

A reading from the Book of Sirach

All wisdom is from the Lord
and remains with him forever.
The sands of the sea, the drops of rain,
the days of eternity—who can count them?
Heaven’s height, earth’s extent,
the abyss and wisdom—who can explore them?
Before all other things wisdom was created;
and prudent understanding, from eternity.
The root of wisdom—to whom has it been revealed?
Her subtleties—who knows them?
There is but one, wise and truly awesome,
seated upon his throne—the Lord.
It is he who created her,
saw her and measured her,
Poured her forth upon all his works,
upon every living thing according to his bounty,
lavished her upon those who love him.
The fear of the Lord is glory and exultation,
gladness and a festive crown.
The fear of the Lord rejoices the heart,
giving gladness, joy, and long life.
Those who fear the Lord will be happy at the end,
even on the day of death they will be blessed.

The Word of the Lord

Sirach 1: 1-13