

# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart



The fear of Yahweh is the  
beginning of wisdom, and the  
knowledge of the Holy One  
is understanding

**Personal  
relationship  
with God**

Trust in  
Yahweh  
with all  
your heart

## *Proverbs*


The fear of Yahweh is the  
beginning of knowledge

Proverbs 1:7;  
3:5; 9:10



# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart - Message

Proverbs describes the important heart work in saving, sovereign and sanctifying grace



*When a well-parented child or a well-trained disciple sins, it points not to training flaws. It points to the need of grace in the heart.*

# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart

I. The heart is vital because it drives everything else (Prov 4:23)

The heart directs the other parts of our being: body, will, affections, emotions, motives. Like a fountain, the heart even teaches the other parts of the inner man (16:23).



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II. Saving grace comes through faith in God (Prov 3:5-6)

Faith is total trust where you rest peacefully in Yahweh's sovereign power, wisdom and care

Trust in Yahweh  
with all your  
heart...  
acknowledge  
[know] Him

# Proverbs 28:26

- Contrast
- Asymmetrical

1) He who trusts in his own heart is a fool

2) But he who walks wisely will escape

- He who
- Trusts in his own heart
- Is a fool
- 
- 



- He who
- 
- 
- Walks wisely
- Will escape [punishment]

# Proverbs 28:26

- Contrast
- Asymmetrical

- 1) He who trusts in his own heart is a fool
- 2) But he who walks wisely will escape

- He who
- Trusts in his own heart
- Is a fool
- [Walks foolishly]
- [Will not escape punishment]

- He who
- [Trusts in Yahweh, 3:5]
- [Is a wise person]
- Walks wisely
- Will escape [punishment]

**Salvation**



# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart

III. Sovereign grace keeps mankind within God's plan for history

**Restraining grace** (16:9) – To “plan” is to think, forming a strategy that results in some action

**Redirecting grace** (21:1 ) – Since God directs the most powerful of men, it follows that He directs the thinking and decisions of all men



# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart

## IV. Sanctifying grace operates in the believer's heart

**Revealing grace** “Yahweh tests hearts” the way precious metals are tested for purity (17:3; 21:2; 20:24, 27; 24:12)

Bruce Waltke explains 20:27, “a person's speech associated with this breath serves as the Lord's flashlight to expose human thought, inclination, and will in the darkest recesses of a person's life”  
(*Proverbs*, II:158)

# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart

## IV. Sanctifying grace operates in the believer's heart

**Renewing and transforming grace** – Applying yourself to learning God's wisdom transforms your affections and desires so that you find God's word pleasing (2:2b, 10; 23:26; 25:21)

You begin to act in new ways, doing things that previously didn't come natural (25:21; Rom 12:2, 20-21)

# Proverbs: Grace In The Heart

IV. Sanctifying grace operates in the believer's heart

**Reforming grace (training, educating)** – What you should do to your heart: (3:3; 7:3; 4:21; 6:21; 10:8; 23:12, 19)

Put your heart to work: (2:2; 3:1; 4:4; 22:17; 18:15; 15:7; 14:33; 15:14-15)

*Heart work demands daily diligence* (6:21)

# 2 Cor 4:4, 6

- 1) The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ/God
- 2) The light of the knowledge of the glory of God/Christ

- The light
- Of the **gospel**
- Of the glory
- Of Christ/God

- The light
- Of the **knowledge**
- Of the glory
- Of God/Christ

Why did Paul change “gospel” to “knowledge”?



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- The light
- Of the **knowledge**
- Of the glory
- Of God/Christ

The knowledge of God IS the gospel!  
Proverbs is ultimately about the gospel!