

Proverbs 24:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

Analysis

'So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul'—like honey's sweetness (v. 13), wisdom delights and nourishes the soul. Finding wisdom brings threefold benefit: present delight, certain hope ('there is an end'), and unfailing expectation. The 'end' (Hebrew 'acharith') means future or outcome—wisdom leads to good endings. Your 'expectation shall not be cut off'—hope will be fulfilled, not disappointed. This promises that pursuing wisdom pays off both temporally and eternally. Wisdom's path may be difficult but its destination is sure. By contrast, folly's path may seem pleasant but ends in death. Choose wisdom despite present costs; your hope will not prove vain. God rewards those who diligently seek Him.

Historical Context

Israel's covenant promises linked obedience to blessing and disobedience to curse. While gospel fulfills this through Christ, the principle remains: wisdom leads to life; folly leads to death.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Are you pursuing wisdom with confidence that your expectation will not be disappointed?
2. What immediate costs of wisdom are you willing to bear for the certain future reward?

Interlinear Text

בְּ	דַּעַת	חֲכַםְתָּה	לְנֵפֶשׁךְ	אָם
H3651	So shall the knowledge	of wisdom	be unto thy soul	H518
	H3045	H2451	H5315	
בְּ	מְצַאַת	וְשָׁ	אַחֲרֵי	לְאָ
when thou hast found	it then there shall be		a reward	and thy expectation
H4672	H3426		H319	H3808

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 2:10 (Parallel theme): When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

Proverbs 23:18 (Parallel theme): For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.

Jeremiah 15:16 (Parallel theme): Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Psalms 119:103 (Parallel theme): How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

James 1:25 (Parallel theme): But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Proverbs 22:18 (Parallel theme): For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips.

Psalms 119:111 (Parallel theme): Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

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