

## God's Flawless Word

<sup>2</sup>I am the most ignorant of men;  
I do not have a man's understanding.  
<sup>3</sup>I have not learned wisdom,  
nor have I knowledge of the Holy One.  
<sup>4</sup>Who has gone up to heaven and come down?  
Who has gathered up the wind in the hollow of his hands?  
Who has wrapped up the waters in his cloak?  
Who has established all the ends of the earth?  
What is his name, and the name of his son?  
Tell me if you know!\_ - Proverbs 30:2-4

This author's words of self-deprecation and rhetorical questions are ultimately a unique approach to praise. Of necessity, praise of the Creator and sober self-realization go hand in hand. The more a man reconciles himself to his own creaturely status, the less he will attempt to posture himself as all knowing. In other words, he will be content to fill his role as a man and he will let God fill the role of God. When all that is settled, he will delight in the notion that God can be known, not through the pursuits of human wisdom, but through whatever means God has seen fit to reveal himself. In this passage, creation declares the glory of God. But, the author asserts that the Creator has also made Himself known through even more specific revelation and he is intent on listening:

<sup>5</sup>Every word of God is flawless;  
he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Through *Torah*, the Hebrew Scriptures, God made Himself known to and covenanted Himself with the Israelite nation. The author may also have had in mind prophetic oracles that God worded to His people through divinely appointed men that are not preserved for us. In any event, because of our creatureliness and especially, because of our sinfulness, when God speaks, it is a very big deal, and we do well to pay close attention.

"Every word of God is flawless."

"Flawless" means "pure" as in refined metal. When God speaks, His words are not like our words. There is no error or moral ambiguity. There is nothing remotely untrustworthy in anything He has said. His word is a "shield" of refuge" for all who trust Him. We are not at the mercy of our own vain and human speculations. Sometimes, those who are wise in their own eyes ridicule those who trust God's Word, accusing them of hiding behind the Bible. To the man who trusts the Word of God, there is no safer place to hide.

Bible literacy may be at an all-time low in our nation. If, as Christians, we believe that God has spoken through His Scriptures, then obviously, we have a very precious resource at our disposal. Our only wise course is to humbly approach the Holy Scriptures so as to be filled with their truth, for the Bible makes remarkable claims about itself. God's Word breathes life into dead sinners. It is God's lamp for our feet in this dark world. It is the pure spiritual milk that causes us to grow. It is the sword of the Spirit that helps us to discern truth from error. It is truly flawless. Ask God this week to help you develop a more intense appetite and appreciation for its treasures.