

# The Two Paths in Proverbs

## Lesson 2: Wisdom's Internal Guidance System Proverbs 2:1-22

- I. **What we must do - the condition:** The acquisition of wisdom is only possible by a whole-hearted pursuit of her precepts and principles as if they were buried treasure – 2:1-4.

Bruce K. Waltke provides a better translation of vv.1-2 than the NKJV
<sup>1</sup> My son, if you accept my words, and my commands you store up with you - <sup>2</sup> by making your ear attentive to wisdom, you will apply your heart to understanding -
The NET Bible also provides a better translation of vv.1-2 than the NKJV
<sup>1</sup> My child, if you receive my words, and store up my commands within you, <sup>2</sup> by making your ear attentive to wisdom, and turning your heart to understanding,

- II. **What we will discover - the consequence:** An all-out pursuit of wisdom leads to the Lord Who has authored her precepts and principles for our protection – 2:5-11.

- A. An all-out pursuit of wisdom leads to a reverential awe of the Lord and intimacy with Him – 2:5.
- B. The Lord is the unique source of wisdom as protection against all the obstacles of achieving abiding success – 2:6-8.
- C. Submission to wisdom develops our capacity to understand how to live in a fallen world and achieve success – 2:9.
- D. Wisdom's protection includes an internal guidance system as we internalize her precepts and principles – 2:10-11.

- III. **What we will experience – the protection:** Wisdom's internal guidance system will steer us away from wicked men and unchaste women and lead us to walk with the upright on the path of wisdom – 2:12-22.

- A. Wisdom's internal guidance system will steer us away from wicked men who are void of wisdom's illumination – 2:12-15.
- B. Wisdom's internal guidance system will also steer us away from the unchaste woman who ravages human flesh – 2:16-19.
- C. Wisdom's internal guidance system will direct us to live with people of like persuasion and find permanency in our community – 2:20-22.