

God's Wisdom Regarding Human Government

1. Wise government fears God.

Proverbs 1:7 (ESV)

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 8:1-4 (ESV)

1 Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice?

2 On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand;

3 beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

4 "To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man.

- Wisdom governs in view of who God is.
- Wisdom Governs in view of how God Works.
- Wisdom governs in view of what God has said.

2. Wise government shows discernment.

Proverbs 17:24 (ESV)

24 The discerning sets his face toward wisdom, but the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth.

- ***Between good and evil***

Proverbs 2:9-15 (ESV)

9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path;

10 for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

11 discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you,

12 delivering you from the way of evil, from men of perverted speech,

13 who forsake the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness,

14 who rejoice in doing evil and delight in the perverseness of evil,

15 men whose paths are crooked, and who are devious in their ways.

- ***Between righteousness and wickedness.***

Proverbs 10:2-3 (ESV)

2 Treasures gained by wickedness do not profit, but righteousness delivers from death.

3 The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry, but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.

Proverbs 10:6-7 (ESV)

6 Blessings are on the head of the righteous, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

7 The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

- ***Between peace and violence.***

Proverbs 21:7 (ESV)

7 The violence of the wicked will sweep them away, because they refuse to do what is just.

Proverbs 16:7 (ESV)

7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

- ***Regarding the poor and oppressed.***

Proverbs 14:31 (ESV)

31 Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

Proverbs 29:7 (ESV)

7 A righteous man knows the rights of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.

Proverbs 29:14 (ESV)

14 If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever.

- ***Regarding integrity and purity.***

Proverbs 10:9 (ESV)

9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.

Proverbs 22:11 (ESV)

11 He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.

3. Wise government requires wise leadership.

Proverbs 8:12-17 (ESV)

12 “I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion.

13 The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.

14 I have counsel and sound wisdom; I have insight; I have strength.

15 By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just;

16 by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.

17 I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me.