

Proverbs 10:6, 7, 11, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31, 32 (NIV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

THE WAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS

1. PURSUIT OF WISDOM

Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?

So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life."

1 Kings 3:7-9; 11-14 (NIV)

- The root of wisdom is in God given discernment

2. A TEACHABLE HEART

Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults; whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse. Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.

Proverbs 9:7-9 (NIV)

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. Good people obtain favor from the Lord, but he condemns those who devise wicked schemes.

Proverbs 12:1-2 (NIV)

Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.
Proverbs 16:20 (NIV)

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Psalms 51:10 (NIV)

- Faith in self or in Christ?

3. TRUTH TRUMPS TEMPTATION

When you sit to dine with a ruler, note well what is before you, and put a knife to your throat if you are given to gluttony. Do not crave his delicacies, for that food is deceptive. Do not wear yourself out to get rich; do not trust your own cleverness. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

Proverbs 23:1-5 (NIV)

Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaints? Who has needless bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? Those who linger over wine, who go to sample bowls of mixed wine. Do not gaze at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly! In the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper. Your eyes will see strange sights, and your mind will imagine confusing things. You will be like one sleeping on the high seas, lying on top of the rigging. "They hit me," you will say, "but I'm not hurt! They beat me, but I don't feel it! When will I wake up so I can find another drink?"

Proverbs 23:29-35 (NIV)

4. HEALING POWER OF YOUR WORDS

From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things, and the work of their hands brings them reward.

Proverbs 12:14 (NIV)

One who loves a pure heart and who speaks with grace will have the king for a friend.

Proverbs 22:11 (NIV)

Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.

The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but people are tested by their praise.

Proverbs 27:9, 21 (NIV)

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Proverbs 31:8-9 (NIV)