

Proverbs 8:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

Analysis

Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom; I am understanding; I have strength. Wisdom claims to possess counsel (etsah - advice, purpose), sound wisdom (tushiyah - enduring wisdom), understanding (binah - discernment), and strength (gevurah - might, power). This fourfold claim encompasses both intellectual and practical dimensions - wisdom provides both right understanding and power to execute right action. This refutes the false dichotomy between knowledge and power.

Historical Context

Wisdom's self-description continues, claiming comprehensive resources for human flourishing. Ancient Near Eastern wisdom literature recognized that knowing the right way is insufficient without strength to walk it.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. In what areas do you lack either understanding of what's right or strength to do it?

2. How does Christ as wisdom of God provide both knowledge and power for godly living?

Interlinear Text

לֵץ־צָהָב יְתָשֵׁית אֵת הַבְּנָה:
H0 Counsel is mine and sound wisdom H589 I am understanding H0
H6098 H8454 H998

גָּבֹרָה:

I have strength

H1369

Additional Cross-References

Ecclesiastes 7:19 (Parallel theme): Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.

Isaiah 40:14 (Parallel theme): With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

Isaiah 9:6 (Parallel theme): For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Colossians 2:3 (Parallel theme): In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Proverbs 24:5 (Parallel theme): A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

Romans 1:22 (Parallel theme): Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

1 Corinthians 1:24 (Parallel theme): But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1:30 (Parallel theme): But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

John 1:9 (Parallel theme): That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org