

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

(#24) Eight Reasons Why Listen To Reason: #6-8 Proverbs 9:1-18

#6 Verses 1-6: She Speaks Protectively

Wisdom is pictured as having completed a perfect house, offering hospitality to all the "simple" (those who are following whatever leader speaks, in Proverbs not someone using good judgment) who will come.

- (1) "Seven pillars" show Divinely complete strength,
- (2) A sumptuous feast,
- (3) An invitation through trusted messengers, and
- (4) An appeal to the public: for the "simple" to "turn in," and those "who lack understanding" to partake of the feast; that is, stop foolishness and follow understanding.

The New Testament teaches

- (1) "that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church...according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord" ([Ephesians 3:10-11](#)).
- (2) The church of Christ is built by God's Wisdom; offers a sumptuous feast: "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world" ([John 6:51](#));
- (3) an invitation through trusted messengers: "'Therefore the wisdom of God also said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute'" ([Luke 11:49](#));
- (4) an appeal to the public: "Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light" ([Matthew 11:28-30](#)).

Wisdom still invites from her house!

#7 Verses 7-12: She Speaks Principally

According to **verses 7-8**, "scorners" and a "wicked" person will only reject Wisdom and hate and hurt those who "correct." But, given Wisdom, the "wise" will "love you," for he will be "wiser," and a "just man" will "increase in learning." Jesus Christ said: "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also" ([John 15:20](#)). The "beginning of wisdom" is to develop "fear (awe, respect) of the LORD" and "understanding" is produced by

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.



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"knowledge of the Holy One" (plural in the Hebrew, like *Elohim*, [Genesis 1:1](#) and [Genesis 1:26-27](#)). Following Wisdom potentially lengthens life, for it is a purely individual response to God.

#8 Verses 13-18: She Speaks Purely

Wisdom is calling out, but at the same time, so, also is "a foolish woman." Contrasted with Wisdom's house which offers clean, long life, the "foolish woman" calls to all who "pass by" for "the simple" (those without discernment or wisdom) to "turn in here. Her appeal is the excitement of breaking law and comfort of secrecy.
She appeals to those who don't think ahead of their individual judgment from God.

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