

# The Great Reward of Knowing and Obeying God's Commands

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## *Proverbs 3*

- I. **The reward of following God's commands can never be underestimated for this life or for the life to come.**
  - A. How about long life, peace, and prosperity (Proverbs 3:1-2, 13-18; Ephesians 6:1-3)!
  - B. There is power in reading your Bible, so you can "understand what is right and just and fair—every good path" (Proverbs 2:1-11).
  - C. There is also great power in praying for the knowledge of God's will so that you know how to please God and begin to bear fruit in every good work (Colossians 1:9-10).
  
- II. **Many of God's commands are simple and very wise. Some of God's words are only understood by personally knowing the heart and power of the author. God wants to reveal Himself personally (Matthew 22:29; Mark 7:9-13).**
  - A. Solomon received his wisdom out of a desire to know God and what was pleasing to Him (I Kings 3:5-15).
  - B. The first steps to having a relationship with God
    1. Repent and believe (Mark 1:15)
    2. Receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-8)
    3. The word written on your heart through the presence of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 8:7-10).
  - C. All Scripture is God-breathed (II Timothy 3:16-17). Receiving insight as we read the Bible is the best way to learn to hear God's voice.
  
- III. **More wisdom from Proverbs 3**
  - A. Favor and a good name with both God and man (Proverbs 3:3-4).
    1. Hebrew word for "love" (unfailing love, loyal love, devotion)
    2. Hebrew word for "faithfulness" (reliability and trustworthiness)
  - B. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight"—literally "make smooth, straight, i.e., free from obstacles" (Brown-Driver-Riggs Lexicon, Proverbs 3:5-6).
  - C. "Health to your body"—especially watch out for bitterness and unforgiveness (Prov. 3:7-8).
  - D. Overflowing financial provision (Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:6-12)
  - E. Learning from pain and discipline (Proverbs 3:11-12; Hebrews 12:5-9)
  - F. Creating, building, problem-solving (Proverbs 3:19-20; 2:1-9; James 1:5; Ex. 31:1-6)
  - G. Living with confidence and without fear (Proverbs 3:21-26)
  - H. Hearing the voice behind you say, "This is the way; walk in it" (Isaiah 30:15-21).

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