

Session 49 – The 3rd Measure of the Son's Commitment to Education

We have observed the first 2 measures of the son's commitment to his education as:

1. Honest Attendance
2. Interactive Learning

Now, we move to examine the 3rd Measure of Commitment to our sonship establishment. To see this, we need to look back at the 3rd “if clause” in Proverbs 2.

Proverbs 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

We have categorized this third commitment as:

3. The Top Priority

When we read the things being described in vs. 4, (silver, hid treasures) we understand that things of value are being spoken of. This education is to have this kind of value to the son that he seeks it as he does money (silver). Therefore, we are calling this 3rd measure the “top priority” because when something is this important, you organize your life around it. In the same way, we organize our lives around our jobs because they supply the necessary income (money) that we need to live.

In our last session we left off by looking at a very interesting aspect of this 3rd measure. If you recall, we observed that even though the “silver” and the “hid treasures” are analogies, there is an element to what you are being offered in this education that will take analogies further. I told you last time that in gaining the wisdom that comes with this education, we will not be accumulating wisdom, but we will be able to “purchase” as it were, certain things with it.

If that is indeed the case, as I think it is, then the silver and hid treasures are very precise analogies.

Just so that we are straight, I'm not talking about purchasing cars or houses or things like that. But I am talking about the purchase of things which are very important to your heavenly Father. Let me give you some examples.

Your wisdom and understanding in the curriculum will have a direct connection with how you are going to be perceived by the angels when you are seated and functioning in the operations of God in the heavenly places. It's almost like the angels are watching us and they say to each other, “I hope we get this person, or that person.” They will say that because something is **known** about you before you ever get there. As you increase in this education, those angels will observe your wisdom as you begin to think, live and labor with your heavenly Father.

You may not yet understand what a “big deal” this will be for the angels of God, but later on you will. Not only will you impact the angels of God but you will also begin to impact the principalities and powers that rebelled with Satan. You won't actually see that impact or audibly

hear what is being said about you while you are still living on this earth, but the word will go out and before you ever are placed in your position in the heavenly places, the angels will hear that you are coming. They will talk about you because they have already heard about you, they have observed you and therefore they know something about you. Because of what they know, they have some great expectations when you finally get your glorified body and are placed in the heavenly places.

Think of it this way; to the angels, they are about to work with someone they truly respect and admire; someone that they see as the best at what they do. That's how the angels will view you as you progress through the curriculum. Have you ever watched someone do something and they were very, very good at what they do – and you thought to yourself, what a privilege it would be to work alongside such a person?

What we are talking about, in all of this, is one of the things that you will be able to “purchase” because you made this a top priority in your life. The “name” and “respect” and “honor” that you will have in the heavenly places will be “purchased” by you in making this education the top priority. This is what is being referred to in Philippians 3.

Philippians 3:20 For **our conversation is in heaven**; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

There is something that happens to a son that is “known” up there and “talked about” in those heavenly places to the extent that they can't wait until you get there. I'm telling you that the thrill, the rejoicing and the glory of that is going to be greater than you can imagine. It will be more than a hero's welcome. Why? Because those angels not only know who you are but they know why you are coming to their realm and what you are going to do when you get there. They are excited, thrilled and rejoicing over the entire creature being delivered from the bondage of corruption!

Those heavenly places, which have been controlled for so long by the minions of Satan and which have failed to properly function since the 2nd day of creation, will be taken over by us (the educated, adopted, sons of God) and for the first time since before Adam, righteousness and godliness is coming to their realm. That may not yet seem like a big deal to you, but it is a very big deal to them. Look at it like this, the entire future of their realm is in your hands!

You are bringing life to a creature that is, for all intents and purposes, dead. You are bringing righteousness to an evil place. You are bringing light to a place of darkness. You, as the godly creature you are, are being installed by God in a place that has been the epitome of ungodliness. You are taking the creation, which has been controlled by the adversary for so long and putting it back under the direction and control of its Creator.

While I don't want to take the time to discuss all of this now, but in the heavenly places, there are “ways” and “paths” that are followed to get from one place to another. It isn't like you think

it is. It is just like going from here to Abilene. There are a few ways to get there, but you have to go via those ways. Here we would call them roads. Or you could fly, but even then there is a “flight path” and it has to be approved. But you cannot head of “willy-nilly” through the countryside; it’s called trespassing. Well, you are going to learn that the same thing is true of the heavenly places.

You don’t recognize that now because all you really see is this “buffer zone” that God has placed between the earth and the heavenly places where the principalities are stationed. In that “buffer zone” God does not allow any of the principalities, powers, etc. to operate. It is a sort of “no fly” zone or a “demilitarized zone.” And it’s a good thing that it’s there because if men ever ventured out past that buffer into the occupied heavenly places, that would be a very dangerous place to be right now.

Well, I’ve said all this to make a small point; one of the things you are going to do is bring freedom of travel along all the “paths” and “ways” up in the heavenly places. You are making it safe for angels to move through their realm!

Let me give you one more analogy. You know that so far in Mexico this year over 53,000 people have died in violence that is mostly involved with the drug gangs. And while the vast majority of those deaths are between those gangs, there are people who have nothing to do with the gangs or the drugs that are killed in the crossfire. Americans are constantly warned not to drive your car to Mexico as even the police will pull you over and shake you down. If you drive from one city to another, you run a great risk of being stopped and robbed of your valuables and your car. Car rental companies here in Texas will not rent a car to you if you are planning to drive into Mexico; it’s that bad. Even last night on the news I heard a report saying that even if you are driving a car with US tags, odds are, you will be targeted.

Now think about what it would be like for someone to come into Mexico and make it safe to travel again. To be able to go anywhere, anytime without fear – how do you think that most people would perceive that? There would be dancing in the streets! And now you know a little of how the angels feel about you coming, knowing all that you are going to accomplish up there.

You have to understand that not only the angels, but the creature has been waiting for the time when righteousness was finally going to come to the heavenly places, when it would be delivered from the bondage of corruption.

Romans 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. ²¹ Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

They are eagerly anticipating an intelligent son, who knows the Father's mind and will, and can function in the operations of God that they have never seen happen before; that's what they are looking for.

So by this education you are "purchasing" as place of authority, a "name" among the angelic host, and a "glory" that can only be bestowed upon an educated son or daughter of God.

As wonderful as all this may be, this is not all that you will be able to purchase with the wisdom you are given in this sonship education. We will have opportunity later on to discuss more of the "merchandise" (and that is exactly what the Bible calls it) that you will be able to purchase.

For now, I want us to get back to this 3rd measure of making this education the top priority. You may have noticed, as we have progressed through the 3 measures, that these are designed to build, one on top of another. They have progress and development to them so that when it comes to this final Measure, it's the climatic issue of all the levels of commitment. If the first 2 measures of commitment are effectually working, they make it so that the acquisition of your sonship education really does become THE Top Priority of your life. And when it is the top priority, you'll be doing exactly what is described here, you'll seek her (wisdom) as silver, and you'll search for her as for hid treasures and the serious pursuit of this godly wisdom will be the very thing you will spend your life on.

Let's not swing the pendulum to an extreme. By saying that this is to be the top priority, I am not saying you should quit your job and move to the mountains and hermit away studying sonship, but it does mean that this has such a place of importance to you that your commitment to it makes it your highest priority.

Just to bring this to a practical application, even though we have not yet covered the doctrine in Paul's epistles to us (that produces these 3 measures of commitment), it will be absolutely necessary, if we are going to see this education through to the end, for these to be in place by the time we get to Romans 12. To say it another way, these measures are going to be required if you plan on going past the first 2 verses of Romans 12.

Let me show a little bit of why that is true. In Romans 13, you are going to be taken to passage where Paul brings up the adversary and for the first time you are going to put on the "armor of light." I know everyone talks about the "armor of God" over in Ephesians, but until you become a Level 3 son, you can't wear that armor. At the beginning, what you will wear is the armor of light. We almost never hear about that, do we?

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and **let us put on the armour of light.**

I know I have mentioned this before, but we haven't really studied it. We aren't going to study it now either. We'll wait until we get to Romans 13. But for now, let me just say this; if you put

on the “armor of light,” by its very nature, what has happened to you? If you have put on “light” then you are now visible, you can be seen, you stand out, and you can be located. You are no longer “under the radar.” And this is just one example of why, by this time, your Father requires you to have already settled these measures of commitment because if those measures are not properly in place, then when you come under the notice of the adversary, you had better already settled the issue of just how committed you are to this education.

Now, let’s return and take a look at vs. 4.

Proverbs 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

There are 2 concepts in vs. 4; “sleekest” and “searchest.” This is not meant to be repetitive. He isn’t saying “sleekest as for silver” and then repeating it in a different way, “searchest as for hid treasure” in case you didn’t understand the first analogy. There are 2 analogies because there are 2 parts to this and it is going to take both of these concepts in order to fully appreciate the nature of the Top Priority that you are to make of your sonship education.

Back in Proverbs 1, as we looked at the table of contents, you have already come to “know wisdom” (which is to know its existence and something of its value and worth). Now, on top of that, you are going to “seek her as silver” and then, once that is working in you, you are to “search for her as for hid treasures.”

It is my understanding that the words “seek” and “search” are not being used just as synonyms to reinforce a single idea, but they are meant to convey discriminating shades of meaning that together produce this 3rd measure of commitment. A good dictionary will bear witness to the different shades of meanings in these words. The more basic word is “seek” and the more advanced term is “search.”

I realize that most people think the Bible is put together the way we talk, without much thought or precision to the word choices, but that would be wrong. The Bible is very precise. Which, by the way, is one reason that a Bible translation written in the vernacular of the day (in the common speech) has lost that precision and the accompanying shades of meaning that give the real insight into what God is saying to you in His word. I will tell you now, that no translation outside of the AV 1611 cares one bit, or even knows to care about, the precision of word choices.

When you seek for something, you’re usually seeking for something you recognize is needful to you; it’s necessary and even indispensable. Because it has a measure or high degree of IMPORTANCE, you are going to take the time to seek for that thing. In other words, you see it and you value it as WORTH EVERY BIT OF THE TIME IT TAKES to get it.

I realize we all have a list of priorities in our lives. Some of them are short in duration and others last a lifetime. By saying that this education is to take the top priority spot, I’m not saying that nothing else is important. If there is no food in the house, then grocery shopping becomes a

priority. But what I'm talking about is that in the midst of all of these legitimate priorities which we all have, we have one that we realize to be overall, our top priority. I'm not talking about making this a priority to the forsaking of other legitimately important things, but with everything in its proper place and given the proper attention each deserves. I think that you probably understood that already, but there is always someone out there who wants to take things to the extreme, and that's not what we are talking about here.

Having said that, let's look at the first of the analogies; silver. "Silver" is being utilized here in the analogy because it not only is a very valuable commodity by itself; but it's the term that most naturally connects with MONEY. Judas sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver; money.

Money is recognized as a very important thing; it's needful and necessary. It's the most common thing (after air, food and water) most folks think of as indispensable in order to survive in society.

The silver concept (or the money concept) has some very well understood issues attached to it. For instance, you need it in order to purchase not only the things you want, but the things you absolutely can't do without. It's understood that you can get benefits out of it and you get profitable things for yourself by means of it. Therefore, when you seek something as silver, you're seeking for things that are needful, indispensable, and profitable to you and on the basis of these things you're going to provide for yourself in many various ways.

Money (silver), in whatever way it gets utilized in a particular culture or society, always has the idea of what is commonly called, "purchasing power." And money is probably the easiest to grasp analogy that could possibly ever be made to someone if you wanted to describe The Top Priority, as it is most often the top priority in the life of most human beings.

I want to put this in perspective for you. No matter how much money you may acquire in a lifetime, no matter how many possessions you may accumulate, when this life is over, you will leave everything behind. The only thing you are going to take with you is the wisdom that you gained from the sonship education. So, if this is the only thing you get to carry with you when you die, and it will serve you every day in eternity, then how important do you think it should be?

Additionally, when you consider that the only time in which you are given to acquire this wisdom is while you are living on this earth, and you will not be able to add to it once you die, how much attention do you think you should give to it? Now are you beginning to see why your Father would give you an analogy that would make this the top priority in your life?

Just as money is seen as the means by which we obtain all the necessary things we need (food, clothing, shelter), we should be looking at this sonship education as the means by which we obtain all the necessary things we need to please God and labor with Him both now and in

eternity. A person may not yet understand just how necessary that wisdom will be and he may not realize its power to purchase things that are going to be considered as vital later on, but one thing is sure, there are some absolutely essential things that can only be “purchased” by this wisdom.

One more thing needs to be said. Coming through Romans we talked a lot about our functional life. As sonship is the “capstone” of our sanctified life, you should begin to see that your own functional life is dependent upon getting this education. That is to say, you cannot properly function unto God without it! Those first 2 components of your sanctification equipped you to restrain sin and promote righteousness but sonship is the component that takes those first 2 components and takes your functional life to a much further extent than just to stop sinning; it allows you to accomplish your Father’s will in accordance with His plan and purpose throughout eternity. Those first 2 components find their ultimate expression in your sonship life and they were never intended to function apart from it.

So, in the context of this overall education, what you’re getting as God’s adopted son isn’t actual silver or money, but in describing the wisdom contained in the curriculum, it is actually more valuable than physical silver and treasures. If you think I’m stretching it, take a look at the exhortation in Proverbs 3.

Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.¹⁴ For the merchandise of it **is better** than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.¹⁵ She **is more precious** than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

Firstly, notice there is “merchandise” that can be gotten with wisdom. That wisdom (and the merchandise it can purchase!) is better than silver and the things it can purchase. There is something that can be gained from wisdom that exceeds what a man can gain from “fine gold.” This wisdom is more precious than “precious stones” like rubies. And he doesn’t stop there. Notice that last phrase in vs. 15: “She is more precious than...all the things thou canst desire” and then he goes on to say that those things “are not to be compared unto her (wisdom)”!

This means that you’re to be seeking your sonship education, first of all, as the overall important thing that it is to you. And when this is your Top Priority, you don’t organize the details of your life around anything else; you organize the details of your life around getting your sonship education because the other details of your life are subservient to getting your sonship education.

Session 50

In our last session we finished by looking at the exhortation in Proverbs 3, where we were told that there is merchandise to be gotten by the wisdom we will get in our sonship education. We were also told of the value of the wisdom and that it exceeds the physical silver and gold and what wisdom purchases is more valuable than any of the things that silver and gold can buy.

To further this issue, we want to go over to Proverbs 4. Proverbs 4 contains an exhortation that comes into play at a specific time. To locate this, go back and take a look at the table of contents.

Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;
³ To receive **the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity**; ⁴ To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. ⁵ A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: ⁶ To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

If you notice in vs. 3, the actual start of the education proper has the son learning 4 judgmental, decision-making skills that apply to rulers and governors. Those are “wisdom, justice, judgment and equity”. Once these 4 are effectually working in the son’s inner man, he is now a simple son.

As we get back over to the book of Romans, we will see our apostle, Paul, teach us these very skills in the exact order they are listed here. Now, let’s bring in the Proverbs 4’s exhortation. The exhortation in Proverbs 4 comes into play after the son has been educated in “godly wisdom, justice and judgment” and just prior to his being educated in “godly equity”.



By virtue of this being the last thing the son learns in order to become a simple son, you know that this is going to occur toward the end of the book of Romans.

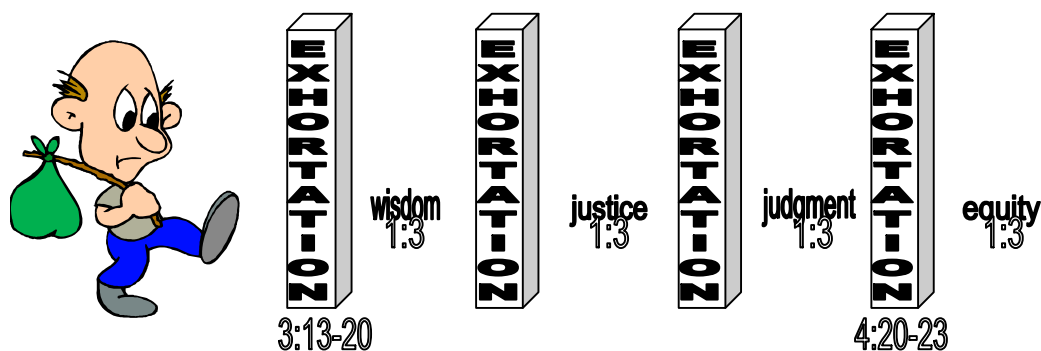
Proverbs 4:20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. ²¹ Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. ²² For **they are**

life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.²³ Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

The “life” in vs. 22 is referring to functional life; the son’s ability to function in a way that is “well-pleasing” to the Father. All I really want you to notice for now is that there are “benefits” to this. “Life” and “health” are benefits, are they not? I realize that we are reading Israel’s program over here, but still, in either program, there are benefits to be gained from the wisdom.

This is why you’ve got those analogies stated there in Proverbs 2:4 the way that they are in order to stress the importance of the son’s education as The Top Priority of his life. And the first one of those is: “If thou seekest her as silver.” In a sense, as you go on to get your sonship education, in a sense, you’re supposed to look at that as “spiritual money”! You will discover that your Father actually expects you to be purchasing some things. And He has a store of things that you can buy!

As we have already discussed briefly, you’re going to be able to ‘buy’ things and ‘purchase’ things with it, as issues of your sonship life. This concept isn’t just to be thought of as silly or just brushed off as some kind of poetic, flowery language of accommodation (so to speak), but rather, it’s actually picked up again and given a far more serious application than that. Now, we are going to back up to Proverbs 3. This is where we see the exhortation that concerns the son’s education in godly wisdom.



Understand that this exhortation takes place as the son enters into the 2nd phase of his Level 1 education.

Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.¹⁴ For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.¹⁵ She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

You're actually able to employ the issues of your sonship education (the first ones being wisdom and the understanding that comes from that), you're able to employ that wisdom as 'spiritual money' by which you can purchase some spiritual merchandise. And, as we saw in the last session, all of the merchandise you can purchase with wisdom is better than any of the merchandise you can purchase with real, physical, tangible, carnal money.

The things that you will be able to purchase are not only going to be needful for your life now, but especially your life in the creature when you're functioning out there. I'm not talking about frivolous things but the most important things. This is wisdom's purchasing power!

We all have jobs that we invest our time and energy in, primarily for the purpose of getting the paycheck because we need that money to live and to survive in connection with our physical lives. Because of that, we all too often end up making our secular jobs our Top Priority and we end up organizing the details of our lives around our job. Most everything else takes a 'back seat' to that so that everything in our lives gets organized around getting the 'silver.'

But just this analogy by itself isn't adequate enough or sufficient enough to be able to make getting your sonship education THE Top Priority and not just A Top Priority. It takes this other issue described by another analogy in the rest of (:4) to produce in you and generate in you the making of your sonship education not just one priority among many, but to make it stand out or rise above all others as T-H-E Top Priority of your life.

Proverbs 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and **searchest for her as for hid treasures;**

It's this "searching" issue that fully does the job of making this The Top Priority in your life. It is when you add this searching issue (at the end of vs. 4) to the seeking issue (at the beginning of it), the issue with our sonship education moves from being merely one of many other 'top priorities' to being "THE" Top Priority; to being The Priority that all other priorities would be subservient to!

That's why the rest of (:4) goes on to say "... and searchest for her as for hid treasures;" (and the hid treasures are just a little bit different from the silver).

While seeking is done when you have perceived and have recognized that the thing you're seeking is vital, is important, is necessary and needful, it's indispensable because it's the very part of your basic sustenance which meets the requirements for your life to exist. But when you search for something, you're actually engaging in an activity that is more intense and more extreme, and really a step beyond seeking something. When you search for something, you're searching for it because it has such a compelling nature to it that all else becomes relegated to being secondary in your life to the issue of obtaining what you're searching for.

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It may be a brief time in which everything else is ‘put on hold’ [so to speak] or it may be over a long period of time, but the issue in searching for something (that becomes the shade of meaning that differs from seeking something) is the issue of how you’re compelled to search for it.

An example would be when you are about to leave your house for your doctor’s appointment and you discover that you have lost your keys. Now, everything goes “on hold” until you find those keys, for without them, you may not be going anywhere. That’s what the last part of Proverbs 2:4 is describing. In other words, something in the nature of what you search for has generated within you a powerful force or drive that’s so irresistible that it holds sway over you.

Because of the precious nature of what you’re searching for has made it so that you’re not merely seeking for it, but you’re going to ‘drop everything’ to get this because it has so totally occupied your mind.

Furthermore, it not only has occupied your mind or thinking, but it has occupied your emotion—the very soul of your inner man—and because of that, you’re ‘driven’ for it to such an extent that your determination to get it couldn’t be any higher. As David gives Solomon this analogy, you can clearly see by how he states it, that’s exactly what’s going on here.

Therefore, the intensifying aspect of making getting the wisdom of your Father through His sonship curriculum is to be the issue of, “and searchest for her as for hid treasures.”

To illustrate this: You get up and get ready to go to work and just as you are driving out of your driveway, a person shows up who is part of the TX Historical Society, and they inform you (and they have all the paperwork and survey work, and all the facts to prove it) that a major gold shipment that was about to be confiscated by the Union was buried by Confederate soldiers in the specific location that is now your back yard. You are told that it’s total value is estimated today to be in excess of 500 Million Dollars! Well, I doubt very much if you would just say, “Oh, well that’s nice. You boys just go ahead and dig it up, I’ve got to go to work and after work I’ve got to take Jenny to ballet practice and then I’ve got to pick Jphnny up from football practice, and if you’re still around when I get back, I’ll see what you’ve found.... if I’m not too tired.”

You know you wouldn’t do that; you’d be driven to put work on hold, maybe even call and make arrangements to have a friend or other family member pick up your kids, and suddenly it would become the top priority of your life at that moment. Well, that’s the kind of compelling nature of what goes on when you’re dealing with the issue of “hid treasures” and when it comes to you searching for them.

The main reason the analogy is made, and stated the way it is in Proverbs 2:4, is so that it makes the strong point to you of GETTING the hid treasures (or wisdom) as THE TOP PRIORITY of your life.

In order for this education to become The Top Priority, something has to happen in your inner man that takes into account all the priorities of your life and still this stands out above all other challengers to the extent that you have more desire for this than anything else in your life.

And what has to happen, in order to achieve that perfectly prioritized attitude in you, as the adopted son of your Heavenly Father, is the effectual working of the doctrine that pertains to your sonship establishment (of knowing wisdom and instruction; and perceiving the words of understanding)! [Phase 1 of Level I]

Therefore, this exhortation in Proverbs 2:1-5, while it serves actually as a pre-exhortation issue to Phase 2 of Level I, it also provides a measure of post-doctrinal-exhortation to the issues that were covered in Phase 1 of Level I, and actually builds off of what was supposed to be generated in the son's thinking and the adjustments in the son's attitude.

We have spent some time talking about the merchandise that you will be able to buy with the wisdom that you acquire as a son who is engaged in the education provided by the Father. I gave some idea of what you could purchase but I also told you that there were other things available as well.

We looked at Proverbs 3:13-15 and the issue of the "merchandise" of wisdom. That wisdom has 'purchasing power' (so to speak), much like it is 'spiritual money'. The "silver" and "hid treasures" aspects of vs. 4, can be looked at as 'abundant wealth' when you become the possessor of it. By the way, that is how your Father measures wealth with you; not by your car or house or bank account, but by your inner man. A man may be wealthy as far as the world goes and "poor as a church mouse" in the eyes of his heavenly Father. It doesn't have to be that way, but I'm pointing out the different way in which your Father measures wealth.

I know this is out of Israel's program, but the analogy still holds, "what does it profit if a man gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" That is true, a wealthy man goes to hell when he dies and his wealth is left behind for others. Real wealth (according to your Father) you take with you and utilize it in eternity! To Him, the wisdom that comes from this education is your measure of wealth. People talk about the "riches of Christ" as though they are not real riches. To your Father, they are the only ones He is interested in, as they are not temporal, but eternal in nature!

And really, your Father has made it so that you really can purchase some things out of that wealth. And one of the first times the Father deals with the son about that purchase program is here in Proverbs 3. The commensurate place in the book of Romans is Romans 12:3-16.

Proverbs 3:13 **Happy** is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

But getting back to the Proverbs exhortation, the first thing the son acquires is “godly happiness.” The son “purchases” that happiness by finding the wisdom of his Father, getting the understanding and having that wisdom & understanding effectually working in the details of his life. That’s all dealing with the full complement of the son’s education AND edification. It’s his ability to benefit from the education by learning what he’s supposed to learn; and knowing how to use what he’s learn; and then actually using it.

Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. ¹⁴ For **the merchandise of it** *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

Vs. 14 makes it clear that wisdom not only has the capacity for acquiring things unto yourself, but that there are specific things to buy; there is “merchandise” (goods, wares, commodities, products, etc.).

Vs. 14 - You’ve not only got products you can buy, but you’ve got gain to be made by that wisdom and it’s better than silver (money), and it’s better or greater gain than fine gold!

Vs. 15 takes that “Top Priority” concept from merely the acquiring the wisdom and the understanding and focuses upon the actual USE of that wisdom and the USE of that understanding and treating as ‘spiritual money’ that it is, and starting to make the purchases God has designed for you to make on the basis of acquiring those things.

Proverbs 3:15 She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

Now at this point I want to just give you a “sampler” (so to speak) of some items that you will be able to purchase with this ‘spiritual money.’ This list is in no particular order so don’t try to come to any conclusions based on the order of things here. You may have already determined that the merchandise isn’t of a physical nature (since it’s going to have to be taken with you into your heavenly vocation) and it’s not material possessions (or things along those lines), because you can purchase those things with physical silver and money and gold.

But what you’re going to be purchasing with spiritual money is spiritual commodities and spiritual merchandise and you’re supposed to do that. In fact, you’re expected to do that.

So let’s look at some “Sonship Merchandise” that you can purchase with the godly wisdom you get and the understanding you get by means of God’s sonship curriculum.

- Godly Skills – one of the first things you can purchase

(49-50) Sonship Orientation

We've already addressed the issue that you are going to be acquiring godly decision-making skills all along the way as you go through your education into godly wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity.

It may not be quite as clear how that is something you can 'purchase,' but it will become clear when we go through Romans 12 and following. You learn to be able to purchase particular skills in connection with how wisdom gets applied in certain situations—and how, on the basis of godly wisdom, how one situation differs from another situation, and how it would be better to do one thing in this situation, and to do a completely different thing in this other situation.

When you put the justice with that wisdom, you therefore have got sound wisdom and those 2 work together to bring up the issue of discretion and the like and you're able to apply the purchased skills to all those things.

As we take up some other things you will be able to purchase, in our next session, you will begin to see how each piece of merchandise builds on the previous pieces.