

Understanding the Book of Proverbs through a Law/Gospel lens

Chapter 2

Remember there are two aspects to understanding the Law:

1. The law as it comes to us in the form of a _____ of _____ with saving promises and judging curses
2. The Law as it comes to us from the _____ of _____ with temporal promises and chastising warnings

Let first examine 2:1-5 which very neatly goes from Law to Promise:

Law (If you...)

- receive the word
- treasure the commandments
- are attentive to wisdom
- incline your heart to understanding
- raise your voice for understanding
- seek for wisdom

Promise offered (Then...)

- You will understand the fear of the Lord
- You will find the knowledge of God

2:1-5 Law in the form of a covenant of works:

However, because of our _____ we have not and cannot truly obey these laws. Therefore, we cannot by our own efforts attain these promises.

Knowing this should then lead us, first, to a _____ of sin. Secondly, this knowledge should bring us to a humble reliance on Christ alone for the attainment of the promises. (2 Corinthians 1:20)

Outside of _____ in Christ there is no fear of the Lord nor a true knowledge of God

2:1-5 Law in the form of the covenant of grace

Now that we are in Christ (under the covenant of grace) we, by the _____ can strive to walk in obedience to the commands and in a practical way enjoy the blessings of covenantal obedience

Our _____ with Christ and growing faith then stir us with a greater desire to practically walk in obedience to the law, which in turn leads to practical blessings in life (like growing in the fear of the Lord and our knowledge of God).

This next section moves from Promise to Law (inferred) and then back to Promise. This section closes with a brief but stern warning (think of the warnings in book of Hebrews).

2:6-8 God is the giver of all _____ to His people (Promise)

God _____ wisdom, knowledge, and understanding (James 1:5). He protects and watches over His people. All good that the people of God have comes directly from His hand.

2:9-21-Inferred in this passage is the call for the saints walk by _____ and to look to Him for the source of all that is good (**Law**). As they do this they will grow and be kept from two great evils (**Promise**).

We fight the good fight by walking by faith in the _____ of God.

Positively (verses 9-11)-faith in the Lord leads to _____ about what is good and right. Also, a growing faith in the Lord will lead to an increase in wisdom while at the same time making the knowledge of God pleasant to your soul. Growing faith, increasing wisdom, and a soul that delights in the knowledge of God protects and guards our souls from being led astray.

Negatively (verses 12-21)-There are two great traps set by the enemy: bad _____ and carnal _____.

1. Verses 12-15-Getting involved with the _____ people will never lead to anything good for a person. The Apostle Paul calls to us, "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company ruins good morals'." (1 Cor. 15:33). The fool is the person who surrounds themselves with those who love to do evil.
2. Verses 16-19-Living to gratify your own _____ always leads to misery. The path of the fool is the path of fleshly living.

2:20-21 As you walk by faith you will stay on the right path and _____ yourself to be a recipient of future glory.

2:22-Those who do not walk by faith but despise the Lord will be _____ from knowing the blessings of God.

Walking by faith in the Promises leads to blessing and is the path of _____. Walking in unbelief and disregarding the warnings of the Lord leads to trouble and is the path of _____.