

# Proverbs 8:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

## Analysis

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The LORD possessed wisdom at creation's beginning, before His works of old. The Hebrew 'qanah' (possess/create/acquire) describes wisdom's primordial existence. Wisdom isn't created thing but eternal attribute of God, possessed before creation. John 1:1-3 echoes this: 'In the beginning was the Word...all things were made by him.' Wisdom/Word/Christ existed eternally with God, instrumental in creation. This grounds wisdom in God's eternal being.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern cosmogonies often described gods creating through conflict or sexual generation. Genesis and Proverbs radically differ - God creates through wisdom/word, rationally ordering chaos into cosmos. No divine conflict, no theogony (god-birthing), just sovereign wise creation. This revolutionized understanding of both God and creation - reality is rationally ordered because it's wisely designed.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does wisdom's eternal existence with God affect your understanding of truth?
2. In what ways does creation reveal divine wisdom's order and design?
3. How does Christ as eternal Wisdom change your relationship with truth and knowledge?

## Interlinear Text

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מִזְרָחּ מִפְנָצֶל יְהִי קְרָבְנִי רָאשׁ יְהִי קְרָבְנִי יְהִי הַ  
The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way before his works H227  
H3068 H7069 H7225 H1870 H6924 H4659

## Additional Cross-References

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**Colossians 1:17** (Parallel theme): And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

**Proverbs 3:19** (References Lord): The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

**Psalms 104:24** (References Lord): O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

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