**The Beginning Of Knowledge**

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 ***“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction”* Proverbs 1:7**

 This amazing book of God, **Proverbs**. One of the greatest writings ever penned! Whether one believes in God or not, if they would implement these eternal principles contained in Proverbs life is going get better for them and those about them in a host of ways. God’s ways are always the best ways for the individual and society in general.

 And yet, it is hard to get to “that good place” without acknowledging God and discovering who God is. This is why the King of Israel is exhorting his subjects to embrace God and, specifically in this verse that starts his discourse, to acknowledge ***“the fear”*** of the Lord – it is the beginning of knowledge! **FEAR** (YIRAH) is defined as: reverence, dread, piety; that which is feared or reverenced. Allow me the share with you a quote from Wilson’s Old Testament Word Studies about this Hebrew word, **FEAR**: to fear, venerate, religiously reverence; hence, it is put for the whole of the doctrine which teaches the fear of God; to worship God.

 Yes, that is where real knowledge begins! If we want to be “wise”, we will concern ourselves, first and foremost, with who is our Creator and what does He teach (doctrine) us in order to develop a good relationship with Him and those whom He has created!

 If you have a mind set “in the fear of God”, wisdom can be yours and abound. Yet, so many today are foolish. We live among an increasing foolish society whom has neglected God’s doctrinal instructions. Don’t be foolish: read all of God’s books: Bible!