

# Proverbs Week #27 (3:7, 8)

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*Prov 3:7, 8 "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones."*

Let's review the three main themes of last week's lesson:

1. Trust in the Lord with all your heart (use all the mental abilities God has given you to trust in Him)
2. Lean not on your own understanding (By faith we lean on God)
3. In all your ways acknowledge Him - He will be faithful to direct your paths.

This week's scripture has a similar theme to our lesson last week. We have been studying the importance of wisdom and the need to seek it and consider it of great value. As we have mentioned, wisdom is not just knowing the right things but it involves learning skills to do what is right. Those who seek wisdom and apply it faithfully are considered wise. How do you know if you are wise? Is it ever right for us to say to ourselves, "I am wise?" Be careful how you answer that question.

*"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips." (Proverbs 27:2)*

The apostle Paul taught, "Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation." (Rom 12:16) When we consider ourselves wise or are "haughty in mind" we usually look down at others as less important than ourselves. How often does this attitude show itself in how we treat our brothers and sisters (adults included)?

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in the Messiah Yeshua for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Ephesians 2:8-10)*

We have come to know the truth/the good news from God as a free gift. Our lives and good works that come as a result of God's salvation are part of His workmanship. Growing in wisdom is a part of the good works that God has prepared for us.

*"Fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones." (Prov 3:8)*

We are to trust in the Lord and fear Him. We learn from His scriptures what is right in His eyes and as we learn we walk in ways that are good and not evil. While not all sickness is the direct result of sin, many troubles in life do come from sins like bitterness, unforgiveness, envy, jealousy, and the like. It is possible to be angry and not sin but often times when anger remains in our lives it becomes sinful. Those who have learned to be wise recognize when these sinful attitudes exist in themselves and turn away from these destructive sins. At times we may need to go to others, say we are sorry, and seek forgiveness. While it might seem hard to do --- when it's the right thing to do it will bring "refreshment to your bones."