Proverbs 3
‘Lean Not On Your Own Understanding’
(October 14, 2009)

1 My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands; (Instruction/Bottom Line)
2 For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you. (Benefit/Top Line)
   (What is His law, His Command?)
   Matt 22:37-40 Jesus said to him, ”You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, (Instruction/BottomLine)
4 And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man. (Benefit/TopLine)
   (What is the ‘Truth’? The Word of God....Creation in 7 days Gen.)
   Gen 1:1-5
   1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
   2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
   3 Then God said, ”Let there be light”; and there was light.
   4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.
   5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; (Instruction/BottomLine)
6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. (Benefit/TopLine)
   (We acknowledge Him by obeying the instruction in the Bottom Line, and then the benefit of the Top Line is ours.)

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. (Instruction/BottomLine)
8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones. (Benefit/TopLine)

9 Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; (Instruction/BottomLine)
10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine. (Benefit/TopLine)

11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; (Instruction/BottomLine)
12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights. (Benefit/TopLine)
13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding;

(Instruction/BottomLine)
14 For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.
16 **Length of days** is in her right hand, In her left hand **riches** and **honor**. (Benefit/TopLine)
17 Her ways are ways of **pleasantness**, And all her paths are **peace**.

18 She is a tree of **life** to those who **take hold of her**, And **happy** are all who **retain her**. (Top & Bottom)
19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens;
20 By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew.

21 My son, let them not depart from your eyes- Keep sound wisdom and discretion;

(Instruction/BottomLine)
22 So they will be **life** to your soul And **grace** to your neck. (Benefit/TopLine)
23 Then you **will walk safely** in your way, And your **foot will not stumble**.
24 When you lie down, you **will not be afraid**; Yes, you will lie down and your **sleep will be sweet**.

25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;

(Instruction/BottomLine)
26 For the LORD will be your **confidence**, And will **keep your foot from being caught**.

(Benefit/TopLine)

(Instruction/BottomLine)
27 Do not withhold **good** from those to whom it is due,When it is in the power of your hand to do so.
28 Do not say to your neighbor,"Go, and come back,And tomorrow I will give it."When you have it with you.
29 Do not devise evil against your neighbor, For he dwells by you for safety's sake.
30 Do not strive with a man without cause, If he has done you no harm.
31 Do not envy the oppressor, And choose none of his ways;

(Benefit/TopLine)
32 For the perverse person is an abomination to the LORD, But His secret counsel is with the upright.
33 The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the home of the just.
34 Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.
35 The **wise shall inherit glory**, But shame shall be the legacy of fools.