

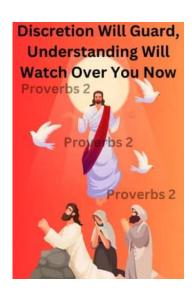
Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now. Discretion will guard you, understanding will watch over you, to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perverse things.

One basic principle found throughout the Bible is that God's blessings are conditional. Too many today have the attitude that "I can do what I want, and I will still get into heaven.... somehow." But God requires obedience to His will. This principle is clearly laid out in **Proverbs Chapter 2**.

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What is the meaning behind Proverbs 2?





Solomon was writing to his son concerning the blessings of wisdom from God. Verse 1 states, "My son, if you will receive my words and treasure my commandments within you..." In verse 3, "For if you cry for discernment..." Verse 4, "If you seek her (Wisdom) as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures..."



# Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now

A person can be very intelligent, and that same person may be well educated, but that does not automatically mean that he/she is wise as far as God is concerned.

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To gain Godly wisdom, there must be a realization of its value and the determination to do what is necessary find and incorporate God's wisdom into a person's life.

But what does God's wisdom do? What makes it so valuable? Proverbs 2 gives the answer.

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What is the meaning of Proverbs 2 5?

Verse 5 states, "then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God." Any success in finding and using wisdom



must begin with a reverence and fear of God.

He is the Living God, Creator, Eternal, the Great I AM. The blessing of wisdom from God is valuable beyond belief, because the Author of that wisdom is great beyond belief.

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Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now What is the meaning of Proverbs 2 7?

Verse 7 states, "He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity..." The wisdom that God gives is not some abstract idea that is viewed from a distance. His wisdom is the standard that is to be used on a day to day basis.

As a person's knowledge and wisdom grows, it becomes the standard by which decisions are made. The store of wisdom becomes a shield to guard a person from temptation and evil.

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A common phrase is to "Always do the right thing." That statement is true IF doing the right thing is based on God's will.

Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now What is the meaning of Proverbs 2 9 10?

Verses 9-10 state, "Then you will discern righteousness and justice and equity and every good course. For wisdom will enter your heart and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul ..."

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What a comfort when a person's values and thoughts are directed by God's Word! This comes from a continual seeking for wisdom, and from application.

Any new task is, at first, awkward and uncomfortable, but can soon become second nature. A small child is often called a "toddler" because he/she stumbles and falls. But once he/she masters walking, the next stage is running!



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What is Proverbs 2 v 11 12?

In verses 11-12, Solomon wrote, "Discretion will guard you, understanding will watch over you, to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perverse things..." How many times does a person wish that words spoken hastily, or in anger, could be taken back! One man wrote that God gave us two ears and one mouth for a reason. James warned of the danger of the tongue.

As God's wisdom becomes more and more part of a person, discretion becomes another shield to protect the person. Life is not fair, and bad things can happen to good, godly people. Malicious gossip, untrue accusations, or another person's angry words can hurt.

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Too often, the almost automatic response is to strike back in kind. But discretion can defuse tensions and help correct misunderstandings.



Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now

<u>Proverbs 25:11</u> states, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." A person whose attitude and character reflects this passage has learned discretion.

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What a more joyful world this would be if most people could learn this simple truth! Wisdom also keeps a person from a sinful life.

Verses 11-19 are a warning to guard against a <u>life that is immersed in sin</u>. In verse 16, Solomon wrote, "To deliver you from the strange woman, from the adulteress who flatters with her words…"

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The path that leads to a life of destruction often starts so slowly, so innocently. It is like being at the top of a tall hill on a bicycle. The road looks to be good, and it would be so thrilling to ride down that hill. Even though the person was told not to go down the hill, he



decides to start down.

The bicycle picks up speed and suddenly he is going faster than he had ever gone. "It is exciting!" But the bicycle continues to go faster. It becomes harder to control.

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The rider becomes frightened, but he is going too fast to stop. Then he sees a deep ditch that was not visible at the top. Out of control, he slams into the ditch and is killed.

Every person begins as a small innocent baby, he/she grows older with such promise. But some veer off to the side.

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Discretion Will Guard, Understanding Will Watch Over You Now What does Proverbs 2 19 say?



Solomon wrote in verse 19, "None who go to her (sin) return again, nor do they reach the paths of life." Many that live a truly sinful life may have power and wealth in this life. A person may look on that life with envy, but the end is death.

What does Proverbs 2 verses 21 and 22 mean?

Finally, in verses 21-22, a promise and a warning are given, "For the upright will live in the land and the blameless will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the land and the treacherous will be uprooted from it."

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For Israel, God's promises were for a physical covenant of land and protection. Today, that same promise and warning applies, but this time, the home and blessing are spiritual through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

However, for those that refuse the gift offered, the consequences will be truly terrible and eternal.

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