

# IMPERATIVE

\* THE LOSER'S STONE  
in Jerusalem - WATKE P. 394

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## NIV Proverbs 8

CAN I PLEASE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION??

1 Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice?

2 At the highest point along the way, where the paths meet, she takes her stand;

3 beside the gate leading into the city, at the entrance, she cries aloud:

4 "To you, O people, I call out; I raise my voice to all mankind.

5 You who are simple, gain prudence; you who are foolish, set your hearts on it.

6 Listen, for I have trustworthy things to say; I open my lips to speak what is right.

7 My mouth speaks what is true, for my lips detest wickedness.

8 All the words of my mouth are just; none of them is crooked or perverse.

9 To the discerning all of them are right; they are upright to those who have found knowledge.

10 Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold,

11 for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

12 "I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion.

13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.

14 Counsel and sound judgment are mine; I have insight, I have power.

15 By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just;

16 by me princes govern, and nobles-- all who rule on earth.

17 I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.

18 With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity.

19 My fruit is better than fine gold; what I yield surpasses choice silver.

Q Who is introducing Sophia?

Q Who is Sophia's audience?

Q Why is her message so urgent?

VERBAL

Q What does it mean to CHOOSE wisdom over possessions/wealth?

VERY VALUABLE WORDS

Obs: Paying for education/training is trading \$ for instruction!

Hb: shrewdness

SOPHIA'S INVENTORY

Getting stuff from SOPHIA

Things rulers and leaders esp. need.

Q How does one GET what wisdom offers?

Q What patterns or themes are there in this incredible inventory?

SOPHIA: GOD'S FIRST WORK

17 I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice,  
 18 bestowing a rich inheritance on those who love me and making their  
 19 treasuries full.

SOPHIA: a tool  
 God made, then  
 used to MAKE  
 EVERYTHING ELSE!

22 "The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works before his deeds of  
 old;

23 I was formed long ages ago, at the very beginning, when the world came  
 to be.

24 When there were no watery depths, I was given birth, when there were  
 no springs overflowing with water;

Q: What is Sophia's  
 role in creation?

25 before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given  
 birth,

26 before he made the world or its fields or any of the dust of the earth.

Q: What exactly is  
 wisdom's relation-  
 ship to God?

27 I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the  
 horizon on the face of the deep,

28 when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of  
 the deep,

Q: What is the  
 connection  
 between wisdom  
 and worship?

29 when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his  
 command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.

30 Then I was constantly at his side. I was filled with delight day after day,  
 rejoicing always in his presence,

WORSHIPING!

B 19

31 rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.

CONCLUSION!

32 "Now then, my children, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my  
 ways.

Q Why are  
 people so good  
 at blowing-  
 off wisdom?

33 Listen to my instruction and be wise, do not disregard it.

34 Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at  
 my doorway.

Looking. Listening. Finding (cf Mark 4)

35 For those who find me find life and receive favor from the LORD.

Q What are people  
 looking for instead  
 of SOPHIA?

36 But those who fail to find me harm themselves; all who hate me love  
 death."

WARNING!

OK! LISTEN! FIND ME!

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