

Proverbs 8:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

Analysis

Blessed is the one who listens to wisdom, watching daily at her gates, waiting at her doorposts. The Hebrew 'ashrey' (blessed/happy), 'shaqad' (watch/wake early), and 'shamar' (watch/keep) describe vigilant attentiveness. Daily watching at gates/doors portrays eager student awaiting teacher, servant awaiting master. Blessing comes to those who prioritize wisdom above all, positioning themselves to receive her first and constantly.

Historical Context

Ancient students literally waited at teachers' doors for instruction. Rabbinical tradition describes disciples serving masters, learning through observation and questioning. Jesus' disciples similarly followed Him constantly, watching and listening. Paul instructed Timothy to 'give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine' (1 Timothy 4:13). Wisdom requires devoted attention, not casual interest.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How are you positioning yourself daily to receive wisdom's instruction?
2. What 'gates and doorposts' of wisdom should you be watching more vigilantly?
3. How would your day change if you approached God's Word like eager student waiting at teacher's door?

Interlinear Text

וְיִמְכַרְתִּי לְשָׁקָן דֶּלֶת עַל שְׁמָעָ אֶשְׁרָיו

Blessed **is the man** **that heareth** **me watching** **at my gates** **daily**

H835

H120

H8085

הָ

me watching

H5921

at my gates

daily

H1817

H3117

לְשָׁמֶר מִזְרָחָתִי

daily **waiting** **at the posts** **of my doors**

H3117

H8104

H4201

H6607

Additional Cross-References

Luke 11:28 (Blessing): But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

Matthew 7:24 (Parallel theme): Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Proverbs 3:13 (Parallel theme): Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

Acts 2:42 (Parallel theme): And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Luke 10:39 (Parallel theme): And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

Psalms 27:4 (Parallel theme): One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Psalms 84:10 (Parallel theme): For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Proverbs 3:18 (Parallel theme): She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.

Proverbs 1:21 (Parallel theme): She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,

Luke 1:6 (Parallel theme): And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.