

- ii. Calling out, crying aloud
 - Eph. 1:17-20
 - Col. 1:9-10

Proverbs: Wisdom Promise; Folly's Pain
The Gospel According to Wisdom
 Jerry Cisar — April 18, 2010

Text: Proverbs 2

Introduction: Defining Wisdom

To be rescued from the voices pursuing you, there is a Voice you must and will pursue.

LIVE THE STORY

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- What are the “voices” calling you in Proverbs 2? (see 12ff) How have you heard those voices calling in your life?
- What do these voices promise you? What will they deliver? Why do we need to be rescued from them?
- In temptation, are you prone to think that rather than rescue, you can handle it, that you can get yourself out of the mess before you “cross the line”? Explain. What does Proverbs 2 reveal about this?
- In what ways do the voices pursuing you pretend to offer a round-trip ticket to a vacation of pleasure? How do we combat that?
- Are you pursuing the Voice of Wisdom? Is so, in what ways? What are some of the means of grace God has given us for pursuing His Voice?
- Do you think the title of this message, The Gospel According to Wisdom, aptly describes the content of chapter 2? Why or why not?
- Why is it fitting to say that Proverbs describes Wisdom like a multifaceted diamond? Think about ways Christ ultimately is that “*diamond*,” the Wisdom of God.

I. Rescue from Voices

A. One long sentence: “If, then, because...”

i. If... if.... if..., then... then...because...

ii. vs. 12 “**save you from**”...wicked men and their perverse words.

iii. vs. 16 It will “**save you from**” “the wayward wife with her seductive words.”

B. Do you know you need to be rescued?

i. Temptation comes in the form of voices, reasoning voices, rationalizing disobedience to God.

➤ *“The wise are fools and the fools are wise.”*

ii. Missing the point

- a) The driving motivation of this chapter is not “Wisdom needs to be pursued,” but ***“I need to be rescued and cannot save myself.”***
- b) **Why should I pursue wisdom?** Because the allure of lies never ceases in its attempt to seduce me into deception and disaster.
- c) **Why would I want this wisdom?** To be rescued from the jaws of death.

b) This is wisdom for humble fools.

- 2 Samuel 22:28
- Psalm 18:25-27
- Psalm 25:8-9
- Proverbs 3:34 (see also James 4:6,10)
- Isaiah 66:2
- Psalm 51:17

B. This wisdom comes from the Lord:

- i. vs. 6:
- ii. James 1:5

iii. God gives wisdom to those who lack it and come...

To be rescued from the voices pursuing you, there is a Voice you must pursue.

II. Desperate for Wisdom

A. Wisdom is not something you have the ability to get by sheer effort.

- i. **There is a wealth that comes when we see our poverty...**
 - a) Rev. 3:17-18 The Laodiceans didn't have this wealth
 - b) Rev. 2:9 The Church at Smyrna did!
 - c) 26:12 *Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.*

C. The Voice of Wisdom will be pursued

To be rescued from the voices pursuing you, there is a Voice you will pursue.

III. Pursuing the Voice

A. The father is, he is a representative of the Lord.

B. The voice which brings life is hidden out of sight, and must be mined in order to be found.

- i. Job 28 Searching for it as for hidden treasure.