

Proverbs Chapter 8

Outline taken from R.B. Thieme Jr. class on the importance of doctrine.

I. Existence of Bible Class verses 1-4

Proverbs 8:1 Does not wisdom call, And understanding lift up her voice?

Proverbs 8:2 On top of the heights beside the way, Where the paths meet, she takes her stand;

Proverbs 8:3 Beside the gates, at the opening to the city, At the entrance of the doors, she cries out:

Proverbs 8:4 “To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men.

Comment: Bible Doctrine, in a free society, is taught in public. It is not hidden. This is how Jesus taught. In verse 1, wisdom calls. In verse 4, wisdom is personified and speaks in the first person. Wisdom is calling you.

John 18:20 Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret.

II. Need for Bible Class verse 5

Proverbs 8:5 “O naive ones, understand prudence; And, O fools, understand wisdom.

Comment: Prudence is the application of Bible Doctrine to experience. Wisdom in the verse is actually the word for “heart.” The King James has “be ye of an understanding heart.”

III. Function of Bible Class verses 6-9

Proverbs 8:6 “Listen, for I will speak noble things; And the opening of my lips will reveal right things.

Comment: “I will speak” is in the intensive form of the verb.

Proverbs 8:7 “For my mouth will utter truth; And wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

Proverbs 8:8 “All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; There is nothing crooked or perverted in them.

Proverbs 8:9 “They are all straightforward to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge.

IV. Value of Bible Class verses 10-11

Proverbs 8:10 “Take my instruction and not silver, And knowledge rather than choicest gold.

Comment: “Take” is from a Hebrew word meaning to take, grab or seize. How eager are you to learn doctrine? Remember what John Hintz told us: Herman gives us gold (Bible Doctrine) and we give him beans.

Proverbs 8:11 “For wisdom is better than jewels; And all desirable things cannot compare with her.

Comment: Compare Jesus’ esteem of Bible Doctrine while being tempted by Satan:

Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.’”

V. Production of Doctrine verses 12-18

Proverbs 8:12 “I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, And I find knowledge and discretion.

Comment: Here, the “I” is clearly identified as “Wisdom.”

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Proverbs 8:13 “The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverted mouth, I hate.

Proverbs 8:14 “Counsel is mine and sound wisdom; I am understanding, power is mine.

Proverbs 8:15 “By me kings reign, And rulers decree justice.

Proverbs 8:16 “By me princes rule, and nobles, All who judge rightly.

Proverbs 8:17 “I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.

Proverbs 8:18 “Riches and honor are with me, Enduring wealth and righteousness.

VI. Bible Doctrine Produces Divine Good verses 19-20

Proverbs 8:19 “My fruit is better than gold, even pure gold, And my yield better than choicest silver.

Proverbs 8:20 “I walk in the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice,

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Comment: Walking is a picture of living your spiritual life. As a Christian, you must have faith dependence on the Holy Spirit. Human good and morality apart from the Holy Spirit is dead works and abhorred by God. Christianity is a relationship with God.

VII. Bible Doctrine Produces Orientation Towards the Plan of God verse 21

Proverbs 8:21 To endow those who love me with wealth, That I may fill their treasuries.

VIII. Dynamics of Bible Doctrine verses 22-36

Proverbs 8:22 “The Lord possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old.

Comment from the Scofield Bible: “That wisdom is more than the personification of an attribute of God, or of the will of God as best for man, but is a distinct foreshadowing of Christ, is certain. Proverbs 8:22-36, with Jn 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 1:24; Col 2:3, can refer to no one less than the eternal Son of God.

Proverbs 8:23 “From everlasting I was established, From the beginning, from the earliest times of the earth.

Proverbs 8:24 “When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no springs abounding with water.

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Proverbs 8:25 “Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills I was brought forth;

Proverbs 8:26 While He had not yet made the earth and the fields, Nor the first dust of the world.

Proverbs 8:27 “When He established the heavens, I was there, When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep,

Proverbs 8:28 When He made firm the skies above, When the springs of the deep became fixed,

Proverbs 8:29 When He set for the sea its boundary So that the water would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth;

Proverbs 8:30 Then I was beside Him, as a master workman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

Proverbs 8:31 Rejoicing in the world, His earth, And having my delight in the sons of men.

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Proverbs 8:32 “Now therefore, O sons, listen to me, For blessed are they who keep my ways.

Proverbs 8:33 “Heed instruction and be wise, And do not neglect it.

Proverbs 8:34 “Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at my doorposts.

Proverbs 8:35 “For he who finds me finds life And obtains favor from the Lord.

Proverbs 8:36 “But he who sins against me injures himself; All those who hate me love death.”

Comment: As goes the believer in a nation, so goes the nation.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.