

Wisdom from an Eternal Covenant

The most important part of a speech is the opening line. When time is not a factor, I like to try out three or four different ones. - Michael Scott, Regional Manager, Dunder Mifflin Paper Company

A Covenant is an unchangeable, divinely imposed legal agreement between God and man that stipulates the conditions of their relationship. – Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine

Takeaways from this passage:

1. Our God is a relational God.
 2. There is wisdom here for our relationships today.
 3. God's wisdom is founded in faith.
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A wise life has an eternal perspective of the covenant between God and man.

1. God offers us peace. (v.1-4)
 2. We're called to humbly trust. (v.5-8)
 3. God gives us wisdom for both plenty and pain. (v.9-12)
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If we are to trust God, we must learn to see that He is continuously at work in every aspect and every moment of our lives. - Jerry Bridges, Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts

Discipline socializes children... they become tolerable to those who didn't already love them. - Abigail Shrier

Even if things go badly for you now, they will go well for you ultimately in the next age and be far better than any good life here. - Jonathan Akin, Exalting Jesus in Proverbs

The true gospel says that the faithful Son had his life cut short in the short run, but he was raised to an indestructible life to inherit the cosmos. That's a prosperity worth having, and it's available in Christ. - Jonathan Akin, Exalting Jesus in Proverbs

Questions for Reflection (from Tim Keller's Proverbs Devotional):

1. What is the best candidate in your life for an alternate "god"?
 2. Are you seeking to understand the Bible's main themes and "big picture" story rather than merely seeking inspiration from individual Bible verses?
 3. Is there a person or kind of person you should be listening to but have not made the effort to do so?
 4. Can you devise a plan in which you could increase the percentage of your income that you give away over the next three years?
 5. Are you ready for adversity? Why or why not?
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