

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17 & Proverbs 9 & Luke 2:41-52

Singing: 10:1-3 – 123:1 – 428:1-3 – 65:1-4 – 1:1-3

Intro: Wisdom is undersold because it is so undervalued (Prov. 23:23; Ps. 90:12)!

How to increase your wisdom and your favor with God and man?

1. You need to learn to value this wisdom & favor with God & man
2. You need to remember that neither are increased miraculously
3. You need to not just follow Jesus' example but trust Him as your Savior

I. You need to learn to value this wisdom and favor with God and man

A. The picture of Jesus 'growing and increasing' (Luke 2:40; 52)

B. Are you part of this picture of growth in wisdom and favor?

1. Wisdom defined:

2. Favor defined:

II. You will not obtain wisdom and favor with God miraculously

A. Jesus 'increased' wisdom by His intense efforts (Ps. 1:1-3; Prov 2:1-9)

B. Jesus' way to grow in favor was through the 'road of obedience'

1. He was subject to authority (Luke 2:51)
 - a. easier to understand how He increased in favor with *man*
 - b. but how did He increase in favor with God (John 10:17; 15:10; Matt 4)

2. He lived by the principle of Galatians 6:7-8 and Prov. 9:10

III. To obtain wisdom and favor with God is not just by following Jesus' example but by trusting Him as your Mediator between you and God

A. Proverbs 9:10 is God's recipe to His blessing (Prov. 16:7)

1. fear of God defined:

2. fear of God sought: Ps. 86:11

B. Yet Romans 3:19-23 is God's reality check: *no perfect obedience, no favor!*

1. "But God ..." provided you in Jesus a Mediator able to save all of you who come by Him to God (John 14:6; Heb. 7:25; 1 Tim. 2:5-6)

2. This God and Father calls you: *Behold Him, My Servant-Son* (Is. 42:1; 45:22)

- a. God has *made all things ready* (Prov. 9:1-2)

- b. God sends forth His call to you (Prov. 9:3-4)

- c. God invites you to eat of His Gospel banquet (Prov. 9:5-6)

- d. God assures you that '*Blessed is the man that heareth (=obeys) Me, watching daily my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whose findeth Me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the Lord*