

# Christ in the Wisdom of Proverbs

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# A. The Challenge of Proverbs

# Treasure and Life

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

– Proverbs 10:2

# Life Challenges

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

– Proverbs 10:2

## Themes:

true treasure; true success; righteousness; death.

What is the meaning of your life?

# Attraction

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

– Proverbs 10:2

Aesthetic balance:

wickedness vs. righteousness

not profit vs. deliverance

treasures vs. death

# Rhythm

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

– Proverbs 10:2

## Hebrew Rhythm:

Not-profit treasures-of wickedness (3 stresses)

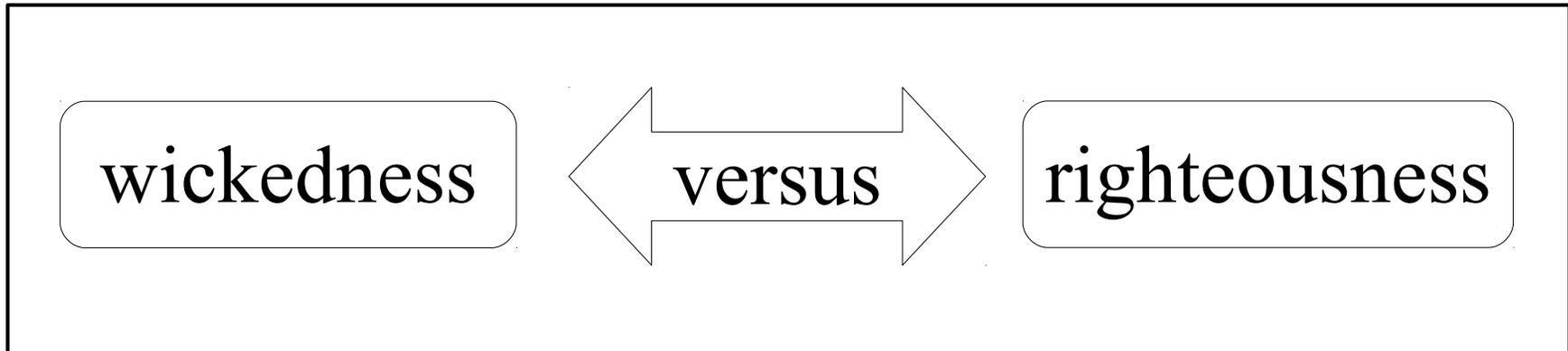
But

righteousness delivers from-death. (3 stresses)

# Two Ways

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

– Proverbs 10:2



# Attraction

The wise of heart will receive  
commandments,  
but a babbling fool will come to ruin.  
– Proverbs 10:8

## Themes:

Wisdom; the heart; value of  
commandments/directions; babbling;  
foolishness; ruin.

**What is the meaning of your life?**

# B. Christ in the Old Testament

# The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25-27: ... And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

# The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25 And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

# Pervasive Witness

all canon

Luke 24:44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

totality

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

# Main Theme of OT

summary

international  
focus of Acts  
is in the OT

46 and said to them, “Thus is  
it is written, that the Christ  
should suffer and on the third  
day rise from the dead, 47  
and that repentance and  
forgiveness of sins should be  
proclaimed in his name to all  
nations, beginning from  
Jerusalem.”

# Other Passages about Christocentricity

- 2 Cor. 1:20
- 1 Pet. 1:10-12
- John 5:39; 5:46-47; 8:56
- Matthew

## C. Wisdom in Proverbs

# Wisdom as a Theme

- Words for wisdom occur in Proverbs
- Idea even with the word:  
proverbs contain wisdom

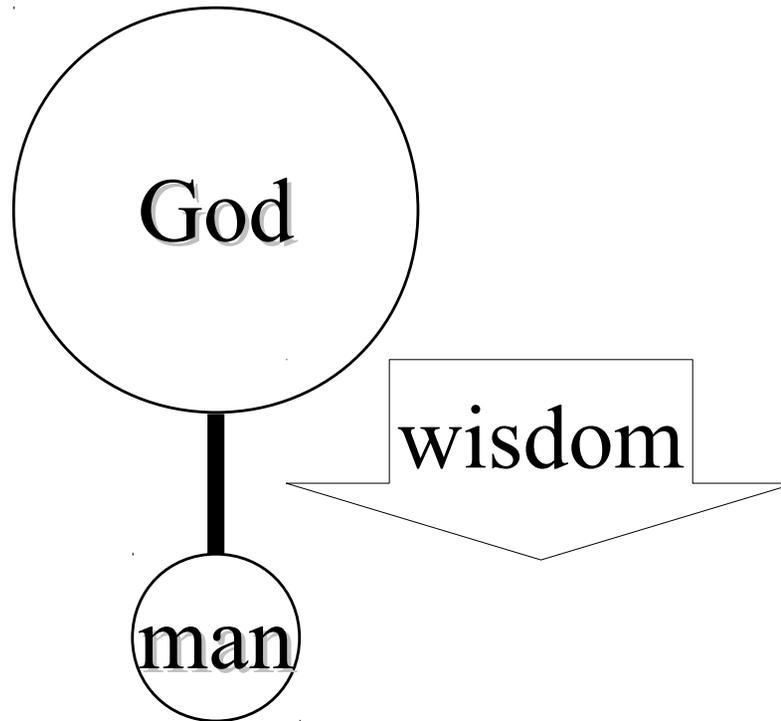
# Centrality of Wisdom

To know wisdom and instruction,  
to understand words of insight,  
to receive instruction in wise dealing,  
in righteousness, justice, and equity;  
to give prudence to the simple,  
knowledge and discretion to the youth--  
Let the wise hear and increasing in learning,  
and the one who understands obtain guidance,  
to understand a proverb and a saying,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.

– Proverbs 1:2-6

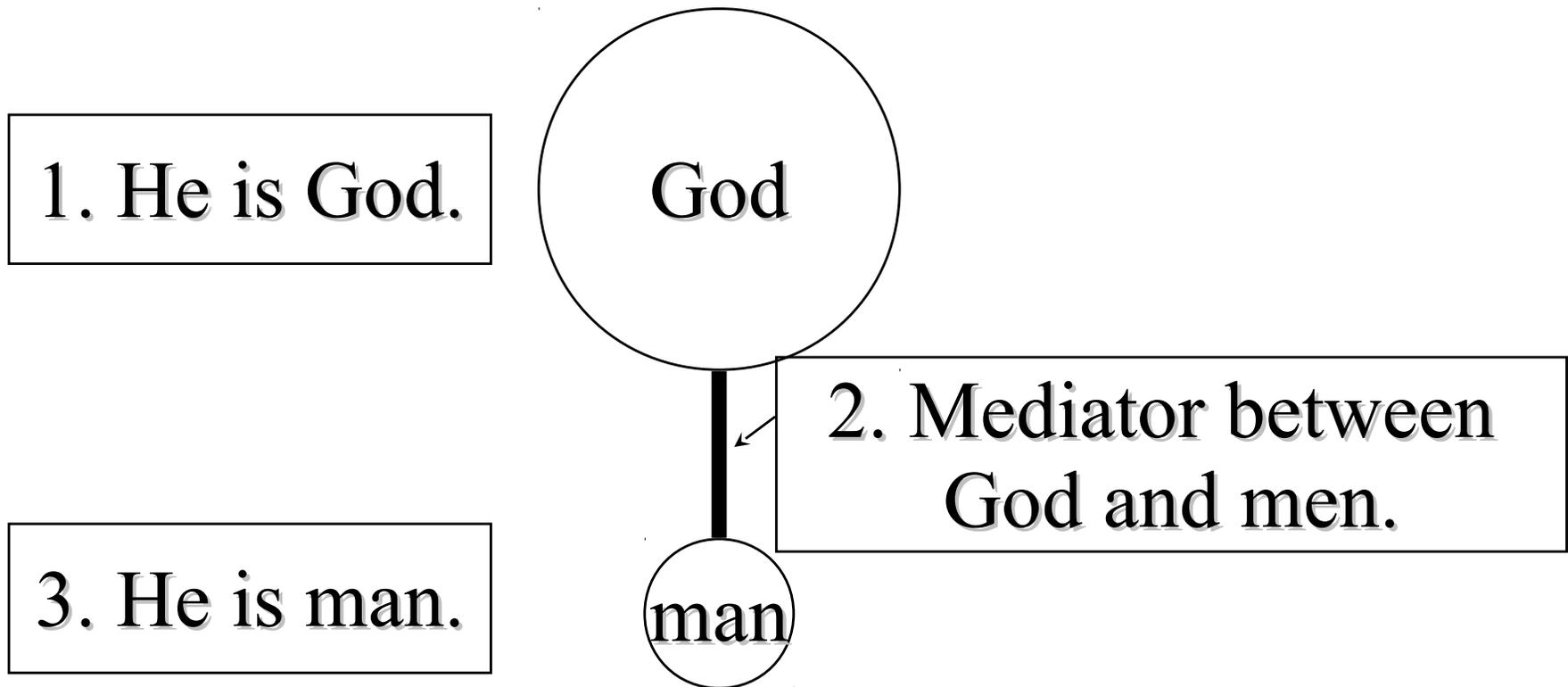
# Wisdom through God

The fear of the LORD is  
the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.  
– Proverbs 1:7

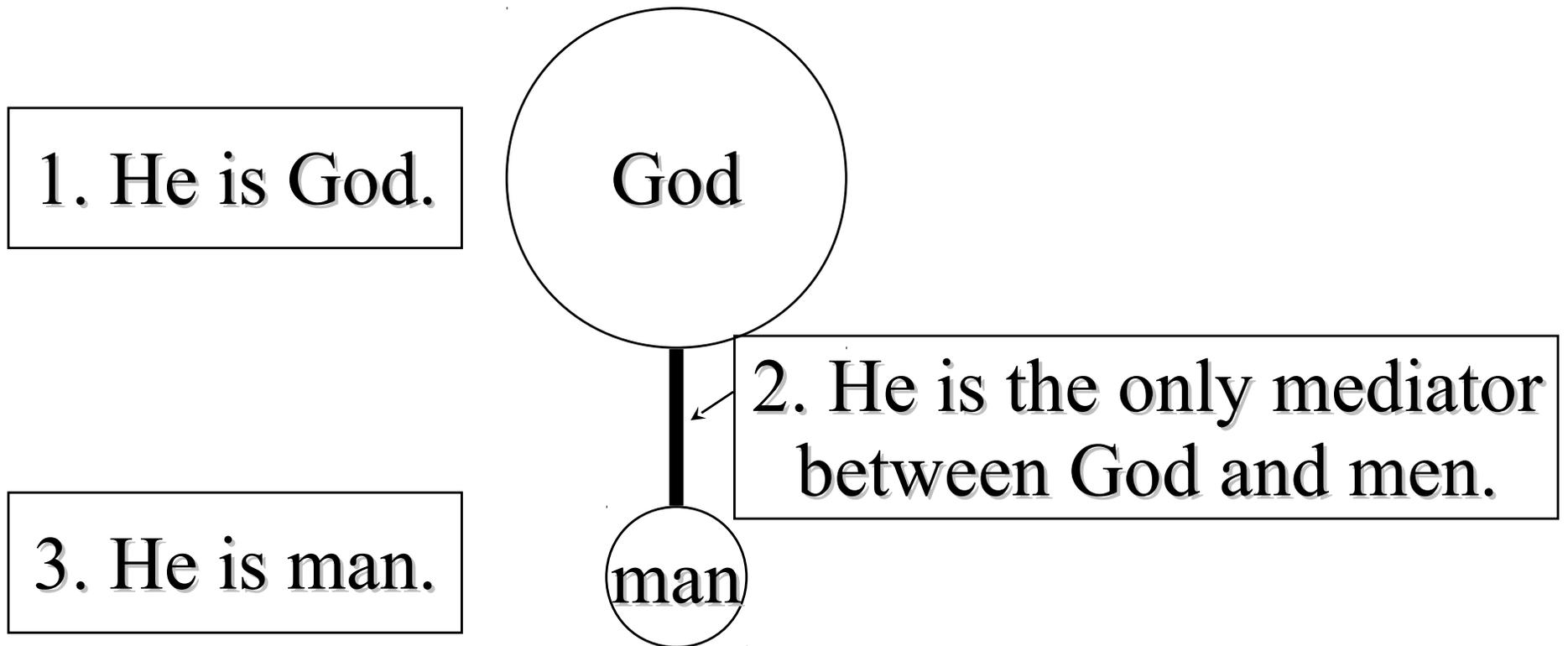


# D. Christ as Wisdom

# Christ as God and Man



# Christ as God and Man



# Christ as Speaker

- Christ as speaker speaks God's word
- He is the source of wisdom

# Christ as Speech

- Christ embodies wisdom
- He is wisdom

... Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

– Colossians 2:2-3

... Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ....

– 1 Corinthians 1:30

# Christ as Human Recipient

- Christ is fully human

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.  
– Luke 2:52

# E. Christ in Proverbs

# Life Challenges: Treasure

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

– Proverbs 10:2

## Themes:

true treasure; true success; righteousness; death.

What is the meaning of your life?

# Treasure and Christ

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

– Proverbs 10:2

- Christ as righteous
- Christ delivered from death
- Christ inherits

# Treasure in Christ

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

– Philippians 2:8-11

# Inheritance in Christ

... but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, ....

– Hebrews 1:2

## Coheirs:

... and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. – Romans 8:17

# Wisdom as Treasure

... Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

– Colossians 2:2-3

# Obtaining Treasure

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

– Proverbs 10:2

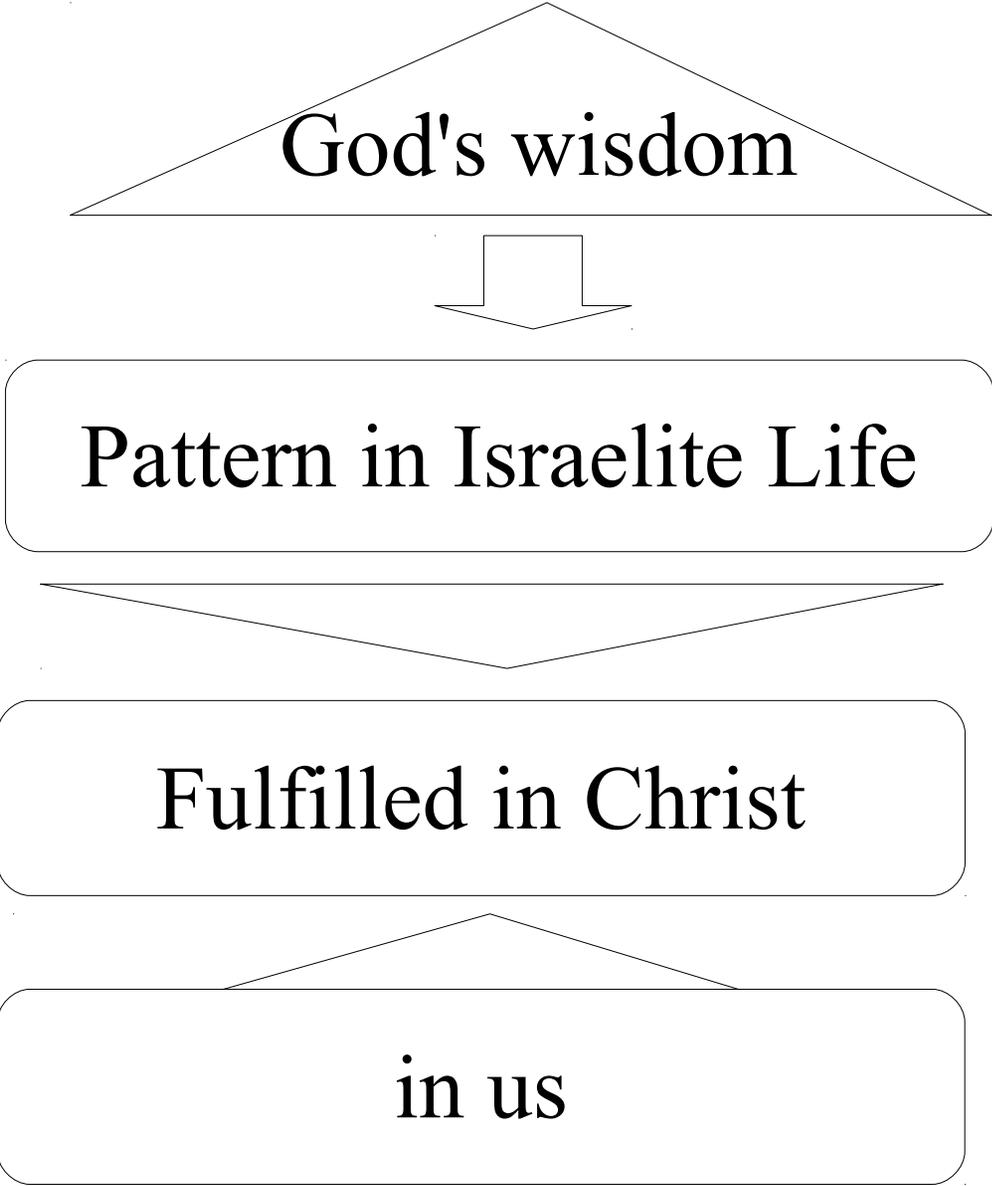
## Themes:

righteousness; eternal life; eternal profit;  
treasures, freedom from wickedness—gained in  
Christ's redemption.

This is the meaning of life!

# F. The Path to Application

# Principle and Embodiment



God's wisdom

Pattern in Israelite Life

Fulfilled in Christ

in us

# The Two Ways

- Christ teaches the way (Matt. 7)
- Christ embodies the way

# Being Wise of Heart

The wise of heart will receive commandments,  
but a babbling fool will come to ruin.

– Proverbs 10:8

## Themes:

How do you become wise of heart?

How do you keep God's commandments?

How do become wise of speech?

Through Christ, who is the meaning of your life!

# Being Wise of Heart: Answer

The wise of heart will receive commandments,  
but a babbling fool will come to ruin.

– Proverbs 10:8

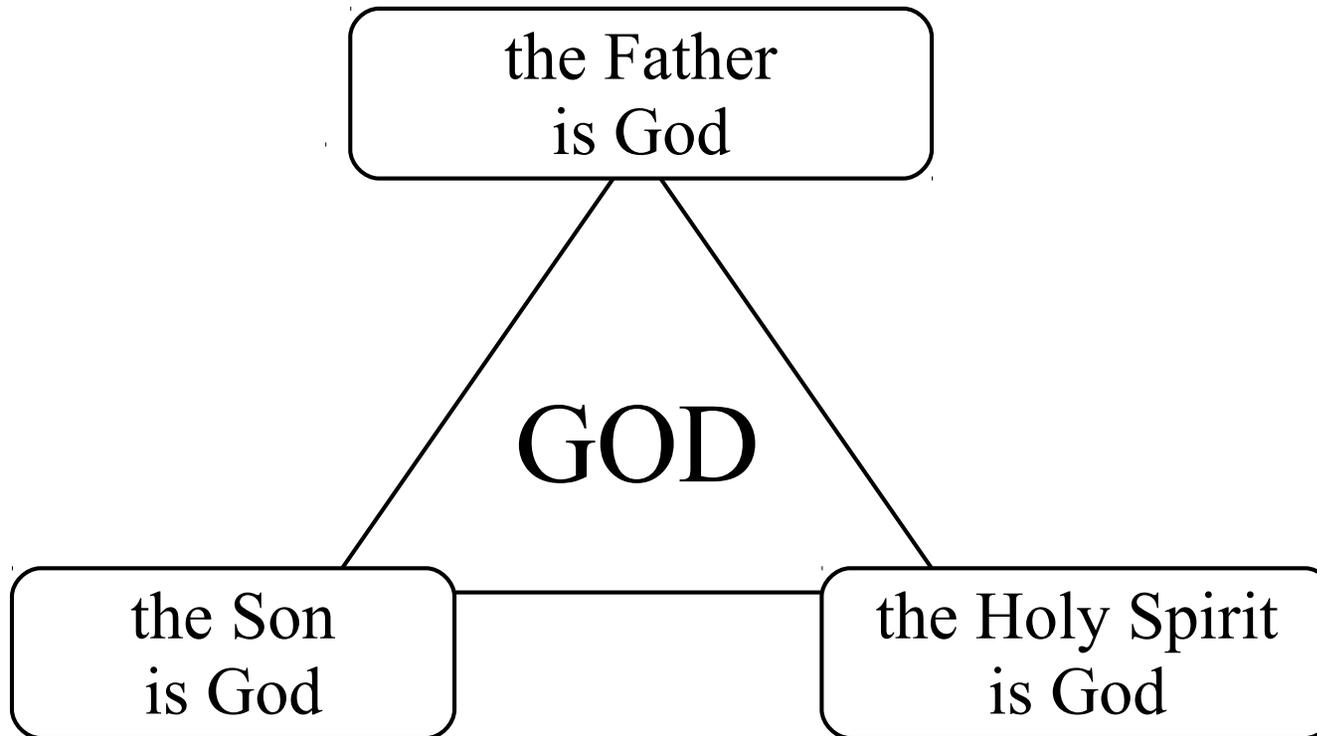
- Christ as wise of heart
- Christ as keeping God's commandments
- Christ as wise of speech
- Christ triumphing over ruin (the grave)

# G. The Path to the Source

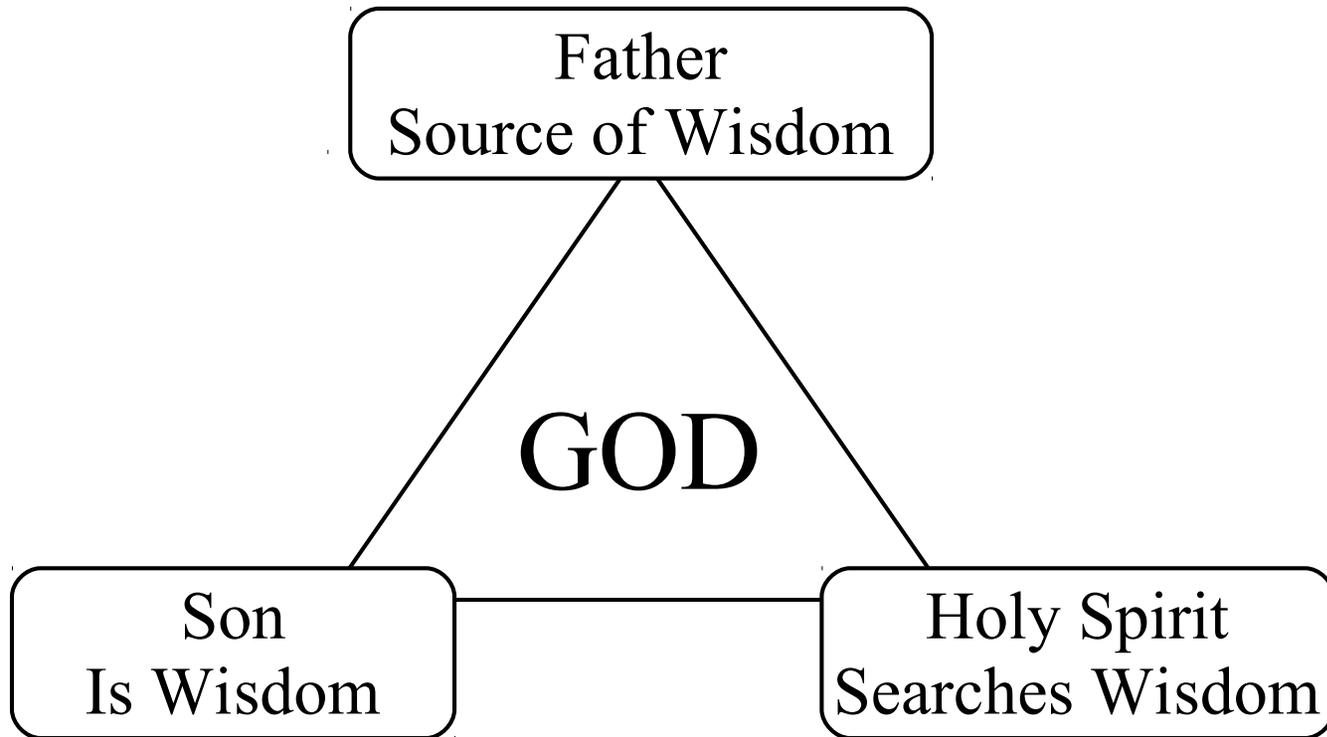
# The Holy Spirit and Wisdom

For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. – 1 Cor. 2:10-11

# The Trinity



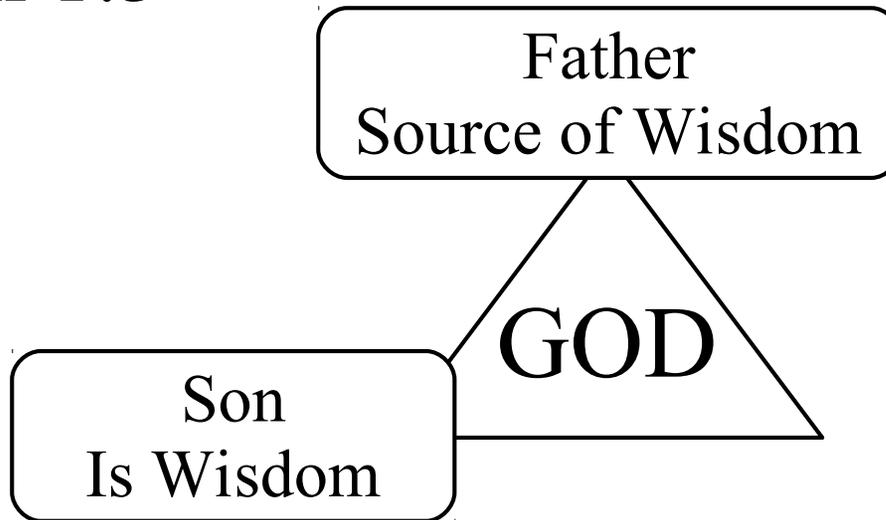
# Wisdom in the Trinity



# Wisdom Manifested in the Son

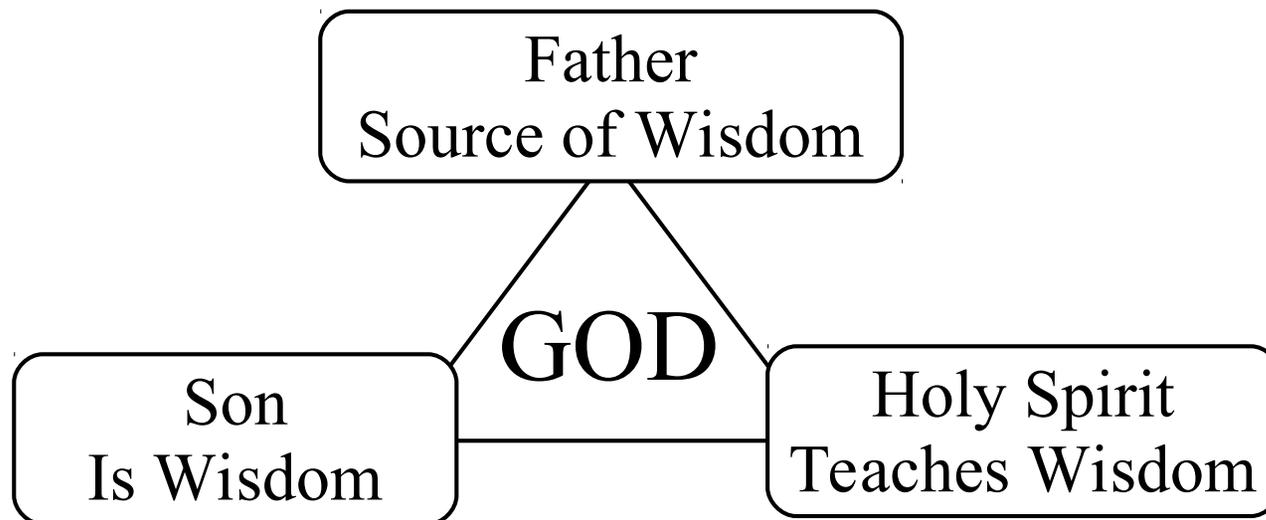
All things were  
made through him.  
– John 1:3

I was beside him.  
– Prov. 8:30



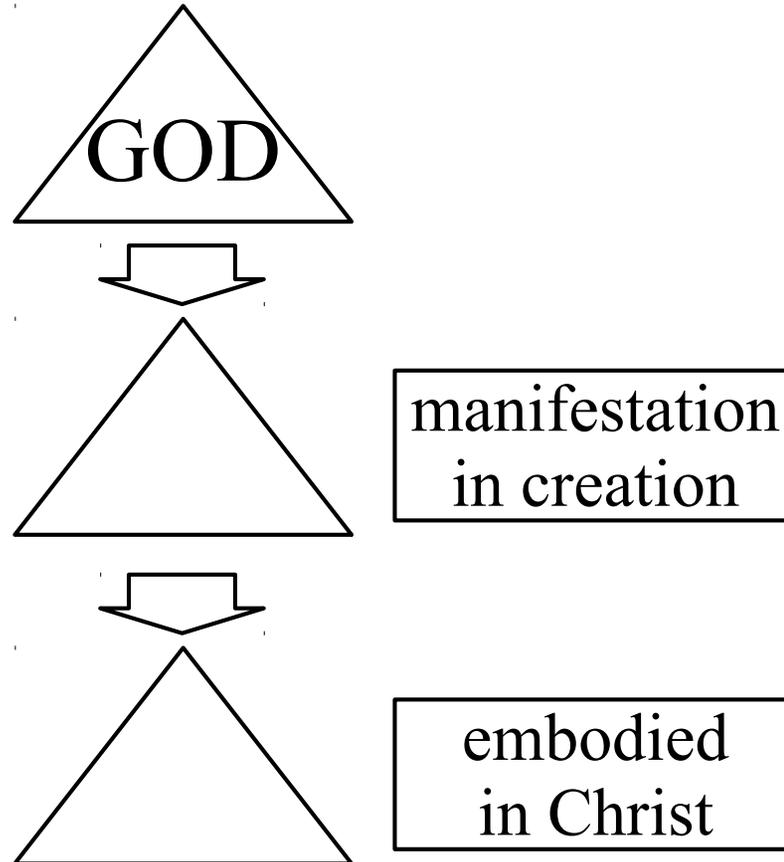
# Wisdom Manifested in the Spirit

But it is the spirit in a man,  
the breath of the Almighty, that makes him  
understand. – Prov. 8:30

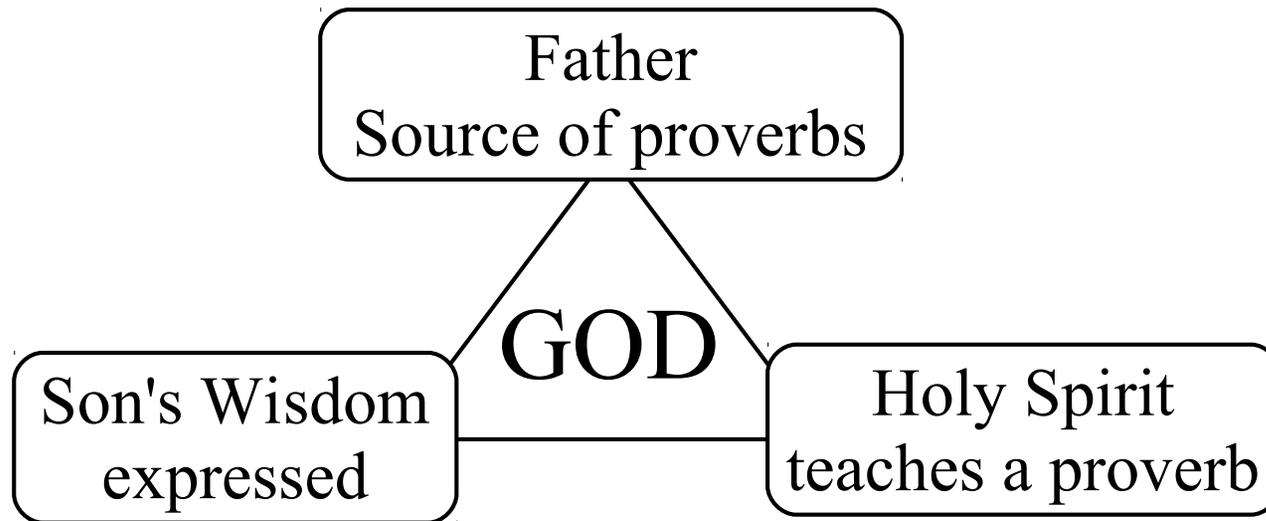


# Wisdom Coming from God

For the LORD gives wisdom. – Prov. 2:6



# Wisdom Embodied in a Proverb



# H. More Examples

# Satisfaction

The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry,  
but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.  
– Proverbs 10:3

## Themes:

righteousness, fullness vs. hunger; the Lord's  
reward.

# Wise Speech

The tongue of the righteous is choice silver;  
the heart of the wicked is of little worth.

– Proverbs 10:20

Themes:

speech; righteousness; value; the heart.

# Riches

A rich man's wealth is his strong city;  
the poverty of the poor is their ruin.  
The wage of the righteous leads to life,  
the gain of the wicked to sin.  
– Proverbs 10:15-16

## Themes:

wealth; righteousness; results; life.