

## **INSIGHT FROM PROVERBS 8 AND 9**

As we near the end of our walk about wisdom, I was struck by its source. My practice is to read through the proverbs each month. For the last two days (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>), I have been made aware that the source of wisdom is God. For in these two chapters, wisdom is personified and shown qualities that come from God Himself.

Chapter 8 begins with wisdom crying out. She cries out for truth, righteousness, knowledge and instruction while at the same time to hate evil which is shown in pride and arrogance. I found this quote taken from a letter written by John Adams, the second President of the United States:

On November 1, 1800, just before the election, Adams arrived in the new Capital City to take up his residence in the White House. On his second evening in its damp, unfinished rooms, he wrote his wife, "Before I end my letter, I pray Heaven to bestow the best of Blessings on this House and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise Men ever rule under this roof."

Wisdom is compared to a fruit which is better than any earthly riches and that it was set up from everlasting to everlasting. As I think of events of life that have beginnings and endings (think COVID-19). We are reminded that Jesus Christ is compared to the two Greek letters that start and end the alphabet (Alpha and Omega). Since God has no beginning or no ending, that means He gives new meaning to anything that begins and ends because in a sense God is outside of time. This is why we can commit all things into his hand and there is a blessing that is found in Proverbs 8:33, 34 in which we watch for and wait for the good things that come from hearing and listening to God.

Chapter 9 speaks of Wisdom as to like a house. The house is built on seven pillars. Seven is a significant number in Hebrew writings. Think of the description of rod that comes from the stem of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1-11) in which seven descriptive ways speak of Jesus Christ, one of which, is the spirit of wisdom and understanding.

Jesus speaks of the wise man building his house on a solid foundation which will stand when crises enter our lives. It is as though Christ says to us that through wisdom, you will know how to build yourself up (our identity in Christ) so that those in Christ will remain solid and steadfast.

I trust a few thoughts will help you pursue the One who will not only allow you to remain steadfast but that you will flourish (Psalm 1) and thus be a fountain of wisdom for all people. God bless you