

Wisdom of Solomon

Notes from Wikipedia:

The **Book of Wisdom**, or the **Wisdom of Solomon**, is a Jewish work written in Greek and most likely composed in [Alexandria, Egypt](#). Generally dated to the mid first century BC,^[1] the central theme of the work is "Wisdom" itself, appearing under two principal aspects. In its relation to man, Wisdom is the perfection of knowledge of the righteous as a gift from God showing itself in action. In direct relation to God, Wisdom is with God from all eternity.^[2] It is one of the seven [Sapiential](#) or wisdom books comprising the [Septuagint](#), the others being [Psalms](#), [Proverbs](#), [Ecclesiastes](#), [Song of Songs](#) (Song of Solomon), [Job](#), and [Sirach](#). It is included in the canon of [Deuterocanonical books](#) by the [Roman Catholic Church](#) and the *anagignoskomena* (Gr. ἀναγινωσκόμενα, meaning "those which are to be read") of the [Eastern Orthodox Church](#). Most Protestants consider it part of the [Apocrypha](#).

The author's prime literary source was the [Septuagint](#), in particular the [Wisdom literature](#) and the [Book of Isaiah](#), and he was familiar with late Jewish works as the [Book of Enoch](#) and with Greek philosophical literature. It is uncertain whether the book has a single author or comes from a school of writers, but recent scholarship has favoured regarding it as a unified work. In either case its blend of Greek and Jewish features suggests a learned Hellenistic background, and despite the address to the "rulers of the world" the actual audience was probably members of the author's own community who were tempted to give up their Jewishness in the face of the temptations of Greek culture and the hostile conditions facing Jews in the Greek world.

The matter of the Holy Spirit is also well developed in the New Testament, and the consequences of negating the value of the Holy Spirit has dire impacts on the soul:

[Mark 3:28–30](#) “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin’ — for they were saying, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’”

[Luke 12:10](#) “And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.”

In the Greek tradition, the negation of the Holy Spirit was considered “suicide of the soul.”

To put these passages into context, the reader should also read the Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament, which contains many other wisdom insights of the Holy Spirit. The passages that follow include *only the sections that refer to the Holy Spirit*, referred to in the feminine as Sophia. Traditionally the Holy Spirit was feminine until the translations into the Latin changed her gender to masculine (the Holy Ghost). – Robert Porter Lynch

Wisdom.1

[4] Wisdom (translated from the Greek as *Sophia*) will not enter a deceitful soul

[5] For a holy and disciplined spirit will flee from deceit, and will rise and depart from foolish thoughts, and will be ashamed at the approach of unrighteousness.

[6] For wisdom is a kindly spirit and will not free a blasphemer from the guilt of his words;

[10] because a jealous ear hears all things, and the sound of murmurings does not go unheard.

[11] Beware then of useless murmuring, and keep your tongue from slander; because no secret word is without result, and a lying mouth destroys the soul.

[12] Do not invite death by the error of your life, nor bring on destruction by the works of your hands

[14] For he created all things that they might exist, and the generative forces of the world are wholesome, and there is no destructive poison in them; and the dominion of Hades is not on earth.

[16]ungodly men by their words and deeds summoned death;

Wisdom 6

[12]Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.

[13] She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

[14] He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates.

[15] To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,

[16] because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

[17] The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her,

[18] and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,

[19] and immortality brings one near to God;

[20] so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

[21]honor wisdom, that you may reign forever.

[22] I will tell you what wisdom is and how she came to be, and I will hide no secrets from you, but I will trace her course from the beginning of creation, and make knowledge of her clear, and I will not pass by the truth;

[23] neither will I travel in the company of sickly envy, for envy does not associate with wisdom.

Wisdom 7

[7] Therefore I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.

[8] I preferred her to scepters and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her.

[9] Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem, because all gold is but a little sand in her sight, and silver will be accounted as clay before her.

[10] I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light, because her radiance never ceases.

[21] I learned both what is secret and what is manifest, for wisdom, the fashioner of all things, taught me.

[22] For in her there is a spirit that is intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, mobile, clear, unpolluted, distinct, invulnerable, loving the good, keen, irresistible.

24] For wisdom is more mobile than any motion; because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things.

[25] For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled gains entrance into her.

[28] for God loves nothing so much as the man who lives with wisdom.

[29] For she is more beautiful than the sun, and excels every constellation of the stars.
Compared with the light she is found to be superior,

Wisdom 8

[1] She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

[3] She glorifies her noble birth by living with God, and the Lord of all loves her.

[4] For she is an initiate in the knowledge of God, and an associate in his works.

[5] If riches are a desirable possession in life, what is richer than wisdom who effects all things?

[6] And if understanding is effective, who more than she is fashioner of what exists?

[7] And if any one loves righteousness, her labors are virtues; for she teaches self-control and prudence, justice and courage; nothing in life is more profitable for men than these.

[8] And if any one longs for wide experience, she knows the things of old, and infers the things to come; she understands turns of speech and the solutions of riddles; she has foreknowledge of signs and wonders and of the outcome of seasons and times.

[9] Therefore I determined to take her to live with me, knowing that she would give me good counsel and encouragement in cares and grief.

[10] Because of her I shall have glory among the multitudes and honor in the presence of the elders, though I am young

[13] Because of her I shall have immortality, and leave an everlasting remembrance to those who come after me.

[14] I shall govern peoples, and nations will be subject to me;

[15] dread monarchs will be afraid of me when they hear of me; among the people I shall show myself capable, and courageous in war.

[16] When I enter my house, I shall find rest with her, for companionship with her has no bitterness, and life with her has no pain, but gladness and joy.

[17] When I considered these things inwardly, and thought upon them in my mind, that in kinship with wisdom there is immortality, and in friendship with her, pure delight,

[21] I would not possess wisdom unless God gave her to me -- and it was a mark of insight to know whose gift she was --

Wisdom 9

[11] For she knows and understands all things, and she will guide me wisely in my actions and guard me with her glory.

[17] Who has learned thy counsel, unless thou hast given wisdom and sent thy Holy Spirit from on high?

[18] And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and men were taught what pleases thee, and were saved by wisdom."

Wisdom 10

[9] Wisdom rescued from troubles those who served her.

[10] When a righteous man fled from his brother's wrath, she guided him on straight paths; she showed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of angels; she prospered him in his labors, and increased the fruit of his toil.

[11] When his oppressors were covetous, she stood by him and made him rich.

[12] She protected him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those who lay in wait for him; in

his arduous contest she gave him the victory, so that he might learn that godliness is more powerful than anything.

[13] When a righteous man was sold, wisdom did not desert him, but delivered him from sin. She descended with him into the dungeon,

[14] and when he was in prison she did not leave him, until she brought him the scepter of a kingdom and authority over his masters. Those who accused him she showed to be false, and she gave him everlasting honor.

[15] A holy people and blameless race wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors.

[16] She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.

[17] She gave holy men the reward of their labors; she guided them along a marvelous way, and became a shelter to them by day, and a starry flame through the night.

[18] She brought them over the Red Sea, and led them through deep waters;

[19] but she drowned their enemies, and cast them up from the depth of the sea.

[20] Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly; they sang hymns, O Lord, to thy holy name, and praised with one accord thy defending hand,

[21] because wisdom opened the mouth of the dumb, and made the tongues of babes speak clearly.

Wisdom 13

[5] For from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator.