
**Life Principles from Proverbs:
Fear God First**

1. The Fear of the LORD Is the Basis for Understanding Truth

a We must begin with the fear of the Lord to gain knowledge

1:7 – The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge, *But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

b We must begin with the fear of the Lord to gain wisdom

9:10 – The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

15:33 – The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom, And before honor *is* humility.

c Rejecting the fear of the Lord brings God's rejection in life

1:29 – Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the LORD, (see 1:22-30)

d We understand the fear of the LORD through effort & time

2:5 – Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.

¹ My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, ² So that you **incline** your ear to wisdom, *And* **apply** your heart to understanding; ³ Yes, if you **cry** out for discernment, *And* **lift** up your voice for understanding, ⁴ If you **seek** her as silver, And **search** for her as *for* hidden treasures; ⁵ **Then** you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding; ⁷ He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly; ⁸ He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.

2. The Fear Of The LORD Involves a Right View/Response to Sin

a To fear God is to hate evil (knowing that God is holy)

8:13 – The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

23:17 – Do not let your heart envy sinners, *But* *be* **zealous** for the fear of the LORD all the day;

b When we fear God, we choose Him over sin in our actions

3:7 – Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear of the LORD and depart from evil.

14:2 – He who walks in his uprightness fear of the LORD, *But* *he who is* perverse in his ways despises Him.

16:6 – In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD *one* departs from evil.

3. The Fear of the LORD Brings Blessing and Benefits

a The Fear of the LORD Brings Confidence

14:26 – In the fear of the LORD *there is* strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge.

b The Fear of the LORD Brings Honor

31:30 – Charm *is* deceitful and beauty *is* passing, *But* a woman *who* fears the LORD, she shall be praised.

22:4 – By humility *and* the **fear** of the LORD *Are* riches and honor and life.

c The Fear of the LORD Brings Life

10:27 – The fear of the LORD prolongs days, *But* the years of the wicked will be shortened.

14:27 – The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, To turn *one* away from the snares of death.

19:23a – The fear of the LORD *leads* to life, And *he who has it* will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.

d The Fear of the LORD Brings Safety

29:25 – The fear of man brings a snare, *But* whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

e The Fear of the LORD Brings Satisfaction

15:16 – Better *is* a little with the fear of the LORD, Than great treasure with trouble.

19:23b – The fear of the LORD *leads* to life, And *he who has it* will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.