

# ON THE WAY: WISDOM AND PRAYER

## READING WISDOM IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 4.29-30 (284)

Job 28.20-28 (435)

Proverbs 3.19 (529)

Proverbs 28.26 (550)

Matthew 12.42 (818)

1 Cor. 1.19-24,30 (952)

Colossians 2.2,3 (983)

James 1.5 (1011)

James 3.13-18 (1012)

Peculiarly Christian: The Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament include the books of Job, Psalms. Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. These books deal differently with *wisdom*, the most excellent way of life. In these books Wisdom is revealed to be more than merely a human quality, but that by which the world was created. Wisdom, then, is revealed to be the Son of God. Wisdom is given to all Christians in Jesus.

## SMALL CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6.8-13 (811)

Luke 11.1-4 (869)

Peculiarly Christian: Jesus brings us into a relationship with God as Father. God Almighty invites us to speak to Him directly "with all boldness and confidence" so that we speak "as dear children ask their dear father." We know that God's kingdom comes without our prayers, that His will is done whether we pray or not, but we pray that it may come among us also, that our hearts harmonize with His.

## SMALL CATECHISM: TABLE OF DUTIES

Ecclesiastes 2.10-24 (553)

2 Thessalonians 3.10-12 (990)

Peculiarly Christian: We all serve God in the work that He gives us to do from day to day. The work of a craftsman, mother, president, secretary, or janitor is all equal before God who looks at the heart. Even the work of one working in the church is not to be considered more holy or God-pleasing than the honest work of one whose heart serves the Lord in any other profession.

## SMALL CATECHISM: DAILY PRAYER

Matthew 27.46 (834)

Psalms 22 (457)

Matthew 6.5-8 (811)

Matthew 26.39 (832)

Luke 11.5-13 (869)

Luke 18.1-7 (877)

Peculiarly Christian: Jesus gives us the example Himself of praying through the Psalms. Prayer should always be from the heart, but when our hearts are weary, rebelling, or weak, prayer is aided by written words, especially those of the Spirit-inspired Scriptures.

Christian prayer is the exercise of faith. As our day goes by, we are constantly to bring things before God, praying so that our trust in God applies to every part of our life: our fears, hopes, work, love, problems, and joys.