

Dear Partner,

When I was a lad growing up in my parent's home there used to be a comedy on TV titled "Father Knows Best." Having been raised by godly parents and now being a father (and grandfather) myself, I know parents always do their best to impart knowledge and wisdom to their children so they will have happy and blessed lives. But earthly parents, no matter how well meaning, do not always know what is "best," but our heavenly Father always does. When it comes to our heavenly Father ... "Father knows best!" Our heavenly Father has given us His wisdom in two forms of words: The written word of God (the Holy Bible) and by writing His laws into our minds and into our hearts when we are born again.

**Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.**

**Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:**

Jesus said plainly that man is not to live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. [Mat 4:4] What if man chose to live by the instruction given by our all loving, all wise heavenly Father instead of the wisdom of the world? This is the true meaning of the proverb that says,

**Pro 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (6) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

In every situation of life, there are always two paths to choose ... the world's way ... or the Father's way. In just the book of Proverbs alone there is enough wisdom given to avoid most of the pitfalls of life. I am going to mention just a few of them in this letter:

**Pro 1:10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.**

CHOOSE GODLY FRIENDS. Don't commit sin simply because you want to be accepted by the crowd. In modern times it is even more important than ever because of the number of gangs that abound in our nation.

**Pro 1:19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.**

DON'T BE GREEDY. Don't be a thief. Don't be covetous. Don't devise ways to steal from people. What if the whole world took this to heart? "Identity theft" would be a thing of the past. All the scams to steal and extort money from the innocent would cease. Even at the highest level of politics the temptation overcomes people and they will abuse their office and another scandal will be in the news.

**Pro 5:1-5 My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: (2) That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. (3) For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: (4) But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. (5) Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.**

AVOID FORNICATION AND ADULTERY! So many marriages have been ruined by disregarding this instruction from our loving, heavenly Father. Think of the children growing up in broken homes who

have to overcome the trauma of divorce. If only we would trust that "Father knows best" and follow the instruction of His words.

**Pro 23:20-21 Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: (21) For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe *a man* with rags.**

BE NEITHER A DRUNKARD NOR A GLUTTON. Need I say more? "Father knows best!"

I could go on for many pages with more of these wonderful illustrations from the written word of God, but let's talk a moment about the other way God has given us His wisdom. He has written His laws in our minds and in our hearts. When did He do that? When we were born again by receiving Christ into our lives. With that new nature comes the very nature of Christ Himself. At our core, the new man created within us at the new birth, we are created in righteousness and true holiness.

**Eph 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God [in His image] is created in righteousness and true holiness.**

There is a moral compass within the born again Christian that is simply not in humans that have not been born again. The bible says they have the "spirit of the world" within them. We have the "spirit of God" within us. The only conscience in a natural man is the artificial conscience placed in him by his parents and society as he was growing up. But EVERY person who receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior receives a new nature that is actually made in the image of God. It "knows" right from wrong the very first moment they are born again. Without anyone telling them externally, newly born again people know from within that stealing is wrong, lying is wrong, adultery is wrong, coveting is wrong.

The best of both worlds is to read God's written word and to hearken to the voice of our new nature. I have lived on planet earth a long time now. I have lived according to the wisdom of the world and I have lived by the wisdom of God. Trust me when I say ... "FATHER KNOWS BEST!"

Sue and I love you and appreciate you. We thank God for your generous and giving heart. God bless you!

Your friend and co-laborer,

*GARY*

