

Scriptures for 9/15/2024

Scripture 1

Proverbs 1:20-33

The Call of Wisdom

20 Wisdom cries out in the street;
 in the squares she raises her voice.
21 At the busiest corner she cries out;
 at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
22 “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
 and fools hate knowledge?
23 Give heed to my reproof;
I will pour out my thoughts to you;
 I will make my words known to you.
24 Because I have called and you refused,
 have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,
25 and because you have ignored all my counsel
 and would have none of my reproof,
26 I also will laugh at your calamity;
 I will mock when panic strikes you,
27 when panic strikes you like a storm
 and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
 when distress and anguish come upon you.
28 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
 they will seek me diligently but will not find me.
29 Because they hated knowledge
 and did not choose the fear of the Lord,
30 would have none of my counsel
 and despised all my reproof,
31 therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way
 and be sated with their own devices.
32 For waywardness kills the simple,
 and the complacency of fools destroys them;
33 but those who listen to me will be secure
 and will live at ease without dread of disaster.”

Scripture 2

James 3:1-12

3 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will face stricter judgment. 2 For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. 3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. 4 Or look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a such a small fire! 6 And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7 For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, 8 but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, made in the likeness of God. 10 From the same mouth comes a blessing and a curse. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? 12 Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.