

The Measured Life — Wisdom from King Solomon

Stanza 1 — The Futility of Chasing the Wind

*I watched the paths where restless men would run,
They chased the wind and called their striving done.
Yet wisdom stood where quiet waters flow,
And whispered, “Walk the way you’re made to go.”*

Solomon frequently describes life apart from God’s wisdom as **“chasing the wind.”**

“I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.” — Book of Ecclesiastes 1:14

Human striving without alignment to God’s design leads to restlessness, not fulfillment.

In contrast, wisdom offers a different path:

“He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths...” — Book of Psalms 23:3

The Measured Life begins by **leaving restless striving and choosing God’s path.**

Stanza 2 — God’s Order in Creation

*The Lord has set all things in time and place,
With hidden order none can soon erase.
The heart made wise will seek His pattern true,
And learn to walk the path He set in view.*

Scripture teaches that God has established **order, timing, and design** within creation.

“He has made everything beautiful in its time.” — Book of Ecclesiastes 3:11

Wisdom is the ability to recognize and live within that order.

“The Lord by wisdom founded the earth.” — Book of Proverbs 3:19

The Measured Life is the pursuit of **alignment with God’s established design.**

Stanza 3 — The Power of Self-Governance

*A guarded tongue is better far than might,
A patient soul than one who wins the fight.
For he who rules his spirit, calm and still,
Builds strength no storm or shifting wind can kill.*

This stanza reflects a central theme of Proverbs:
self-governance is greater than outward strength.

“Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.” — Book of Proverbs 16:32

And:

“Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.” — Proverbs 21:23

True strength is not dominance over others, but **mastery of the inner life.**

Stanza 4 — The Power of Faithfulness in Small Things

*Do not despise the small, unseen, and slow,
For roots grow deep where faithful labors go.
The steady hand that honors what is right
Will stand when others fade from fleeting sight.*

Scripture emphasizes that **formation happens in the unseen places.**

“Whoever is faithful in little is faithful also in much.” — Gospel of Luke 16:10

And:

“Do not despise these small beginnings...” — Book of Zechariah 4:10

The Measured Life grows through **consistent, quiet faithfulness**, not dramatic moments.

Stanza 5 — Wisdom Discerns Time and Action

*The fool runs on where impulse leads the way,
But wisdom learns the times to act and stay.
For every step is weighed before the Lord,
And every life by quiet choices stored.*

This reflects the biblical contrast between **impulse and wisdom.**

“A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back.” — Book of Proverbs 29:11

And:

“There is a time for everything...” — Book of Ecclesiastes 3:1

God sees and weighs every step.

“All a person’s ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord.” — Proverbs 16:2

The Measured Life is lived with **discernment, timing, and awareness of God’s evaluation**.

Stanza 6 — Numbering Our Days and Living with Purpose

*So mark your days and walk them out with care,
Give heart and strength to what is just and fair.
For those who live aligned with God’s design
Shall shine with light that outlives dust and time.*

This stanza reflects one of the central Scriptures of the Measured Life:

“Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” — Book of Psalms 90:12

Living with awareness of time produces wisdom and intentionality.

And the result is a life that influences others:

“Let your light shine before others...” — Gospel of Matthew 5:16

A life aligned with God’s design produces **lasting influence**—a light that extends beyond one’s lifetime.

Closing Insight

This poem reflects a consistent biblical pattern:

- **Restlessness vs. wisdom**
- **Impulse vs. restraint**
- **Noise vs. formation**
- **Self-direction vs. God’s design**

The Measured Life is the path where:

wisdom governs the heart,
discipline shapes the life,
and leadership emerges naturally.