

### Session 33

In our last session, we were looking at the exhortation that is given to us in Romans where our Father is going to show us something about His business that is meant to set our attitude about how important His business is and thereby make our education concerning it something that we desire more than anything else.

This all stemmed from what we understood from Proverbs where we discovered the way in which our Father presents information is by exhortation (which is meant to establish the value of what is being offered), followed by doctrine (which is the education itself) and lastly another exhortation (which tells the son about the practical use of the education).

Romans 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

When you see the word “creature,” it is not referring to the earth. It is referring to this entire universe. Now I know the Bible doesn’t use the term “universe” or the phrase “outer space.” And again, I just want to say that I’m not pausing to prove all of this right now, I’m just trying to show you something that provides some understanding when we return to Proverbs. But when God created the universe (or creature) He designed it to function to His honor and glory in a very particular way. When He created this enormous creature, because of an event that took place before man showed up on the planet, when you look out into the heavens with a telescope you are actually looking at something that has come under the vanity of corruption, so you are not seeing in the way God intended for it to function. In a manner of speaking, (and I mean this loosely) that creature died and you are only looking at a lifeless creature when you look out there. No wonder you can’t discern that it is a creature. It’s as though you are only looking at body parts of a creature that is so large you have never seen but a small percentage of its body, and at body parts that have largely ceased to function. It’s like looking through a telescope at a few body parts of a dead creature.

Romans 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

I want you to notice that when the creature was made subject to vanity, it was not willingly. That is, this creature has (or had) a will! And if something has a will, it has a soul. And if it has a soul, it will need a body that will contain that soul. Just as when God created the heaven and the earth, the heaven encapsulated the earth in its midst, the creature is the body that encapsulates the soul of the creature which, when it is restored will contain the soul (the Will!) of the creature.

### (33-34) Sonship Orientation

The earth set up this earth for the purpose of setting up His residence on it, the rule from the midst of His creation. And because we know how to rightly divide the word of truth, we understand that our Father had designed it so that there is a segment of people that has dedicated to having rulership and dominion on this earth; and it's not us, it's Israel.

Jesus will sit on David's throne as King of kings and there will be a structure of government under Him with resurrected David over Israel and the 12 apostles sitting on throne ruling the 12 tribes of Israel and around the world there will be the remnant of Israel who will be administrating the policies of the Lord Jesus throughout the entire earth.

But that is not what He is going to be doing with us. He suspended that program with Israel in order to form "a new creature." That's why you are called a "new creature." And you are being given a glimpse, in Romans 8 of what your Father has designed for you to do.

Did you notice that when you got to Romans 8:19 and you read that word "creature," that you are not given an explanation about that creature. So what does that tell you? There is enough information in your Bible before you get to Romans 8 to give you an understanding of what that creature is. What you are going to be doing in eternity is making that creature function again as it was created to do. In a sense, you are going to be the life of that creature. But that is not an entirely accurate analogy. But what I want to say to you is that not every believer will get to do that; only those who are "joint-heirs" with Christ who suffered with Him, they are the ones who get to do this.

But to be involved in the Father's business in this huge, enormous creature – to bring that creature to the place where it functions to God's honor and glory – that is the carrot that He is dangling out in front of you. And just in case you don't quite see the "carrot" aspect of this and what makes this so desirable to be a part of, let me just say that you will not believe the details that are left out of this very small, very general explanation of these verses.

But just let this grip you: you are going to be part of a very small group of people who will wind up spending every day of your life until the day you die, as a vocational training ground that will enable you to sit in a seat of authority in the government of God and "run the show" so to speak, about making this creature function like it was supposed to all along but never has. As that begins to soak in and make an impact on you, when you see the magnitude of what all is involved here (and we, by no means, have explored that yet) it will set your attitude that there is nothing that you will ever do in your life (including being elected as President, finding a cure for cancer, becoming a war hero or saving the life of a drowning swimmer) that can possibly match this.

And I will tell you now that things like making lots of money, prosperity, popularity (fame) and the attainment of power are among the greatest distractions from this.

(33-34) Sonship Orientation

Romans 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

That is going to happen when we get installed into those positions in the heavenly places.

Romans 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Now the terminology changes from “creature” to “the whole creation.” What does “the whole creation” entail? That would be the heaven and the earth. The creature is just the heaven. But verse 22 says that, not just the creature, but the whole creation groans and travails in pain to this day. And when that creation going to get delivered from that pain?

Romans 8:23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

That creature is waiting for sons to be adopted, educated and installed as sons who will relieve that pain of corruption. Notice we also “groan within ourselves” waiting for the adoption. Wait a minute, I thought we are already adopted. We are. But look what is attached to this reference to adoption; the redemption of our body. That is when we, as sons, get placed in the creature! We are not waiting to be adopted, neither do we have to wait to be educated, but we do have to wait for the aspect of adoption that provides for the redemption of our body which is the only thing holding us back from getting out there in the creature and going to work in the most glorious job a person could ever dream of!

Romans 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

When vs. 25 says, “if we hope for that we see not,” it is saying that if all of this produces in you what it is designed to produce, it is tantamount to your heavenly Father putting in front of you a taste of what His business is about – and that is supposed to have an impact on you.

But what I’m saying is that when you see it for what it is, when you see the magnitude of it, when you see the grandeur of it, when you see the privilege of it, - it should cause an attitude adjustment in that son or daughter that makes them say, “This is what I’m after. I’m going after this more than anything else in the world! Nothing in this world compares to it.” And I mean this is not going to be said flippantly or as some grandiose sermon that exceeds reality, but it is properly understood and it has truly made an impact on them so that it changes the way they spend their time. You no longer spend your time on worthless pursuits and useless endeavors. And that is going to be the barometer that tells the tale of whether this is really in you or not! It

is going to come out in the way you “spend your time.” And I put that in quotes because I want you to realize that time is an expense.

And look at the end of verse 25:

Romans 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

If this all truly is making the proper impact on you, and you can see that whatever you go through as far as the suffering of this present world, that that suffering is not able to be compared with what is waiting for us out in the creature, then the end of vs. 25 will be a reality for you; that is, as you “hope for this thing that is being held out to you,” no matter what you have to endure, you will patiently wait for it!

Here is what I know, even if I wind up like my own dad, whom I have always loved more than I can say, if I live long enough and I come down with Alzheimer’s disease and wind up in nursing home drooling on my lap, this will prepare for even that. Because I will know, that in a short while, this body, (which I have to trade in because it won’t function out there in the heavenly places) cannot be used in my Father’s business and it is going to be exchanged for something much better and I will have been prepared that no matter what comes my way, I can patiently wait for the “redemption of my body” aspect of my adoption which will result in me being “glorified together with Christ as a joint-heir” (vs. 17) and having a glory revealed in me that so far outstrips any and all sufferings that may come my way. And I believe that because my Father has told me, in a single phrase in a single verse that those sufferings are not worthy to be compared with that glory that is going to be revealed in me.

I told you way back in justification that your Father was going to be telling you some things that, if did not have implicit faith in what He says, there is no way you would ever believe it to be true. I also told you that when He told you about some things, you were going to have to take His word for it and His word alone because everything that you could see with eyes, hear with your ears and feel in your body was going to tell you the exact opposite. I told you a time was coming in which your Father was going to make a statement that you, in your common ordinary human wisdom and understanding, make no sense whatsoever.

When we talked about “reckoning” something to be so true that it changes your understanding of reality no matter what the perception of your own mind told you, no matter what your circumstances appeared as, no matter what other people said, you believed what God told you was true and your actions indicated that belief. I told you there would come a day when the issue would be do you believe it if God says it. I also told you that not only did it apply to “reckoning yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin” but that there were other things that you would not be able to see with your eyes, or look up in an encyclopedia or verify through eyewitness testimony, or attest to by scientific experiment – and you would be called upon to believe those things while everything else in the world flew in the face of what your Father told you – well, this is one of

those times. Do you believe that the glory (and we haven't even talked about what that glory is) but do you believe that it is so great that the sufferings of this present world are unworthy to be compared with it? Do you believe it to such an extent that you are willing to patiently endure all that comes your way in order to receive that glory? Can that become your reality in the face of everything that denies the truth of what your Father told you?

And you might have noticed that even though we have not nearly covered all the things that are in this passage, the only thing your Father has told you is that glory is so great, your suffering to get it will be nothing in comparison – and that ought to be enough! If He said it to you in His word, and He tells you that the glory is connected to something you are going to be doing in the creature, if that isn't good enough for you – then you have a root problem with trusting your Father. If that trust issue did not get settled back in Romans 1-5, you not only have trouble with this, but you have probably had problems with things that should have already been put to rest; like your eternally secure position in Christ, like your sanctification being entirely by grace without any works on your part. And if that is the case, then you need to stop now and go back to Romans 1-5 and settle those issues once and for all. If that word did not produce in you an absolute assurance of your secure position in Jesus Christ, then edification did not take place for you. But if it did, then I would ask you to now reckon, what your Father has written in His word, to be so true that you can not only trust that what He said was true (believe) but it will change the way you live in accordance with that truth (reckon!).

Now, I'm going to stop going down through the chapter because we have come to what I was after, but I will say that as you continue on down through the chapter, things are going to be said that meant to produce a zeal and enthusiasm in you that creates a desire to get this education that matches your Father's desire to give it to you. And we will cover these when we finish up what we are doing in Proverbs and get back to Romans 8.

So, to take this back to Proverbs, the exhortation there begins by saying that “fools despise wisdom and instruction.” And we have already discussed, that “despise” is to count it as worthless or unimportant. But there is another aspect of despise that we haven't talked about. If you count this wisdom and instruction as just one of a number of ways to get this edification done, then that is another way of despising your Father's wisdom and instruction. This is why I have said to you before that there is no replacement for this and there is nowhere else you can go (other than the word of God) to get this wisdom and instruction. No matter what college you may attend or what job experience you have, there is nothing offered in this life that will provide godly wisdom and instruction. And to think otherwise is to “despise” your Father's wisdom and instruction.

By the way, the last thing a son wants at this stage is to be considered to be a “fool” by his Father.

### (33-34) Sonship Orientation

Well, when we come back in our next session, we are going to take these things back to Proverbs 1:2 and show the connection between “to know wisdom and instruction” and “perceive the words of understanding.”

Before we get back over there, let me say one more thing about Romans 8. In vv. 14-15, which are familiar with by now, I want to say something else about us being referred to as “sons of God” and not “daughters of God” and why we talk about “sonship” and not “daughtership.” We are “in Christ” and members of His body, therefore, we are called the “body of Christ.” In Christ, there is no male or female (we are all part of His body).

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is **neither male nor female**: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Since the One, of whom we are members of His body, is a Son, then we are called “sons of God” and the doctrine we refer to as “sonship.” The “son” issue is because Jesus Christ is the Son. Therefore, there should not be any lady who is offended at the label of being a “son” or of the “sonship” education.

Now, let’s get back to Proverbs 1:2 where we can see the first 2 phases of our level 1 education.

Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; **to perceive the words of understanding;**

The Father is going to grab the son’s attention. He is going to accomplish that having the son “perceive the words of understanding.” “To perceive the words of understanding” concerns information concerning the son’s grand opportunity to labor with his Father in His business.

There is an excitement that comes when a son is out from under tutors and governors and begins to do those things which he could not do before, such as dressing himself and choosing what activities he wants to engage in. But the thrill of that won’t last long before it will begin to wane. The real, lasting excitement comes from the understanding that the son is able to engage in decision-making.

“To perceive” is a step beyond just “knowing.” It isn’t much beyond “to know wisdom and instruction,” but it is an advancement. This is also intended to adjust a son’s attitude to begin to match His.

It cannot be stressed enough that this will not work if it is not properly received. We are not just after an education to get some diploma for no reason, such as getting a job flipping burgers after you get a college diploma. We are talking about a perfect system of education that edifies you to think like God thinks; which is what you were created for in the first place, to be godly (god-

likeness). This is beyond an educational system you have ever encountered. So, as we are dealing with this, the Father is listening for certain things to come out of your mouth. And just like a human father, there are certain things He will never talk to His son about if His son is not properly responding to Him. He isn't going to drag you through this against your will or even reluctantly. There is marked measurement so that you will always know where you are.

So the first thing the Father faces the son with is that the son is "to know wisdom and understanding." The next thing is for the son "to perceive the words of understanding." Just to identify this phase 2 of our level 1 education, that will take place in Romans 8:16-39. That is where we will begin to "perceive the words of understanding."

Perceive means "to acquire an awareness and a recognition." It is similar to "to know," but it is a step beyond knowing in sense we understand it.

### **Session 34**

In our last session we had begun to examine the latter part of Proverbs 1:2; "to perceive the words of understanding."

#### **Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;**

LEVEL I—Sonship Establishment (Proverbs 1:2 & 3)

Phase 1 — Proverbs 1:2

Part A — Pro. 1:2a — "To know wisdom and instruction;"

Part B — Pro. 1:2b — "to perceive the words of understanding;"

As we've already recognized, these are not just some random thoughts that are haphazardly put together. There is progress being made by each of the "to-infinitive" clauses so that, each one builds upon the previous one. This next infinitive in the remainder of vs. 2 that rounds out and fills out the rest of Phase 1 of Level I of sonship edification is going to be closely related to the first infinitive, that is, it's going to be very much like it in what it is intended to do.

The intended overall design of this whole first phase of sonship education is for the Father to begin making adjustments in the son's attitude; to set the son's attitude for the education he's about to receive. The attitude of the son is to be set so that his desire is to NOT be a fool and to properly receive the wisdom and instruction of his Father.

The son will know by means of the exhortation to know wisdom and instruction that by doing so he is qualifying himself to function in positions of intelligent responsibility (vocational training). Proverbs 1:7-9 = promotion in the business!

Knowing the value and worth of the Father's instruction implies, "I don't know how to do this and You're going to have to teach me how to do this or I'll never succeed in this business."

Since your Father will not educate you against your will, the question is, “Are you going to enroll in this education or not?”

Right along with that, the Spirit is not going to lead you against your will either. When we get back over to Romans 8, and we properly define what it means to be “led by the Spirit of God,” you will understand that leading is only for a son who desires it. You will also understand that the expression “led by the Spirit” is not some sort of strange, supernatural guiding or heart-feeling whereby the Spirit prompts you to do or not to do certain things by giving you good or bad feelings about something.

But along with understanding that the Spirit is the One who will be leading through the doctrinal curriculum that God has for you as a son, you will also understand that He is not going to drag you “kicking and screaming” through the curriculum, forcing you against your will to become a wise man or a man of understanding. Instead you will be left to be a fool in your Father’s eyes and there will be no godly thinking established in you whatsoever.

Not only will you have to decide, of your own will, to enroll in this education, but you also have to recognize that Satan, in his policy of evil, has a vicious determination to see to it that you never enroll in your Father’s school of wisdom. He has ways and means of seeing to it that you never want to attend class. If you do attend, he has means so that you won’t incline your ear or apply your heart. He will make sure you won’t give any time to this education. He will make an ally of the nature of sin that still remains in you. He will make appeals to that and entice and allure to keep you from spending time with your Father discussing what He’s teaching you through His words. Most saints have fallen victim to that policy of evil and they fell victim early on so that many of them never even go to the first phase, “to know wisdom and instruction.” They don’t even know the curriculum exists.

Those of you in this room today are treading down a path that is not well-worn; that doesn’t have very many ‘footprints’ on it at all. I’m saying all this again, just to underscore the fact that all of this first Phase of Level I to the education as sons has to deal a lot with the issue of the son’s attitude and the son’s desire and willingness to undergo this education.

Therefore, this next “to” infinitive should still be along these lines of setting the son’s attitude to properly receive his education from his Father. But at the same time, it should build on that and advance the issue further.

Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

One of the ways that we see advancement in “to perceive the words of understanding” is that the body of information the son is going to receive is not being described by the generic terms of “wisdom and instruction.” It is now moving away from that generic concept to something more specific. It’s described as words of understanding.



By the way, exhortation that matches up with this part of the Table of Contents begins in Proverbs 2:10 and runs to the end of the chapter in vs.22.

We know that each and every word and expression used here that indicates information (wisdom, instruction, words of understanding, knowledge, learning, wise counsels, etc....) - are all speaking about the written word of God; that is, they are all contained in the Bible itself. But the choice of the word or expression is done so as to indicate or say something about the kind of usefulness or purpose or design that is behind the information that God is going to communicate through His words.

For example, let's look at the word "wisdom". The very word "wisdom" demands that you've got some information that, by the nature of what it sets forth and by what it says, isn't just data without significance, but that it is information that is designed to be applied in specific, identifiable situations and circumstances that have results to it that are beneficial and profitable.

Wherefore, "the words of understanding" are words contained in the written word of God, but there is a particular kind of usefulness or purpose or design that God has for this body of information within the context of a Father-to-son relationship (a Father imparting His mind and heart to his son's mind and heart) that will be beneficial and profitable as well.

Not get the 'cart before the horse,' it's important to appreciate that in all these "to-infinitives" expressions, the thing that really needs to be firmly grasped is the verb, because the verb is going to tell you the nature of how the body of information that follows it is to be properly received.. That's why we spend a large amount of time on the issue of, "To know" "to perceive" "to receive" etc.

So we need to gain an appreciation for just what that word "perceive" means. Since we are being given very specific and accurate terminology and because of that high degree of accuracy, the "words of understand-ing" aren't to be 'known' or 'received' – they are to be properly, "perceived."

There's going to be something in the word perceive that will let me know what the words of understanding are all about or how to properly handle those words of understanding. Hence, the words of understand-ing are a particular kind of knowledge or body of information that God has for His sons; resident in His word, that is going to demand that, in order for them to be beneficial to His sons, they have to be perceived.

It's going to take perception on the part of the son in order to get the most out of these words of understanding.

Another thing that should excite you at this point and another reason of why it's important to gain an appreciation for the word "perceive" is that these are "words of understanding," and becoming a "man of under-standing" is the final goal of the entire sonship education process!

So, you should expect to get at least a small glimpse into something that has to do with the final result of the whole course of education you're now embarking upon.

You should be already anticipating that (since we've already talked about a dictionary-type definition of the word perceive) that what we're going to find is that our appreciation for this word isn't going to be strictly found there, but in the discriminating shade of meaning the word has.

Now let me see if I can illustrate for you the difference in "to know wisdom and instruction" and "to perceive the words of understanding."

How many of you "know" the parables of Matthew ? You can "know" that they are located in Matthew 13 and you can know there are 7 of them. You can even know what each one is about: Parable of the sower, the tares, the grain of mustard seed, the leaven, the treasure, the pearl of great price, the net.

Most preachers see the parables as little stories of wisdom. In Bible college I was taught that a parable is "an earthly story with a heavenly meaning." (whatever that means) Most Bible teachers see the parables as some "gems of wisdom" that Jesus is giving to His listeners. They know the parables exist and they know some things about them (how many, where they are found, the main subject matter, etc.), but they do "perceive;" they do not have an "understanding."

For when you move beyond "knowing" to "perceiving," you understand that:

- The parables are given in a specific order
- The parables instruct the remnant for the day of wrath
- The first parable will be utilized by the remnant at the very beginning of the day of wrath
- The parables are meant to run in pairs
- Some of the parables are instructive to the remnant at the beginning of the LORD'S day of wrath
- Other parables will come into play following the abomination of desolation
- The order of the parables is the exact order of the events in time that the remnant is being instructed regarding

What I'm after here is that when you know the parables are over in Matthew 13 and you know the main subject of them, and you know how many there are, then you have some measure (a small amount, for sure) of wisdom. But if you are aware of what those parables are designed to do and that they are instructive for the believing remnant in Israel's program in the day of wrath, and that they will be utilized in the very order in which they are given and that some come early on at the outset and others don't kick-in until after the mid-way point of the Tribulation, then you "perceive" something that gives you an understanding. And that is a notch up from just "knowing wisdom and instruction."

Perception has an “ahh” factor to it. That is when you see a thing’s design or intent (purpose). Perception is more than just seeing something as being wise, but it is seeing it within the framework of what it was designed to do and what it is capable of producing.

Hopefully, you are beginning to see a difference in “to know” and “to perceive.” Vs. 2 is saying that you, (the son), are to be made aware (by the Father, specifically, by the Spirit of God or the Spirit of adoption) you are to be aware (to know) of the value and the importance and the worth of the wisdom and instruction of your Father (i.e., His course of education He’s going to give you) and then, along with that, the son is to perceive his Father’s “words of understanding.”

Now, before we move on, I want to make sure we have a proper understanding of the word “perceive.” A synonym would be when you “see” something. That is, you have taken special notice of a thing.

Well, the bottom line of it all is that when you perceive something you have come to see it, and you have fixed your attention on it—and now you’re going to take special notice about it. (especially of how it will personally affect you).

Just fit this in to the context of the Table of Contents for our sonship education—the first thing God does as our Father to us as His sons is to produce the awareness that He’s got some important information for us, that it’s valuable to us, and we’ve got a choice to make in connection with it; either going to be well-pleasing to Him and acknowledge that what He says is right, or we’re going to despise it and be a fool and go down the path of the fool.

Once that gets accomplished, you’re going to perceive the words of understanding . That is, you’re going to look at this body of information that God has given you (that He’s simply described as wisdom and instruction), and you’re going to perceive something about it. What you’re going to perceive is that this wisdom and knowledge God’s going to give you is that it’s words of understanding. You’re going to perceive that He’s going to be giving you information by the words He’s going to speak to you that are going to give you “understanding” (intelligence—capacity to judge and comprehend—ability to make sense)!

Again, it’s very important to realize that at this point we, as sons, are to perceive “words” of understanding—that is, we must have a healthy realization that our Father has given us words, not merely ideas, or concepts, or thoughts, or merely insight or impressions or anything along those lines (like so many Bible ‘scoffers’ and Bible critics and Bible scholars try to teach).

Satan has been very successful in dealing with the words of God. He has succeeded to persuade the vast majority of Christians that the words of God aren’t important, it’s rather the concepts of God or the feelings God impresses on us that matter. His argument is that no Bible can really be all that reliable, and that’s not important anyway, because we’ve all got the same “spirit”, so God will just move us by His ideas or notions. Along with that is the erroneous idea that the words of God have gotten lost, corrupted, jumbled up, and mistranslated!

In the table of contents “to perceive the words of understanding” also has an exhortation attached to it. We will find it in Proverbs 2:10 and continuing through the rest of the chapter.

Proverbs 2:10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; 11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil *man*, from the man that speaketh froward things;

Verse 11 says, “understanding shall keep thee,” and this what those words of understanding are going to do. There is a strength in these things and so you are exhorted to hold on to these things. They are going to provide you the stability to withstand some attacks against your being educated as a son.

Vs. 12 describes the time in which you begin to get your eyes opened to the adversary and it is about this time that he is allowed to put you to the test for the first time. The “evil man” is the natural course of this world; it is ever present and it is the son’s first opportunity to take the attitude adjustments that have been made in his inner man and make use of them.

As the attitude is set in your inner man, you are not going to live or think the same way that most Americans do, in some respects. Everything is going to be filtered through the prism of what a son is and whether or not that something is instruction of your heavenly Father to do or not to do.

There are pressures and allurements all packed into this evil man. This is all metaphorical because the teaching is in a proverbial style. Sometimes the allurements of this world are enough to ruin a son without Satan ever having to get involved in it.

The truth of the matter is that you already have within you an attraction to something that can ruin your sonship life without Satan doing anything. You (the infirmity of your flesh) naturally want to go under some kind of law system. If you doubt how pervasive this is, just watch Christian t.v.

**Proverbs 2:12** To deliver thee from the way of the evil *man*, from the man that speaketh froward things; 13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;14 Who rejoice to do evil, *and* delight in the frowardness of the wicked;15 Whose ways *are* crooked, and *they* froward in their paths:

Now that is the section on the evil man. But when you come to the point where you start to gain a little bit of sonship maturity, you are coming to the point where you are going to be introduced to this other character; the strange woman.

**Proverbs 2:16** To deliver thee from the strange woman, *even* from the stranger *which* flattereth with her words; 17 Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.18 For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.19 None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.20 That thou mayest walk in the way of good *men*, and keep the paths of the righteous.21

For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.<sup>22</sup> But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

The “strange woman” is the satanic policy of evil. And it is portrayed the way it is because as a “son,” who is becoming a young man, women can become very alluring and that is analogy. While this is not the time to go into this now, let me just say that Satan deals with women in a particular way. There is a part of the policy of evil that is designed to make a woman a “silly woman.” Paul mentions this in his epistles and when he does, he isn’t just making a snide remark and a general criticism as though he is some kind of chauvinist. But that terminology is exactly what a fully educated son understands and how he talks about the goal of a particular policy within the policy of evil that is directed to, and completely crafted for women alone. There is a particular exhortation that we will get to shortly and we will bring some of these details out concerning this.

This is the exhortation that matches “to perceive the words of understanding” which is directed at getting the son to see the kinds of things that are sitting up ahead of him; things he will go through.

No doubt it is incredibly interesting that we are going to put into use in the creature and we are going to be involved in the business, but what that skips over is all of the concerted attempts of an adversary that knows what he is doing, to keep you from that. That is what is going to create within you the determination to “fill up the sufferings of Christ” which Paul speaks of in Colossians 1.

Let me end this session by saying that the exhortation is designed to warn you that there is real danger here, danger on a scale that the son may not fully apprehend yet. You need to get hold of that and let that get hold of you.