

# Choices of the Heart

Proverbs 2:1-22, Matthew 7:13-14, 1 Kings 11:4-6, 1 Kings 11:11-12

### What We "Seek"

- What we "seek" reveals what we desire.
- Solomon is encouraging us to choose what God has to offer over what the world has to offer.
- If you do not search for wisdom like you would search for hidden treasure, then you will never understand the "fear of the LORD."
- As long as we accept God's Words and treasure up God's commandments, He will give us "sound" wisdom.
- As long as we continue to seek wisdom, God will make it possible for us to understand righteousness and justice, and we will be able to clearly see every good path.

#### Wisdom

- When Solomon says that "sound wisdom" will come and dwell within our heart, he is describing God touching our heart.
- "Prudence" is the capacity for private, hidden thought which comes from the wisdom that God has planted in our heart.
- "Understanding" is the ability to bring heart and mind together so that we do not make the wrong choice.
- Without God's wisdom, we cannot tell nonsense from good advice.
- Without God's wisdom, we are likely to justify our devious ways.

## Pleasure

- When you choose "Pleasure," you will forget the promises you made to God, and it will lead you down a path that ends in death.
- Jesus advised us to enter through the narrow gate, "for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it."
- The few who find the narrow gate do not find it by blind luck, but because they have wisdom.
- You cannot listen to the voice of Wisdom if you do not seek the voice of Wisdom.

#### Conclusion

- Prudence watched over Solomon until he began listening to the smooth words and seductive voice of the adulteress.
- "Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not completely follow the LORD, as his father David had done."
- When we make the right choice, this is what we win or, more accurately, this is what Jesus won for us... our salvation.
- Salvation is a great treasure worth more than all the silver, all the treasure, all the power, and all the pleasure that the world has to offer.