

*"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..." (1 Peter 4:11).*

Volume 2

August 25, 2013

Number 34

## A Wise Son

by John Isaac Edwards

We first encounter the expression, “a wise son” in 1 Kings 5:7. It appears 7 times throughout the Scriptures. Let’s take a look.

**Solomon, a Wise Son.** King Hiram said, “Blessed be the Lord this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people” (1 Kings 5:7; 2 Chronicles 2:12). Solomon’s wisdom came from God (1 Kings 3:5-13), and was demonstrated in the case of “two women” and “a child” (1 Kings 3:16-27). 1 Kings 4:31 reports, “For he was wiser than all men...” Of this wise son, the queen of Sheba said, “...the half was not told me...” (1 Kings 10:7).

**Makes a Glad Father.** Proverbs 10:1 says, “....A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.” Again it is said, “A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother” (Proverbs 15:20). There are two kinds of sons: wise and foolish. Which are you, by the way? Have you thought about the effect your life has on the mental state of your parents? Gladness and joy or heaviness and grief: which do we bring our parents?

**Gathers in Summer.** “He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame” (Proverbs 10:5). Here industry is

contrasted with idleness. Have a problem of being lazy? “Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest” (Proverbs 6:6-8).

### **Hears His Father’s Instruction.**

Listen to these words: “A wise son heareth his father’s instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke” (Proverbs 13:1). In his plea for wisdom, Solomon advises, “My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother” (Proverbs 1:8). Again he appeals, “My son, keep thy father’s commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee” (Proverbs 6:20-22).

**Keeps the Law.** The wisdom book teaches, “Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father” (Proverbs 28:7). It is also recorded: “They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them” (Proverbs 28:4); “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination” (Proverbs 28:9).

# Expressions of Death

by John Isaac Edwards

The Scriptures often speak of death. This brief writing calls attention to ways death is spoken of in the word of God.

**Death.** The words “dead,” “death,” “die,” “died,” “diest” and “dieth” are all used by the Holy Spirit to teach us about this occasion. It is said of the generations of Adam, with the exception of Enoch, “...and he died” (Genesis 5). Genesis 25:11 records, “And it came to pass after the death of Abraham.” James 2:26 states, “For as the body without the spirit is dead...”

**Gathered unto His People.** Jacob told his sons, “I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers...” (Genesis 49:29). The Lord said, “...Aaron shall be gathered unto his people...” (Numbers 20:24).

**Yielding Up the Ghost.** It is said of Jacob, “...he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people” (Genesis 49:33). Matthew records, “Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost” (Matthew 27:50).

## *Going the Way of All the Earth.*

Joshua told Israel, “...behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth...” (Joshua 23:14). When David’s death was nigh, he said, “I go the way of all the earth...” (1 Kings 2:2).

**Sleep.** The Lord talked about when David “...shalt sleep with thy fathers...” (2 Samuel 7:12), and 1 Kings 2:10 affirms, “So David slept with his fathers...” This is an expression of death. Jesus spoke of Lazarus’ death as “sleep” (John 11:11-14). When Steven was stoned, it is said, “...he fell asleep” (Acts 7:60). Paul wrote the Thessalonians “...concerning them which are asleep...” (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

**Departure.** Genesis 35:18 tells of Rachel, “And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died)...” Paul told the Philippians he had “...a desire to depart, and to be with Christ...” (Philippians 1:23). He wrote Timothy, “...the time of my departure is at hand” (2 Timothy 4:6).

Are you ready for this occasion?

**The Terre Haute Speaker** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

### **Assembling At:**

Holiday Inn Express  
2633 Indiana 46  
Terre Haute, IN 47803  
(Exit 11, I-70 & SR 46)

### **Assembling Times:**

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