings, And treasure my commandments within you, Make your ear attentive to wisdom, Incline your heart to understanding; -Proverbs 2:1-2*

Can it really be that easy? Just ask God for wisdom and poof, you've got it? Hold on, it's not as simple as that. It is not instantaneous. Look at what Solomon says, *If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures; Then you will discern the fear of the LORD, And discover the knowledge of God.* Did you catch that? Seek, search, and we find that those who seek and search

will discern the fear of the Lord and discover wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

Now, lest we think that this is just an "Old Testament" precept, take a look what James tells us; *But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. -James 1:5-6*

We shall once again call upon the verses that we have so often used before in our study in prayer. *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. -John 15:7-8.*

So we find that there is a part we must play in seeking wisdom, knowledge and understanding. We must seek it from God. How shall we begin that search once our prayers ascend to God? The surest place to find the wisdom God desires us to have is in His Word. Jesus said we must abide in His Word and Jesus must abide in us. How does Christ abide in us? God's Word tells us plainly:

- *For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. -Galatians 3:27*
- *Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? -Romans 6:3*

Jesus tells us of those things which we desire to have from Him are within our grasp if we seek them. *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened". -Matthew 7:7-8*

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction. -Proverbs 1:7*

*How blessed is the man who finds wisdom And the man who gains understanding. For her profit is better than the profit of silver And her gain better than fine gold. She is more precious than jewels; And nothing you desire compares with her. - Proverbs 3:13-15*

*Prayerful Thoughts: Father, let us look to Thee for wisdom, knowing You give it freely to all who ask.*