

## Proverbs 8 – dwelling with wisdom and prudence and receiving all that wisdom and prudence produces – wealth and fruit, etc.

### Wisdom's Call

- <sup>1</sup> Does not wisdom call out?  
Does not understanding raise her voice?
- <sup>2</sup> At the highest point along the way,  
where the paths meet, she takes her stand;
- <sup>3</sup> beside the gate leading into the city,  
at the entrance, she cries aloud:
- <sup>4</sup> “To you, O people, I call out;  
I raise my voice to all mankind.
- <sup>5</sup> You who are simple, gain prudence;  
you who are foolish, set your hearts on it. <sup>[a]</sup>
- <sup>6</sup> Listen, for I have trustworthy things to say;  
I open my lips to speak what is right.
- <sup>7</sup> My mouth speaks what is true,  
for my lips detest wickedness.
- <sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are just;  
none of them is crooked or perverse.
- <sup>9</sup> To the discerning all of them are right;  
they are upright to those who have found knowledge.
- <sup>10</sup> Choose my instruction instead of silver,  
knowledge rather than choice gold,
- <sup>11</sup> for wisdom is more precious than rubies,  
and nothing you desire can compare with her.
- <sup>12</sup> “I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence;  
I possess knowledge and discretion.
- <sup>13</sup> To fear the LORD is to hate evil;  
I hate pride and arrogance,  
evil behavior and perverse speech.
- <sup>14</sup> Counsel and sound judgment are mine;  
I have insight, I have power.
- <sup>15</sup> By me kings reign  
and rulers issue decrees that are just;
- <sup>16</sup> by me princes govern,  
and nobles—all who rule on earth. <sup>[b]</sup>
- <sup>17</sup> I love those who love me,

and those who seek me find me.  
<sup>18</sup> With me are riches and honor,  
enduring wealth and prosperity.  
<sup>19</sup> My fruit is better than fine gold;  
what I yield surpasses choice silver.  
<sup>20</sup> I walk in the way of righteousness,  
along the paths of justice,  
<sup>21</sup> bestowing a rich inheritance on those who love me  
and making their treasuries full.

<sup>22</sup> “The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, <sup>[c][d]</sup>  
before his deeds of old;  
<sup>23</sup> I was formed long ages ago,  
at the very beginning, when the world came to be.  
<sup>24</sup> When there were no watery depths, I was given birth,  
when there were no springs overflowing with water;  
<sup>25</sup> before the mountains were settled in place,  
before the hills, I was given birth,  
<sup>26</sup> before he made the world or its fields  
or any of the dust of the earth.  
<sup>27</sup> I was there when he set the heavens in place,  
when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,  
<sup>28</sup> when he established the clouds above  
and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,  
<sup>29</sup> 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.  
<sup>30</sup> Then I was constantly <sup>[e]</sup> at his side.  
I was filled with delight day after day,  
rejoicing always in his presence,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in his whole world  
and delighting in mankind.

<sup>32</sup> “Now then, my children, listen to me;  
blessed are those who keep my ways.  
<sup>33</sup> Listen to my instruction and be wise;  
do not disregard it.  
<sup>34</sup> Blessed are those who listen to me,  
watching daily at my doors,  
waiting at my doorway.

<sup>35</sup> For those who find me find life  
and receive favor from the LORD.

<sup>36</sup> But those who fail to find me harm themselves;  
all who hate me love death.”