The Wisdom of Solomon

Also Known As

The Book of Wisdom
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Introduction

With the exception of early King James Versions and some Eastern Orthodox Versions, The Wisdom of Solomon also known as The Book of Wisdom has been omitted from Bibles we find today. Why is that? Is it not scripture? Is the book forged? Was the book not from antiquity? Was the book not written by an historical person? Does it not portray historical events? Does it not portray those who have dedicated their lives to the Supreme Being?

Let's take a look at these possible reasons and try to figure out why The Wisdom of Solomon has been excluded and ignored for centuries.

The Wisdom of Solomon was seemingly written somewhere between two hundred years before Christ to the First Century after Jesus' arrival.

According to many scholars, the book was written in Alexandria Greece during this time.

However, like many ancient texts, there is also the possibility that the book existed prior to this era, and perhaps was simply transcribed from Hebrew to Greek. A Hebrew text version has not been found, however.

It is obvious from the text itself that this is a dedicated follower of Moses and Solomon at the very least. There is also a distinct possibility that the text was originally written by Solomon. This possibility assumes the loss of the original manuscript during the tumultuous times of the 10th Century BCE and when the Greek translation appeared.

With regard to why the Wisdom of Solomon isn't in more Bibles, quite simply, the Protestant clergy did not accept this book as a canon – or part of the Bible. Subsequently they called the book Apocrypha simply because of the era of the book.

Apocrypha can have several meanings but it essentially refers to books that were not part of the ancient collection of Hebrew texts. They seemingly were written between the 2nd century BCE and the 4th century CE. The question in this regard is whether those dates are when the books were originally written, or whether they were written or passed down orally previous to their subsequent recorded writing.

There is now clear evidence, for example, from the Dead Sea Scrolls discovery, that books that were thought to have been written
later in Greek or otherwise, did have Hebrew versions prior. This includes the Book of Enoch, which was found to have a Hebrew text older than later translations into Greek.

Indeed, it is not as if none of the ancient Hebrew texts have been lost or damaged in the many wars and fires that took place as the Israelites and Judeans battled their opponents, sometimes losing and subjected to expulsions and exoduses from their homelands. During these times of crises, many of the ancient scriptures were lost to history.

This could certainly apply to the Wisdom of Solomon, because after all, the text does reference historical events such as the Israelites’ escape from Egypt and the crossing of the Red Sea. And there is certainly a first person reference throughout the text that appears to refer to Solomon.

Nonetheless, many scholars suggest that the Greek version of the Wisdom of Solomon was written a Century or two prior to Jesus’ arrival. They also suggest that the book was first written in Greek. Again, this comes from the notion that a Hebrew version of the book has not been found.

As you will find, the text can be divided into three potential parts. These include the reason for justice in human civilization; the need and benefits of wisdom; and how wisdom played a role in the history of the Israelites, especially during the time of Moses.

The book also documents a period of history when the Israelites escaped the heavy handed rule of the Egyptians and were guided into the desert and through the Red Sea as they were escaping the Egyptian army.

Note that most translations utilize draft text, as though this scripture was written as a historical ledger.

But it is obvious from the text is that this was written as prose. Like much of the Bible, the text of the Wisdom of Solomon is a recording of lengthy but beautiful prose.

This translation honors that approach and has attempted to translate the text into a modern English translation of the prose.

So what does Solomon have to do with this chapter? Did Solomon write it?
It does not seem to be a work of Solomon’s. But it could be a contemporary of Solomon or someone dedicated to Solomon that wrote it.

Nonetheless, this text does illuminate the reality that Solomon exemplified what is contained in these texts. And surely did indeed follow the pledges made in this book with regard to honoring wisdom.

Just consider the following text after God asked what Solomon wants:

“So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?” (1 Kings 3:4 NIV)

So we see that Solomon treasured wisdom. He could have asked the Supreme Being for virtually anything. But he asked God for wisdom.

This is what this text is about: It is about putting wisdom at the top of our goals when it comes to worldly achievements.

It is a lesson for all of us as we seek guidance in a confusing world.
1. If you love justice you can judge the world. Think of the Almighty with sincerity and seek Him with a humble heart.

2. Because He is found only by those who trust Him. For He shows Himself to those who have faith in Him.

3. For wicked thinking separates us from God and His authority. Such thinking condemns the unwise.

4. And wisdom penetrates not the malicious nor will it dwell in a body bound by wickedness.

5. Because the power of the Holy Spirit departs from the deceitful and withdraws from those who judge without understanding. He will not dwell where dishonesty lies and will depart from judgment without understanding.

6. For the spirit of wisdom is benevolent. It acquits not those who speak in wickedness because God understands ones limits for He knows the heart and hears what is said.
7. And the spirit of the Almighty has filled the whole world and that which contains everything hears what is said.

8. Thus those who speak wrongly can never hide themselves nor will they circumvent consequences that will teach them.

9. For unholy thinking gets examined and every word we speak is heard by God and every action has consequences.

10. And the ear of envy hears so much and the turmoil of rumor cannot be hidden.

11. Therefore withdraw from rumor mongering which will gain you nothing. Refrain therefore from disparaging others for loose lips have consequences and lying lips harm the soul.

12. Seek not the ruin of error within your lifetime nor bring on destruction through the works of your hands.

13. For God did not make ruination nor does He pleasure in the destruction of life.

14. He created all that has ever existed and made the people of the earth for their healing. There is no venom of destruction
nor was earth created
to be a kingdom of hell.

15. For justice is perpetual
as well as immortal.

16. Yet with works and words
they bring on the wickedness
thinking it is a friend.
They join together with it
and make promises with it
because they became a part of it.
1. They reason with themselves and will say incorrectly: “Life is short and difficult and the end of a lifetime brings no healing and no one has ever been known to have returned from hell.

2. “For we are born from nothing and after this we will not exist and the breath in our nostrils is smoke and speech is only a spark to stir our emotions.

3. “Once all is exhausted our body will turn to ashes and our spirit will pour out into the surroundings like air. And our life will pass like the form of a cloud and shall scatter like mist dissolved by sunbeams and evaporated by its heat.

4. “In time our names will be forgotten and no one will remember our deeds.

5. “Because our time passes just like a shadow and there is no going back for us. It is quickly shut down and no one will return.
6. “Come therefore and we'll enjoy
the good things that are present
and let us quickly use
those around us as we did
when we were young.

7. “Let us fill ourselves
with expensive wines
and luxurious ointments
and we'll not let
the flower of time pass us by.

8. “Let us crown ourselves
with roses before they wither
and we'll not let any land
be absent of our parties.

9. “Let no one be without luxury
and let us savor
our moments of joy
for this is our portion
and this is our lot.

10. “Let us oppress the poor
nor will we spare the widows
nor honor the ancients
nor the graying hairs of the aged.

11. “But let our strength
be the rule of law
and that which is feeble
will be worth nothing.

12. “Let us therefore lie in wait
because those who are devoted
don't help our cause.
They oppose our deeds
and burden us down
with the heavy consequences
of our transgressions
and oppose the wickedness
of our way of life.

13. “They brag they know God
and call themselves God’s servant.

14. “And now they censor our thoughts.

15. “They are angry at us
and yet looking at them
their life is not like others
and their ways are very different.

16. “They call us good for nothing
and detest our filthiness.
Yet they prefer consequences of justice
and glorify in God their Creator.

17. “Let’s see if their words are true
and let’s see what happens to them.
Then we will know
how it ends for them.

18. “For if they are the true servants of God
He will defend them
and will deliver them
from the hands of their enemies.

19. “Let’s judge them
by his outrages and impunity
so we may know their humility
and try their patience.

20. “Let’s condemn them
to a most shameful death
given the respect awarded to them through their words.”

21. They thought these things and they were deceived. They were blinded by their own malice.

22. Yet they didn’t know about God’s mysteries. Nor did they hope for justice or honor those holy souls.

23. For God created humans to be trustworthy and in His image He made them.

24. But through the wickedness of envy destruction entered the world.

25. But those who follow Him are with Him.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Three

1. Yet trustworthy souls take shelter within God’s hands so the traumas of destruction do not touch them.

2. In the view of the ignorant they may appear to die and their departure can be construed as miserable.

3. Yes their leaving us is the ultimate destruction. But they are in peace.

4. While they may appear to suffer in the eyes of humans their spirit is full of immortality.

5. They may be challenged sometimes but mostly they are rewarded. Because God has tested them and found them worthy of trust.

6. Like gold from the furnace He has screened them and like victims of catastrophe He hath received them. Therefore with time they will be honored.

7. The trustworthy will shine and will shimmer like reflections off the water between the reeds.
8. They may examine people
and govern over others
but the Almighty will reign forever.

9. Those who trust in Him
will understand the Truth.
And those who are faithful
in their love
will find rest in Him.
For those who chose Him
receive mercy and peace.

10. Yet the wicked receive consequences
according to their own devices.
They dishonor the holy
and reject the Almighty.

11. For those who reject wisdom
become unhappy as a consequence.
Their goals are typically vain
and their labors find no fruit
and their works find no reward.

12. Their wives become unreasonable
and their children become hateful.

13. Their offspring become cursed
and satisfied with being barren.
Those not defiled
and haven't used the bed
for wicked acts
will be greeted by holy souls.

14. For even the castrate
who has not done harm
to others with deeds
nor considered wickedness
against God
the precious gift of faith
will be granted to them
and considered acceptable
in the temple of God.

15. For the fruit
of devoted works is glorious
and the root of wisdom
will never be pulled up.

16. And followers of perversion
cannot become perfect
and the seeds of wickedness
will become uprooted.

17. Should they live a long life
nothing will be achieved
and their last days
will be without honor.

18. Should they die sooner
they will find no hope
nor comforting speech
on the day of their hearing.

19. For despair results from wickedness.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Four

1. Behold and praise the glory of the devoted ones because their remembrance elevates us due to their service to God and others.

2. Should the opportunity arrive one may try to imitate them and though it may impress others and reap other benefits and win over some conflicts it cannot provide happiness.

3. But the vast cult of wickedness will never succeed and impure activities will gain no roots and provide no solid foundation.

4. While they may flourish in some places for a while because their position is not fastened they will be shaken by winds and the force of the winds will cause their uproot.

5. For their twisted branches will break and their fruits will be unprofitable and sour to eat and good for nothing.

6. But followers of wicked seeds become witnesses
against their leaders
in their judgment.

7. But the devoted person
who is protected from death
shall be at peace.

8. For the veneration of years
is not from the duration of time
nor counted by number of years.
A person’s knowledge comes
with the grey hairs of experience.

8. And a spotless life
becomes apparent
during the elderly years.

9. Such a person pleased God
and was beloved
even while living among wickedness
they become transformed.

10. They rise above
despite the wickedness
that restricts knowledge
and deceit that harms the soul.

11. For the allurement of vanity
obscures goodness
and wandering desires
overwhelms an innocent mind.

13. Created perfectly in the short run
they are satisfied in the long run.

14. Because those souls please God
He quickly removes them
from the depths of abomination.

16
Yet many see this
and don’t understand
nor do they retain these things
within their hearts.

15. For God’s grace and mercy
belong to His devoted ones
and He honors those
who have chosen Him.

16. But those who are dead
will condemn the living.
Yet youth will also end
and soon become part
of the condemnation of lives.

17. They may see the demise
of a wise man
and not understand
what God designed for them
and why the Almighty
led them to safety.

18. They can see and despise them
but the Almighty will laugh
while they become embarrassed.

19. And they may fall afterward
without honor and blame
being dead forever.

20. But He will burst
their puffed up silent balloons.
This will shake them
from their very foundations
and lay them to waste
leaving them in sorrow
as they fade from memory.
20. They will come in fear
due to their wickedness.
And their abuses
will stand against them
and convict them.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Five

1. The devoted will stand steadfast against those who afflict them and continue their work.

2. Those who understand this will be amazed and awestruck with their startling revelations.

3. They will apologize and ask for mercy praying for the release of their spirit even from those who received criticism and were derided in a lesson of condemnation.

4. The fools value this world’s madness leaving an end without honor.

5. But just see how the children of God are considered worthy just like the saints.

6. Those of us who have strayed from the path of truth will not have the light of justice shining unto us as the sun of knowledge has not risen upon us.

7. We are worn by iniquity and destruction
after traveling our hardened paths
not knowing the way of the Almighty.

8. What is gained through pride?
What benefits have come
from the esteem of our wealth?

9. All those things pass away
like a branch that floats by.

10. Just as a ship passes
through the waves
when it has gone
no trace can be found
nor the path of its keel
seen through the waters.

11. Like a bird flying through the air
its passage leaves no mark found.
Only the sound of its wings
beating the light air
parting it by the flutter of her flight
she moves her wings
and flies on by
leaving no mark after her path.

12. Just as an arrow is shot at a mark
the divided air immediately comes together
again leaving the passage unknown.

13. Just as when we are born
immediately it is ended
and we are unable to show
any trace of virtue
being consumed by desire.

14. The wicked say these things
when they are in the material world.
15. But the desires of wickedness are blown like dust in the wind. Like a thin feather drifting from a storm like smoke scattered by wind just as the memory of a foreigner quickly passes by.

16. But the devoted live forever their reward is with God and their concerns are with the Almighty.

17. Thus they receive a glorious sanctuary and a beautiful wreath by the hand of the Almighty. For with His right hand He will shelter them and with His holy arm He will protect them.

18. And His pleasure will become their armor as He will arm the devoted to fight off their enemies.

19. He will put on justice like a breastplate and wears pure judgment instead of a helmet.

20. He will take charge with an invincible shield:

20. And He will sharpen his anger into a spear
and the whole world
shall fight with Him
against the unwise.

22. Then bolts of lightning
will descend from the clouds
like a bow that is taut
they shall be shot out
and will fly to the mark.

23. And thick hail will fall
on them from the stone
that casts with anger
the waters of the sea
which rage against them
and the rivers will run
a terrible course.

24. A mighty wind
will whip up against them
like a whirlwind
it will divide them
and their iniquity
shall turn earth into a desert
and wickedness shall overthrow
the thrones of the mighty.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Six

1. Wisdom is superior to strength
   and a wise person
   is superior to a strong person.

2. Therefore rulers please listen
   and understand you judges
   and learn to the ends of the earth.

3. Rulers of people listen
   those given honor by many.

4. For power is granted to you
   by the Almighty
   and the authority of the Most High
   will examine your actions
   and understand your thoughts.

5. Because as ministers of His kingdom
   you have not judged rightly
   nor kept the law of justice
   nor walked with the will of God.

6. Awesome and quick will He appear
   for a most precise examination
   shall be in store for them who rule.

7. For to those who are humble
   mercy shall be given
   but those who are confident
   will be greatly challenged.

8. God will not exempt the soul
   nor is He awed by human excellence.
For He made the humble and the great
and cares equally for them all.

9. So the greater challenges
will meet the more confident.

10. Therefore you authorities
listen to my words
so that you may learn wisdom
and not reject it and fall.

11. For those who keep righteousness
will become righteous
and those who have learned this
will have the answers.

12. Therefore hold fast to my words
and care for them
and you will receive guidance.

13. Wisdom is glorious
and never fades away.
She is easily seen
by those who love her
and she is easily found
by those who seek her.

14. She protects those who care for her
and shows herself first to them.

15. They who awaken early
to seek her out
will not be burdened
for they will find her
sitting at their door.

16. So thinking about her
perfects our understanding
and one that watches for her will fast become secure.

17. For she will be worthy of those who seek her and she shows herself with joy in ways and meet with providence.

18. For her the beginning is the true meaning of discipline.

19. The focus of discipline is love and love keeps her ways and the keeping of her ways is the foundation of righteousness.

20. For righteousness brings us closer to God.

21. Thus wisdom delivers the eternal sanctuary.

22. If you desire thrones and crowns you rulers of people then love wisdom so you may reign for ever.

23. Love the light of wisdom those with authority over others.

24. Know what wisdom is and what caused her and I declare this reveals the mysteries of God. So seek her out from her beginnings and deliver her knowledge and gain the truth.
25. We should not consume envy
for such a person cannot
take part with wisdom.

26. Yet the multitude of the wise
is the welfare of the world
and the wise rulers
support their people.

27. Therefore receive the instruction
offered by these words
to offer you the benefits.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Seven

1. I am a mortal man
   like everyone else
   and my human race
   was created from the earth
   and in my mother's womb
   My body formed from flesh.

2. In a period of ten months
   was I trapped within blood
   after coming from a man's seed
   with the only comfort being sleep.

3. Once I was born
   I breathed in the outside air
   and fell upon the ground
   from which I was made
   and my first words
   were said by crying
   as do so many others.

4. I was nursed in diapers
   and greatly cared for.

5. Yet none of the kings
   experienced a birth differently.

6. For every human enters the same way
   as they come into this world
   just as they leave this world the same way.

7. So therefore I asked
   and was given understanding
   and I called upon God
and the spirit of wisdom came over me.

8. Then I preferred her more than kingdoms and thrones and respectful wealth nothing compares to her.

9. Neither can I compare her to any precious stone. For all gold in comparison is like a little sand and silver held up to her can be counted as clay.

10. I loved her greatly above health and beauty and chose her over light. For her light can’t be put out.

11. Now every good thing has come with her and uncountable wealth has come through her hands.

12. So I rejoiced for all these for it is wisdom that rises for I knew not that she was the mother of them all.

13. That I have learned innocently and communicated without envy as her wealth lays unhidden.

14. She is an infinite treasure for those who use her will become friends of God graced with the gift of devotion.
15. So God let me speak
and then to be understanding
worthy of things given to me
because He is the guide of wisdom
and the director of the wise.

16. For we are all in His hands
and our words and wisdom
become the knowledge
that professes our works.

17. He has given me understanding
of the things we can know
like the nature of the universe
and the merits of the elements.

18. And the beginning and end
the trends of the times
the forks in the roads
and the changes of seasons.

19. The transformations of time
and the dispositions of the stars.

20. The personalities of animals
and the violence of wild beasts
the force of winds
and the reasoning of men
the diversities of plants
and the virtues of roots.

21. All these things are hidden
and are not foreseen.
I have learned from wisdom
the doer of all things
taught me.

22. For within her
is the spirit of understanding. 
The Holy One 
manifested and subtle 
eloquent and active 
undefiled and sure 
sweet and loving 
all that is good 
quick yet never hindered 
and beneficent.

23. Gentle and kind 
steady, assured and secure 
having all authority 
overseeing everything 
containing all spirits 
intelligent, pure and subtle.

24. For wisdom is more active 
than any active thing 
and reaches everywhere 
through her purity.

25. For she is the essence 
of the power of God 
a surely pure emanation 
of the glory of the Almighty 
and therefore nothing defiled 
will affect her.

26. For she is the brightness 
of the eternal light 
and the unspotted mirror 
of God's majesty 
the image of His goodness.

27. Even though she is one 
she can do everything. 
Though she remains the same
she renews everything
and by the people
she conveys herself
into the souls of the holy
and she makes friends
of God and prophets.

28. For God loves those
within whom wisdom dwells.

29. For her beauty
eclipses the sun
above the order of stars
and just like light
she is found within.

30. After nighttime descends
wickedness never defeats wisdom.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Eight

1. She expands her power from one end to another commanding all with nectar.

2. I have loved her and have sought her out since I was a kid and wanted to marry her such was my love for her beauty.

3. She glorifies her nobility with her connection to God. Surely does the Almighty have great love for her.

4. For she teaches knowledge about the Supreme Being and espouses His works.

5. And if riches are desired what is richer than wisdom which gives everything in life?

6. And if the senses are considered who is a more artful performer than she among these particulars?

7. And if someone loves justice her work has great virtue for she teaches justice and temperance prudence and fortitude which profit everyone in life.
8. And if someone desires knowledge
she knows everything in the past
and makes judgment of things to come.
She knows the intricacies of speech
and the winners of debate.
She sees the signs and miracles
before they appear
and the events that span generations.

9. I am committed to bring her
with me throughout my life
knowing she keeps me informed
and comforts me
during times of grief.

10. Because of her
I will be praised by others
and honored by the ancient ones
despite my youth.

11. Thus will I have a means
to swiftly make good judgment
and please those in power
and therefore I will receive
the blessings of princes.

12. They will await my pause
and look to me to speak
and will be surprised
should I speak in detail.

13. It is therefore by her grace
that I will have immortality
and leave behind a memory
for those who come after me.

14. And I shall provide an example
for other people who honor me.
The Wisdom of Solomon  
Chapter Nine

1. Then the unbelievers will say as they reason with themselves yet not correctly: “Our life is short and tiresome and when a human dies there is no remedy nor has there been anyone known to return from death.

2. “For we are all born as an experience and we will therefore live as though we never existed because the air in our lungs is like smoke sparked from the movement of our heart.

3. “Then after being pushed out our body will turn to ashes and our spirit will vanish like a breeze in the air.

4. “We will be forgotten in time no one will remember our deeds and we will pass away just as the trace of a cloud to be dispersed as moisture and evaporated by sun beams that accompany its heat.

5. “Our days are like a passing shadow from which there is no return for it is quickly gone
so no one can come again.

6. “So let’s just move along
and enjoy the good things in life
and quickly do was we did as kids.

7. “Let’s fill ourselves up
on expensive wines and incense
leaving no spring flowers untouched.

8. “Let’s adorn ourselves
with bouquets of roses
before they become withered.

9. “We will continue our vanity
and leave behind everywhere
tokens of our desires
for this is our condition
and this is our allotment.

10. “We oppress the innocent poor
and we won’t spare the widows
nor will we honor the elderly.

11. “Our strength will be the law
otherwise there is no worth in weakness.

12. “Therefore we will lie in wait
for those who are righteous
for they look out for us not
and clean up despite our activities.
But they challenged us
and offended our laws
and objected to our positions
disregarding our education.

13. “They profess a knowledge of God
calling themselves servants of the Almighty.
14. “They were created
to criticize our thinking.

15. “They are hard to look at
for their life is not like others
and their ways are different.

16. “We honor them as impersonators
they avoid us like we are dirty
and predict the demise of the just
just to become blessed
boasting that God is their Creator.

17. “Let us see if their words are honest
and we will see what will happen
when their end arrives.

18. “For if a just person
is the servant of God
He will help them
and deliver them
from the hands of their enemies.

19. “Let’s watch them carefully
so we can understand their humility
and see how long they will last.

21. “Let’s punish them
with a shameful death
for their words will honor Him.”

21. These are what they imagined
but they were deceived
for their wickedness blinded them.

22. For they knew not
the mysteries of God
nor did they wish
for righteous work
nor did they seek
the consequences of innocence.

23. For God created souls as immortal
and He made them in His image
for all of eternity.

24. But from self-centered envy
entered death into the universe
and those who take hold of it
will indeed find it.
The Wisdom of Solomon  
Chapter Ten

1. She protected the first ancestors within the world created and delivered from their downfall.

2. Then she gave them the authority to be caretakers of everything.

3. But through wickedness they left her and with their anger they perished in their hatred and murdered the brother.

4. This eventually was the cause for the earth to be flooded but wisdom was still preserved which directed the paths for the righteous within a small core of morality.

5. Even though the peoples were wrapped within their wickedness she sought out the righteous and protected their innocence before God and strengthened them with compassion suitable for His servants.

6. As the wicked died she delivered the righteous who fled from the fire that fell down on the five cities.

7. Those whose wickedness laid waste on the land
which smokes with testimony
and plants bearing fruit
that never get ripe
and a pillar of salt standing
as a monument for unbelieving souls.

8. For without wisdom
they receive not just the pain
from the things they knew not
but those that were good
yet also left behind
in the world as a memorial
of their foolishness
so the things they offended
could not be hidden.

9. But wisdom delivered from suffering
those who attended to her.

10. When the righteous escaped
from their brother's wrath
she guided them to right paths
and showed them God's sanctuary
and gave them spiritual knowledge
to make their journeys fruitful
by multiplying the fruits
of their various endeavors.

11. For through the envy
of those who oppressed them
she stood by them
and rewarded them greatly.

12. She defended them from enemies
and kept them safe
from those who hid in waiting
and in devastating conflict
she gave them victory
so they might realize
that goodness is stronger.

13. When the righteous were disposed of
she did not forsake them
but delivered them from wickedness
and pulled them out from the pit.

14. And she untied their bonds
and brought them the sanctuary
and strength against their oppressors
for those who had accused them
she showed them to be liars
and gave them eternal honor.

15. She delivered the righteous
and their innocent offspring
from those who oppressed them.

16. She entered the soul
of the servant of the Almighty
to withstand wicked rulers
and their miracles and signs.

17. Giving the righteous rewards
as a result of their endeavors
and providing wonderful guidance
by giving them shelter by day
and the lights of stars by night.

18. Bringing them through the Red Sea
and leading them through deep waters.

19. And she drowned their enemies
by laying them down in the depths.

20. Thus the righteous spoiled the ungodly
by praising the Name of the Almighty
and laying upon them Your hand
which had fought for them.

23. For wisdom opens
the mouth of the dumb
and makes tongues for those
who cannot speak eloquently.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Eleven

1. She advances their activities through the means of Holy Prophets.

2. They travel through the wilderness which had not been barren and pitched tents in places off of the beaten path.

3. They stood against their adversaries and avenged their challengers.

4. When thirsty they called on You and water came from rock shale and their thirst was quenched from the hard stone.

5. Because the same things that punished their adversaries provided benefits for them.

6. Instead of a river that ran polluted with foul blood.

7. Instead of disavowing any particular instruction ending with infants being killed You gave them water aplenty when they ran out of hope.

8. They declared with haste that You overcame their challenges.

9. Because they desired mercy
they knew also how the wicked
were condemned by consequence
by desiring the opposite
of what the righteous wanted.

10. For they were reprimanded
just as a father might
and just like a harsh ruler
they have suffered the consequences.

11. Whether here or away
they were still confused.

12. For a twofold sadness came over them
with a cry for the memory
of the things of the past.

13. And when they understood
through consequences experienced
wherein lies the benefits
they opened their hearts
up to the Almighty.

14. To those they gave disdain
long after they were rejected
as the infants were cast out
at the end of it all
when they understood
what came to pass
they felt admiration.

15. Yet the means of wickedness
which they used to deceive
and honored snakes
that were void of reason
along with violent beasts
You sent a multitude
of unreasonable beasts
to teach them by consequence.

16. The meaning is revealed
that when someone harms another
so shall they be harmed.

17. It was Your Almighty hand
that made the world of matter from nothing
without seeking the means
to attack with bears or fierce lions.

18. Similarly with other wild beasts
complete with fury from birth
breathing fire and smoke
stinking of filth
shooting spikes from their eyes.

19. Not only the risk of harm
that could come upon them
along with the horrible sighting
that would terrify them.

20. Yes they may have fallen down
with only one blow
being punished by consequence
and scattered through the land
blown down by Your power
just as You have ordained
everything in good measure
in number and weight.

21. For You can show
Your great strength anytime
only when You want to
but how could anyone withstand
the power of Your arm?

22. For the entire world
is but a little grain in the balance
just as a drop of morning dew
that falls down on the earth.

23. Yet You caste mercy upon all
for You can do anything
and wink at human transgressions
because they can be amended.

24. For You care for everything
and abhor nothing You have made
for never would You have made
anything You didn’t want to.

25. And how could anything continue
if not for Your will?
Or anything have been preserved
if You had not called upon it?

26. But You deliver them all
for they are Yours Almighty
You lover of souls.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Twelve

1. For Your imperishable Spirit is contained within everything.

2. Therefore You gradually teach those who are offensive and You remind them that they can depart wickedness and can trust in You the Almighty.

3. For it was by Your will that descendants defeated those ancient inhabitants of Your holy land.

4. You abhorred them for they were doing wicked things and making wicked sacrifices.

5. As well as murdering children without any mercy. They ate human flesh and had feasts of blood.

6. Their priests stood by as they made offerings to idols and ancestors and with their own hands murdered those souls without mercy.

7. But this earth which some hold dear above everything else
could very well sustain
an esteemed generation
devoted to God.

8. Yet even those humans
whom You had protected
were met with wasps
the forerunners of Your host
to weaken them over time.

9. Not that the wasps
could deliver the wicked
back into the hands
of the righteous in battle
nor could destroy them
suddenly with hostile beasts
or with one harsh word.

10. But by giving to them
Your instructions over time
You gave them a place to repent
knowing they were wicked
and their malice was inherited
and their mindset unchanged.

11. For it was a cursed generation
from the beginning.
Nor were You compelled
to give them pardons
for those wicked things
that they had done.

12. For who could question
What You have done?
Who could understand your decisions?
Who shall accuse you
for those who perish
and those You created?
And who could stand against You and be repaid for the wicked?

13. For there is no God but You who cares for everyone to whom You might show that Your judgment is right.

14. Nor can a king or tyrant be able to challenge You or those receiving consequences.

15. Because You are righteous You implement everything righteously. For Your authority is independent from using Your authority to condemn someone not deserving punishment.

16. For Your authority provides the foundation of righteousness and because You are the Almighty You are merciful to all.

17. To those who don’t believe that You are in control You show your strength. And for those that already know this You give them strength.

18. Yet You are in control and decides with fairness to give us instructions with great pleasure so You can use Your power whenever You want.

19. Yet by these deeds
You have taught Your people
that the righteous are merciful
and have given Your followers
confidence that You will
forgive their wickedness.

20. You could have punished
the enemies of Your devoted ones
and condemned them to death
with a harsh judgment.
Yet You give them time
and the opportunity
to turn their lives around
and correct their ways.

21. With such great circumspection
have You judged Your devoted
after You committed to their teachers
and made promises of Your sanctuary.

22. Thus You have embraced us
and defeated our enemies
at least a thousand times
to the extent that we determine
as we consider Your goodness
so that when we are judged
we can receive Your mercy.

23. Yet when people live wickedly
they are meet with consequences
for their own wicked activities.

24. As they stray off
towards the wrong path
and embrace their gods
even the beasts of their enemies
are despised and deceived
like innocent and ignorant children.
25. Those unreasonable children are met by the consequences of their own derision.

26. But those who are unhindered can be given some grace to give them fairness from God.

27. For those things they despise as they suffer the consequences become whom they thought as gods now they are being punished. So when they saw these things they acknowledged God as true whom they denied knowing before thus condemning themselves.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Thirteen

1. By nature humans are egotistical and do not know God and from the things that are seen they cannot know Him nor from understanding events can they know who is Master.

2. But whether by fire or wind or a stormy wind or the dome of stars or the rushing water the gods that govern this world

3. Due to their beauty and delight they understood them to be gods. Let them know how much better the Lord of them is for the original Creator of beauty did indeed create them.

4. If they were astonished at their power and virtue let us understand how much mightier He who created them is.

5. For by the greatness and beauty relative to the creatures their Creator is perceived.

6. There is therefore no blame for those who err in their ways as they seek God
being desirous to find Him.

7. People carefully search for Him because they know His actions and believe what they see because His creations are beautiful.

8. Yet they may never find mercy.

9. For if they knew so much they could search the world and still they could not find the Almighty there?

10. But they remain in misery as their hope is in dead things and they call them gods though they are human made even in gold and silver and shown as art resembling beasts or stone but they are good for nothing and works of ancient hands.

11. The wood workers saw a tree that would work for the task after taking off all the bark with significant skill chiseled it beautifully and made a vessel from it ready for the service of someone.

12. And after expending the remainder of their efforts to feed themselves they have completed it.

13. Then working on a piece
of that which served no one
taken from crooked wood
that was full of knots
they carved it diligently
when they had nothing else to do
forming it though their skill
fashioning an image of a human.

14. Or they carved it like
some hostile creature
laying it over with red paint
and covering all the spots.

15. Then they made an access room
and set it into a wall
and fastened it with iron.

16. Thus they installed it such
that it would not fall over
understanding it could not help itself
because after all it was an image
in need of assistance.

17. Then they prayed for things
for their wife and children
and were not ashamed
to speak to something dead.

18. To heal they called on weakness
to live they prayed to the dead
for aid they humbly called upon
those with the least ability to help.
And asked for their safe journeys
from that who never traveled.

19. Then to achieve their results
and succeed in their work
they asked that from which
had no ability to do anything.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Fourteen

1. Should someone preparing to sail
   preparing to transverse raging seas
   call on a piece of wood
   more rotten than the boat
   that will carry them?

2. Surely it was desire for gain
   that motivated its making
   by the wood worker who built it
   through his skill.

3. Yet it is through providence
   by the control of the Almighty
   that has led you to the sea
   and provided a safe path
   through the waves.

4. Showing that one is saved
   from all types of danger
   even one who went to sea
   without the skill to do so.

5. Even if Your wisdom
   is not utilized
   and some commit their lives
   to a small piece of wood
   and sail through rough seas
   in a weak vessel
   many still are saved.

6. For in the ancient times
   when the proud giants perished
   worldly dreams guided by You
did escape in weak vessels
leaving their offspring
to the coming ages.

7. For blessed is the wood
from which righteousness comes.

8. But cursed is that which
is made with hands
because those who made them
are themselves flawed
even if they are called god.

9. For the ungodly and ungodliness
are similarly opposed to God.

10. And those who do these
shall face consequences together
with those who made them.

11. Therefore even the idols
of the atheists are visited
because within the world of God
they have become an abomination
and have become stumbling blocks
to the souls of people
and have become snares
to the soles of the unwise.

12. For the production of idols
began a spiritual impunity
and their invention
was a corruption of life.

13. And neither did they exist
from the beginning
nor do they last for ever.
14. Only by the vanity of people
did they come into the world
and thus met with a swift end.

15. Like a father afflicted
with an untimely passing
and the image of his child
was quickly taken away
only to be honored as a god
even though a dead man
and delivered to others
which came after him
for rituals and sacrifices.

16. In time this unseemly custom
grew strong and written into law.
So engraved images were worshipped
through the instructions of kings.

17. Those who didn’t receive honor
because they lived too far away
were considered imitation effigies
to make a discrete image of a ruler
who then received their honor.
For this they received nobility
by flattering those that were absent
as if they were present.

18. But due to their persistent fraud
they produced more ignorance
because of heightened superstition.

19. For those who were willing
to please those with authority
were forced to use their skills
to make effigies of great quality.

20. Thus those who were attracted
by the beauty of the effigies
mistook them to be gods
while only just a little before
had received honor.

21. And this deceives the world
to those who serve disaster
and subscribe to stones
ascribed by unspoken names.

22. Yet this was insufficient
due to misunderstandings of God
because they took residence
in the great battle of ignorance
against the great plagues of peace.

23. While they killed their children
in sacrifices and secret ceremonies
or reveled during strange rituals

24. They neglected lives and marriages
and killed one another without valor
or offended them with infidelity.

25. This ruled over the people
causing murder and manslaughter
theft and deception
corruption and lying
violence and perjury.

26. This led to distress of good people
forgetfulness of good deeds
defiling of the spiritual person
changing of the types
discord among marriages
adultery and brazen impurity.

27. Thus the worship of unnamed idols
is the beginning and the cause 
and the end of all wickedness.

28. For either are they crazy 
when they are merry 
or their prophesy lies 
or they live dishonorably 
or they simply abandon themselves.

29. Because they trust in idols 
which are not alive 
even if they swear falsehoods 
they seem to have no damage.

30. They shall suffer the consequences 
not only for despising God 
but for following idols 
and wickedly swearing 
deceiving and despising holiness.

31. For they do not swear 
by their own power. 
It is the vengeance of the wicked 
and their eventual consequences 
that provides offences for the ungodly.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Fifteen

1. Yet God You are kind and pure
   patient and merciful
   and in control of all things.

2. We are Yours even if we sin
   because we know Your power
   yet we are not wicked
   because we know we are Yours.

3. For to know You
   is the perfection of righteousness
   to know Your power
   is the root of immortality.

4. The deception of humanity
   deceived us not
   just as a colorful painting
   illustrates a painter's tireless effort.

5. Such sights temp fools
   who lust for them
   desiring the form of a dead image
   which has no breath.

6. Those who make them
   and those who desire them
   and those who worship them
   are all lovers of wickedness
   and thus are worthy
   to trust of such things.

7. Now the potter
   molds the softened earth
to fashion every cup
with their hard work
and yet the same clay
can be used also for
cleaning containers
and things for service
but regardless of the product
the potter makes the decision.

8. Employing talents without shame
making a vanity god the same day
though it was earth just before
and just after will return to the same
just as their body that was lent
will be demanded back.

9. Yet their major care is not
how much work they have to do
or that is life is so short
but strives to better the work
of goldsmiths and silversmiths
as they seek to work in brass
while being proud of themselves
for making counterfeit things.

10. Their hearts become ashes
and their hope more vile than dirt
as their life has less value than mud.

11. Because they didn’t know their Creator
Who breathed life into them
and inspired an active soul.

12. Yet they figured their life a pastime
and our time here a market for gain
for they say we must grab everything
even if it be by wicked means.
13. For the materialistic person who makes breakable vessels and images that are dead knowingly offends all others.

14. The oppressors of Your people who keep them in bondage are the most foolish and more miserable than newborns.

15. Because they assumed idols of the deluded were gods though they have no eyes to see nor noses to draw breath nor ears to hear nor fingers to handle with feet not meant to travel.

16. Because humans made them carved with borrowed spirit unable to make a god in their likeness.

17. Because they are mortal they made something dead with wicked hands but they themselves are better than those things they worship for they only live for a time but what they made never lives.

18. Yes they worshiped beasts that are certainly also hateful and as they are compared some are worse than others.

19. Nor are they beautiful which is typical of beasts acting without God’s blessings.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Sixteen

1. They face their consequences
tormented by many creatures.

2. Outside of this process
You deal graciously
with Your followers
facilitating exotic foods for them
those that even quails may discover.

3. So when they desire food
they may seek out those beasts
which they caution against
but when they desire this
and suffer scarcity sometimes
they may partake of exotic foods.

4. For this may be necessary
for tyranny is unavoidably consequential
but they would only serve to show
that their adversaries have suffered.

5. Because the terror of beasts
were upon them
they perished from the stings
of vicious snakes
a wrath of temporary effect.

6. Yet they were anxious for a time
that they might be admonished
and given the sign of redemption
in order for them to remember
the instructions given by You.
7. For those who turned towards it
were not saved by what was seen
but rather by You
because You are everyone’s Savior.

8. And by doing this
Your adversaries confess
that it is You
who delivers us from wickedness.

9. Even after they were bit by insects
they did not find a cure for their life
thus they had to face those consequences.

10. But Your followers overcame
not by the bite of snakes
but Your mercy were they healed
which never left them.

11. They were encouraged
to remember Your instructions
and were immediately restored
and prevented from forgetfulness
allowing them to understand Your goodness.

12. For it was neither medicinal herb
nor soothing balm
that restored them to health
but rather Your word O Lord
which heals all things.

13. You have authority
over life and death.
You can lead one
to the gates of hell
and lift them up again.
14. Someone who kills using hostility
like a spirit that goes forth
will not return
just as the soul received
will come back again.

15. Still it is not possible
to escape from Your hand.

16. Because the wicked
who decided to ignore You
were decimated
by Your power
with hard rains, hail and showers
did they suffer
and they couldn't avoid
the fire they consumed.

17. What is truly astounding
is the fire overpowered the water
which will quench everything
and the world fights for the righteous.

18. For sometimes the flame burnt out
so it wouldn't burn those warriors
sent against the atheists
but themselves will understand
that they faced the consequences
by the judgment of God.

19. Then another time it did burn
even within the water
above the power of fire
so that it destroyed
the fruits of an unjust land.

20 Instead You fed Your people
with manna from heaven
prepared with love
able to fulfill every one
delightful and agreeable to all tastes.

21. For it is Your sustenance
that provides sweetness to Your children
by serving to satisfy their appetite
and designed to please every person.

22. Yet snow and ice endures the fire
and doesn’t melt
so they might know
that fire burns within the hail
and sparks in the rain
to destroy the fruits of the adversaries.

23. But even this did not negate
His power to provide
nourishment to the righteous.

24. For those who serve You
the Creator’s authority over the wicked
leads to their consequences
while yielding for the benefit
of those who put their trust in You.

25. Thus even as they changed
in so many ways
becoming obedient to Your grace
which nourishes all things
according to their desires
in their time of need.

26. So Lord Your children
whom You love
will know that fruits
do not nourish the soul
but it is Your word
that preserves those
who put their trust in You.

27. For what isn’t destroyed by fire
after warming from the sun’s rays
will soon melt away.

28. In order to let this be known
we give You thanks before the sun
and pray to you till daybreak.

29. For the wishes of the unappreciated
melt away with the winter's first frost
and run off like unneeded water.
The Wisdom of Solomon
Chapter Seventeen

1. Your decisions are perfect
   beyond all comprehension
   thus uneducated souls are mistaken.

2. Because wicked people
   seek to oppress holy people
   they become trapped in their houses
   becoming prisoners of darkness
   captive for a long night of bondage
   and banished from their eternal destination.

3. While they assumed a lie
   hiding within wicked secrecy
   they became scattered
   within the dark veil of forgetfulness
   being horribly astonished
   troubled by strange apparitions.

4. While none of the corners
   that kept them from their fears
   like the noise of waters falling
   down all around them
   and sad visions appeared
   to them with heavy features.

5. The force of fire gave them no light
   nor could the brightness of the stars
   last to give light to that horrible night.

6. Just the dreadful appearance
   of a fire started on its own
which was terrifying
did they think those things they saw
were worse than not seeing.

7. With the illusions of the dark arts
they were smothered out
and the wisdom they flaunted
was rebuked in disgrace.

8. For those who promised
to drive away the fears
and the anxiety of a sick soul
were beside themselves with fear
and worthy of ridicule.

9. Though no beast feared them
they were scared by passing animals
and the hissing of snakes.

10. Their fear left them lifeless
disregarding their visions in the sky
which provided no ability to ignore.

11. Thus wickedness was condemned
by her own frightened witness
being pressured by conscience
and predicting future disasters.

12. For fear is nothing else
but an abandonment of comfort
that is offered by reason.

13. And the humble hope from within
counts ignorance more than cause
which brings about the torment.

14. But they slept the same that night
but it was certainly intolerable
arriving from the depths of darkness.

15. Being disturbed by horrific apparitions and fainting with failing hearts as an unseen and unexpected fear at once arose within them.

16. Thus when they fell they fell straight down and were locked in a prison that had no iron bars.

17. Whether husbandman or shepherd or laborer out in the field all were caught off guard and sustained the necessity that could not be avoided because they were all bound on one chain of darkness.

18. Whether from a whistling wind or a melodious noise of birds spreading along the branches or the fall of water rushing down wildly.

19. Or the dreadful sound of stones falling down or a running unseen by trotting animals or the roar of savage wild beasts or the resounding echo off mountain valleys these made them swoon with fear.

20. For the entire world glowed in the clearest of light with none hindered by their work.

21. Over them the dark night spread
with the image of darkness
that would receive them afterwards
being more heinous than darkness.
1. As Your servants shine bright their voices will be heard even without being seen they don’t suffer those things because they are satisfied within.

2. As for those who didn’t hurt them those who had been wronged earlier extend their gratitude to them and seek their forgiveness even though they had been enemies.

3. Rather You gave them a burning pillar as both a guide for an uncertain journey and a harmless sun to entertain their honor

4. They wanted to be deprived of light and imprisoned by darkness after incarcerating Your servants from whom came the light of uncorrupted justice given unto the world.

5. When they decided to murder the babes of the saints a child was delivered in order to rebuke them thus many of their children were taken and ruined in a mighty flood.

6. That night our ancestors were justified
for accepting those promises
on which they put their trust
giving them a sustained relief.

7. Acceptance among Your people
included salvation for the righteous
and the destruction of their enemies.

8. Because You rebuked those against us
You also glorified those of us
whom You had called upon.

9. For the righteous followers
of the just people
secretly sacrificed themselves
and made a holy promise
to join together with the saints
through goodness and wickedness
which the ancients now sing about
with their songs of praise.

10. But ill will arose from others
who cried out their opposition
with tears of lamentation
traveling through the land
for the followers who spoke out.

11. Both master and servant
suffered those consequences
and kings and common people
suffered alike.

12. They all died together
countless passed away at once
and none were alive enough
to bury the dead
for within one moment
even the noblest descendents
13. For they just would not believe until the miracles appeared and after destruction of the firstborn they did acknowledge these people were the followers of God.

14. Everywhere there is silence and the night covered everything.

15. But the word of the Almighty descended from the spiritual realm from Your exalted sanctuary like a fierce warrior within a place of destruction.

16. You delivered Your pure wisdom like a sharp sword that stood up against death by touching the spiritual realm while standing upon the earth.

17. Suddenly visions of horrible dreams troubled them deeply and the terrors shocked them.

18. Yet the half dead were thrown here and some were thrown there illustrating the nature of their death.

19. And their troubling dreams indeed did predict this and they perished without knowing what caused their afflictions.

20. Yes the taste of death does also touch the righteous
while others faced destruction  
within the wilderness  
yet the wrath did not endure.

21. For the innocents reacted fast  
and stood up to defend them  
bringing the shield of His ministry  
with prayers and offerings  
prepared themselves for the challenges  
in order to end the destruction  
declaring they were Your servants.

22. Thus they overcame the destroyer  
not with strength of the body  
nor by the force of weapons  
but with a word subdued the punishers  
by proclaiming the promises  
and agreements made with the ancestors.

23. When the dead fell around them  
piled up one upon another in great piles  
He resisted the destruction  
and parted the way to the living.

24. That area contained the universe  
and the four rows of its stones  
were engraved with their glory  
and the crowns on their heads  
contained Your Majesty.

25. The opposers gave way to them  
and were afraid of them  
because they had enough  
of the taste of their strength.
1. As for the ungodly
   their end came upon them
   with out any mercy
   because they knew before
   what would happen to them.

2. Now they permitted them to leave
   and quickly sent them away
   but they changed their minds
   and began to pursue them.

3. Because even while they mourned
   and lamented at the graves
   they made another mistake
   and pursued them like fugitives
   though they allowed them to leave.

4. They were worthy of their fate
   which drew them to this result
   and made them forget those things
   that had happened beforehand
   so the consequences they feared
   would indeed be fulfilled.

5. While Your followers could leave
   in such an appropriate manner
   they were met with unexpected death.

6. Because the reality of the whole
   became newly modeled once again
   serving the specific instructions
   which were given unto them
so Your children were protected.

7. As this occurred a cloud hovered above
and where there was water
dry land suddenly rose up
and out from the Red Sea
a clear path was revealed
and from the raging waves
came a green field.

8. Through this went the people
whom You protected with Your hand
through Your wonderful surprises.

9. They ran through as on horses
and leaping as lambs
and they praised You Lord
You who had delivered them.

10. Because they knew the things
done during their journey
through the foreign land
when flies rose from the ground
instead of the cows
and frogs rose from the river
instead of the fishes.

11. Afterward they saw new flocks of birds
that led them with their appetite
as they searched for favorable foods.

12. For quails came to them
from the sea for their satisfaction.

13. And the consequences of the wicked
who were given signs
through the power of thunder
they suffered justice
according to their own wickedness
because of their hardness
and hateful behavior towards others.

14. Because Sodomites didn't welcome them
and didn’t recognize them as they came
they brought them into bondage
just as they had deserved.

15. Then the chance of respect
would be taken by them
because they used hostile foreigners.

16. Then they were wounded badly
by those they had celebrated
and had shared with them
the same set of codes.

17. Thus even those who were blind
were stricken just the same
as those becoming righteous
with fear of the terrifying darkness
seeking departure through their doors.

18. Because the elements rearranged
through a type of harmony
just as the notes of a song
can change the nature of a tune
while all are still sounds
having seen those things
which had taken place.

19. For solids turned to fluids
and creatures that once swam
now traversed the ground.

20. The fire had power over water
forgetting its own stature
and the water had forgotten
its own quenching nature.

21. On the opposing side
those flames burned not the flesh
of those innocent living beings
though walking through it
and those of the cold depths
didn’t heat or melt
though the sky was hot
normally enough to burn them.

22. In all You do Almighty Lord
You glorify Your devoted ones
and You take them not for granted
but You protect them
every time and every place.