

PROVERBS 3:1-12 - MESSAGE

An unreserved relationship with Yahweh is the basis for favor with God and men

Engage your King with a lively, deliberate, wholehearted faith

Proverbs 3: Find favor with God and men by attaining wisdom

1-12

 An unreserved relationship with Yahweh is the basis for favor with God and men

13-26

A life that finds favor with God

27-35

A life that finds favor with men

An unreserved relationship with Yahweh is the basis for favor with God and men

- I. Two heart-assignments for peace and life (1-4)
 - A. Guard wisdom with your heart (1-2)
 - B. Make your heart cling to faithful covenant love (3-4)
- II. Four responsibilities for a life of contented joy with our King (5-12)
 - A. Trust in Him (5-6)
 - B. Fear Him (7-8)
 - C. Honor Him with your wealth (9-10)
 - D. Submit to His discipline (11-12)

Heart in the OT is the complex inner man

The heart thinks, feels emotions, reflects, remembers, ponders, plans, makes decisions, wills, prompts action, understands, has insight, desires (good or bad), loves, worships.

In summary, "the heart is the center of all of a person's emotional-intellectual-religious-moral activity"

Proverbs 3:3

Lovingkindness – (hesed) – Faithful covenant love

• Faithfulness — (emeth) - Firmness, faithfulness, truth, "that which can be relied on, that which is stable" (Allen Ross, Expositor's, 5:916)

• Emeth strengthens the loyalty aspect of hesed to faithful covenant love "without fail" (Bruce Waltke, Proverbs, 1:100)

Proverbs 3:11 – Wrong attitude toward discipline

- Reject Wanting nothing to do with
- Loathe A strong negative emotion for being repulsed by something
- The fear of Yahweh "is the discipline (chastening lesson) leading to wisdom" (Prov 15:33)