

# Proverbs 6:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

## Analysis

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Wisdom will guide when you walk, watch when you sleep, speak when you wake. The comprehensive temporal coverage (walking, sleeping, waking) indicates constant companionship. The Hebrew 'nachah' (lead/guide), 'shamar' (watch/guard), and 'siychah' (speak/meditate) describe active benefits. Wisdom isn't passive knowledge but dynamic companion providing direction, protection, and conversation. This anticipates the Holy Spirit's promised companionship in the New Covenant.

## Historical Context

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Psalms 119:97-105 similarly celebrates God's Word as constant companion: meditation day and night, lamp to feet, sweeter than honey. For the psalmist, Scripture wasn't occasional reference but constant friend. Early Christians memorized vast Scripture portions, making God's Word truly portable and constantly accessible for guidance, comfort, and meditation.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How present is divine wisdom in your daily walking, sleeping, and waking?
2. What would it mean for wisdom to 'speak to you' when you wake - what practices cultivate this?
3. How can you make God's truth a more constant companion rather than occasional consultant?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּהִתְהַלֵּכְךָ	תִּנָּה ה'	אֶתְךָ	בְּשֹׁכְבְּךָ	תִּשְׁמֹר
When thou goest	it shall lead	H853	thee when thou sleepest	it shall keep
H1980	H5148		H7901	H8104
עַל יְדִי	וְהִקְיֵצ וְתִ	ה' יֵא	תְּשִׁירָה:	
H5921	thee and when thou awakest	H1931	it shall talk	
	H6974		H7878	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 2:11** (Parallel theme): Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

**Psalms 119:11** (Parallel theme): Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

**Psalms 119:54** (Parallel theme): Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

**Psalms 119:148** (Parallel theme): Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy word.

**Psalms 119:9** (Parallel theme): Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

**Psalms 43:3** (Parallel theme): O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

**Psalms 119:24** (Parallel theme): Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

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