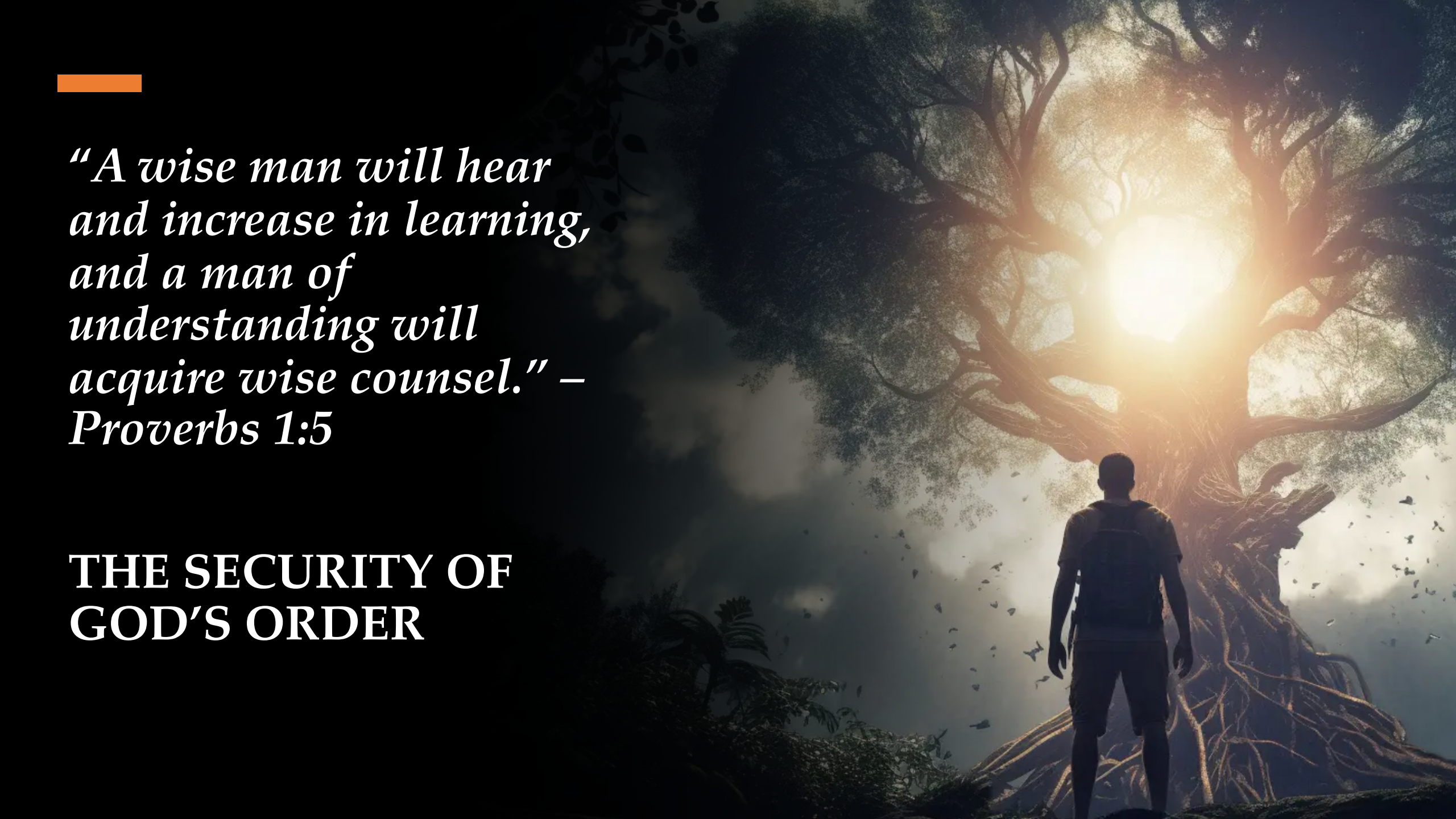


A person stands in silhouette, facing a massive, ancient tree. Sunlight streams through the dense canopy, creating a bright, ethereal glow. The scene is set in a lush, green environment with various plants and trees visible in the foreground and background. The overall mood is one of contemplation and connection with nature.

WISDOM

for the journey

A person stands in silhouette on a rocky outcrop, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. The sun is positioned directly behind the tree's canopy, creating a bright, glowing effect that illuminates the scene. The sky is filled with soft, hazy light and numerous small birds are seen flying in the distance. The overall atmosphere is one of awe and contemplation.

*“A wise man will hear  
and increase in learning,  
and a man of  
understanding will  
acquire wise counsel.” –  
Proverbs 1:5*

**THE SECURITY OF  
GOD’S ORDER**

A person stands in silhouette, facing a massive, ancient tree with thick, gnarled roots and a dense canopy. Sunlight filters through the leaves, creating a warm, golden glow. The scene is set against a cloudy sky with birds flying in the distance. The overall mood is contemplative and majestic.

# WISDOM

We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust or avoid; along with being measured by the plumbline of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives.

Proverbs is about **how to** live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life.

In this study, we will look and listen to hear God's voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey!

for the journey

## THE SECURITY OF GOD'S ORDER (vs INSECURITY)

**Levitus 26: 15-36** → "...and if you reject my decrees and abhor my laws and fail to carry out all my commands and so violate my covenants (my way, my truth, my life) then I will do this to you: I will bring on you **sudden terror (behalah), wasting diseases and fever (haš·ša·ḥe·pēṭ)** that will destroy your sight and sap your strength...You will plant seed in vain, because your enemies will eat it....and you will flee even when no one is pursuing you... 'As for those of you who are left, I will **will also bring despair (morek) into their hearts in the lands of their enemies** they will run as though fleeing from the sword, even though no one is pursuing them."

# THE SECURITY OF GOD'S ORDER – God *is* ORDER

**1 Samuel 12:21** → *And do not turn aside to go after **worthless** things which do not profit and do not deliver, for they are worthless.*

**Worthless** – Let's consider one of the strangest and most difficult words in the Hebrew Scriptures. You might think you are quite familiar with this word. After all, it is found in one of the Bible's most famous passages. It occurs in Genesis 1:2 – "and the earth was without form and void." In Hebrew, this is *tohu wabohu*. *Tohu* occurs only 39 more times in Scripture. To this day, scholars are unable to clearly identify its etymology or exactly specify its meaning. But this much is clear. *Tohu* is antithetical to any living thing. healing in each of the areas that sin affects us. *Tohu* generally describes five related conditions. These are: trackless wasteland, desolation, lifelessness, futility and worthlessness. The common thread behind *tohu* seems to be a sphere that is alien to all life. It is an ominous, chaotic, desolate, dark, destructive opposition to created order. Consequently, it is filled with peril, menace and foreboding. It is the *negation* of God and His creation. If there were ever a word that described a place where life is sucked out of you, then *tohu* is that word. The opposite of *tohu* is not peace, prosperity, happiness or health. The opposite of *tohu* is God, for God is order, fulfillment, satisfaction, well-being and life itself.





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## **ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!**

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1. What part of your life is chaotic? Where do you need order to be re-established?
2. When have you experienced the natural consequence of your foolish decision?
3. How are you blessed by God and His wisdom?