

### July 9th Readings

EXODUS 28:1-43

MATTHEW 25:31-26:13

PSALM 31:9-18

PROVERBS 8:12-13

Proverbs 8:12-13 - If wisdom could speak, what would she say? Would she say, "I am a servant to my hearers; I am whatever they desire me to be"? Would she release her hearers from the responsibility of judgment by saying, "However my hearers judge a matter is right"?

Consider the value of wisdom. She "...is better than rubies and all the things one may desire..." **Proverbs 8:11**. While those who hear her are many, those who believe her are few. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads to life." **Matthew 7:14**.

Wisdom does speak and she will speak only truth. Hear and do, for she has put forth her voice crying, "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find knowledge and discretion. The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate."

To respect the Lord is to hate evil. "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word (wisdom) which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." **James 1:21-22**.

### July 10th Readings

EXODUS 29:1-30:10

MATTHEW 26:14-46

PSALM 31:19-24

PROVERBS 8:14-26

Proverbs 8:14-26 - Sound advice belongs to wisdom. She is good understanding. By her kings reign, by her princes rule, by her nobles volunteer, and judges vindicate. Wisdom gives love to those who love her and will be found by those who seek her. **Proverbs 8:14-17**

Wealth and glory are with wisdom. She has valued wealth and morality. She yields more than gold, she is better than the pure gold, and gain is greater than silver. Wisdom leads, wisdom causes, wisdom is possessed by the Lord and wisdom was set from the beginning to forever. **Proverbs 8:18-22**

Wisdom was brought forth to form the depths and fountains of water. Wisdom was brought forth to settle the mountains and the hills. Before God made the heavens and the earth; wisdom was called into action. **Proverbs 8:23-26**

The God of heaven has so lovingly provided wisdom for all to love her, seek her, and be enriched by her. Wisdom is the greatest possession of virtue and righteousness. She may be found in the pages of the book of life. Seek her counsel, love her rebuke, and enjoy her fill of treasure.

#### July 11th Readings

EXODUS 30:11-31:18

MATTHEW 26:47-68

PSALM 32:1-11

PROVERBS 8:27-32

Proverbs 8:27-32 - Why listen to wisdom? Why make a case for her? Wisdom should be heard intelligently and with obedience because blessed are those who do. Wisdom stood by God during the creation of the heavens, the earth, and man. Wisdom was His gladness, rejoicing in His marvelous work and gratification of the sons of men. **Proverbs 8:30-32**

Wisdom translates the complex into understanding for the simple. This glorious habitation provided for mankind by the great and awesome God was established by wisdom (**Proverbs 3:19**). God asked Job in **Job 38:4** "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?" Job's answer could only be in humble submission that he was not there. Wisdom, however, was there when God prepared the heavens, established the clouds, and strengthened the fountains. (**Proverbs 8:27-29**)

Therefore, why listen to wisdom; because she is God's delight, rejoicing always before Him. Mankind needs her. Mankind cannot walk straight and prosper without her, and God gives wisdom liberally to all who ask in faith without doubting (**James 1:5**). Hear perceptively her words and obey. Thanks be to God for doing all things well for the ones He loves.

#### July 12th Readings

EXODUS 32:1-33:23

MATTHEW 26:69-27:14

PSALM 33:1-11

PROVERBS 8:33-36

Proverbs 8:33-36 - Ponder for a moment the idea of sinning against wisdom. How is this possible? In Hebrew, the word sin means to miss or condemn. When one chooses to dismiss wisdom, he in essence chooses to sin against her. The notion of sinning against wisdom is powerful because it is a fatal self-inflicted blow to the soul. Who in wisdom decides to inflict a blow so devastating that it has the potential to kill the soul? No one! should be the answer. However, the reality is that many dismiss God's wisdom and wrong their own soul. **Proverbs 8:36**

If all those that hate wisdom love death then all those that love wisdom love life. The one who finds her not only finds life but finds favor with God. Great happiness belongs to the man who hears the instruction of wisdom, seeks her daily, and waits for her voice. Let's choose to be blessed. Let's choose to love life. Let's choose to hear wisdom. **Proverbs 8:33-35**

#### July 13th Readings

EXODUS 34:1-35:9

MATTHEW 27:15-31

PSALM 33:12-22

PROVERBS 9:1-6

Proverbs 9:1-6 - No one enjoys a lazy person. No one enjoys an idle spirit when there is work to be done. Wisdom is not idle, but busy. Wisdom has work to do and gets the work done. Wisdom builds, wisdom hews, wisdom slays, wisdom mingles, and wisdom furnishes. In one sentence wisdom has completed many actions.

To build is to repair or set. To hew is to carve or engrave. To slay is to slaughter or kill. To mingle is to mix with spices. To furnish is to put in order or arrange. All the aforementioned is wisdom at work. She has built her house. She has repaired and set her house. She has carved or engraved seven pillars. She has slaughtered her beasts. She has mixed with spices her wine and she has put in order or arranged her table. **Proverbs 9:1-2**

Wisdom invites whosoever to her table to feast on all that she has prepared. The simple will starve for lack of wisdom and the lazy will starve for lack of food (**2 Thessalonians 3:10b**). It is foolishness and death to not go in the way of understanding. **Proverbs 9:3-6**

#### July 14th Readings

EXODUS 35:10-36:38

MATTHEW 27:32-66

PSALM 34:1-10

PROVERBS 9:7-8

Proverbs 9:7-8 - Who wants to be a mind reader? Prayerfully no one, however, the wisdom of God gives insight to the hearts and minds of men. To determine if a man is wise or a fool; rebuke them, correct him, or admonish him. His response will reveal the nature of his heart. It is often said by many, "You don't know my heart!" and they would be right. The exception to this is that God does know the heart and His wisdom can reveal the secrets of the heart.

Listen to wisdom. Instruct or chastise a scorner and receive shame and a blemish in return. Convict a scorner and he will hate you; but convict, rebuke, instruct, or chastise a wise man and he will love you. This is God revealing the heart. When man reveals his heart; believe him. Hear, listen, and learn from the God who sees and knows all things.

#### July 15th Readings

EXODUS 37:1-38:31

MATTHEW 28:1-20

PSALM 34:11-22

PROVERBS 9:9-10

Proverbs 9:9-10 - Never stop learning. "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much they will demand the more." (**Luke 12:48b**). To the wise; be wiser. To the just person; increase in learning. The world will never stop needing men and women of wisdom, men and women of good understanding, and men and women of spiritual knowledge.

Wisdom begins with a great respect for the Lord; a reverence that causes the hearer to take seriously His love and His wrath. Not to understand only His love that His law goes uncared for and not to grasp only His wrath that His law is misunderstood, but a balance of the two. Remember, knowledge of the holy, the sacred, or the moral is wisdom understood in perfection. **Proverbs 9:9-10**