Safe and Secure

Solomon begins Book of Proverbs by extolling where true knowledge exists. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge... (Proverbs 1:7). He continues by stating, "Whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil" (Proverbs 1:33). Solomon's knowledge and wisdom were given him by God (1 Kings 3:4-15), and the counsel he provides in the Proverbs was and is worth serious consideration. Today, if we will listen and put into practice the directives God has put in place for us, we too can dwell safely and live securely without fear of evil.

What a great way to enter the New Year, having a resolve to listen to God's instruction that we may live securely and without fear of evil. After all, such is what most people really want out of life - security and safety. However, many fail to understand that such security and safety can only be found when seeking such spiritually. Too often, physical life outweighs the spiritual pursuit. Even in our own lives as Christians, we may let our physical life get in the way. Knowing that will help us when life's obstacles confront us. During these confrontations, we may confuse our search for knowledge and wisdom with fortune and status. When/if this occurs, remember that God has the answers and has recorded them for us in His word.

Wearing the name of His Son, we Christians believe in our ever wise and loving God. We know that our God is all knowing and all-powerful. Isaiah declares, "Remember the former things of old, for I am God and there is none like Me. Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are no yet

done..." (Isaiah 46:9-10). We serve a powerful and mighty God who wants us to dwell securely in Him and live at ease in this physical life. Our duty is to look to him for assistance in hearing His word, understanding His knowledge and wisdom, and following His instruction. Through obedience, we can rest in the security of His grace.

Paul tells us, "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:1-2). God has made it so that we can receive His knowledge and instruction easily. We can hold His word in our hands. Thus, a life discouraged by aimless wandering can be replaced by a life of security and ease if we listen and then follow His instructions (James 1:22).