

**IF +**

**THEN =**

---

the equation for blessing

<sup>1</sup> Here are kingdom revelations, words to live by, and words of wisdom given to empower you to reign in life, written as proverbs by Israel's King Solomon, David's son.

Proverbs 1:1 (TPT)

## Proverbs Are:

1. Kingdom Revelations
2. Words to Live By
3. Wisdom Given to Empower Us to Reign in Life

***Kingdom Advice given to grow our lives into victory and abundance.***

# Three Types of Proverbs

## 1. Contrastive

<sup>17</sup> *The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity. - Proverbs 11:3 (NIV)*

## 2. Comparative

<sup>17</sup> *Better a small serving of vegetables with love than a fattened calf with hatred. - Proverbs 15:17 (NIV)*

### 3. Completive

<sup>1</sup>My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart. <sup>2</sup>If you do this, you will live many years, and your life will be satisfying. - Proverbs 3:1-2 (NLT)

If we put our faith in God's advice, then God will channel His power to bring about our blessing.

*If (Faith in God's Advice) + Then (God's Power)  
= Blessing*

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Proverbs 3:1-2 (NLT)

*IF + THEN = SATISFACTION*  
*PART 1*

# THE COMPETING VOICES OF WISDOM

we are defined by  
our education  
and knowledge

we are defined by  
where we came from  
or our environment



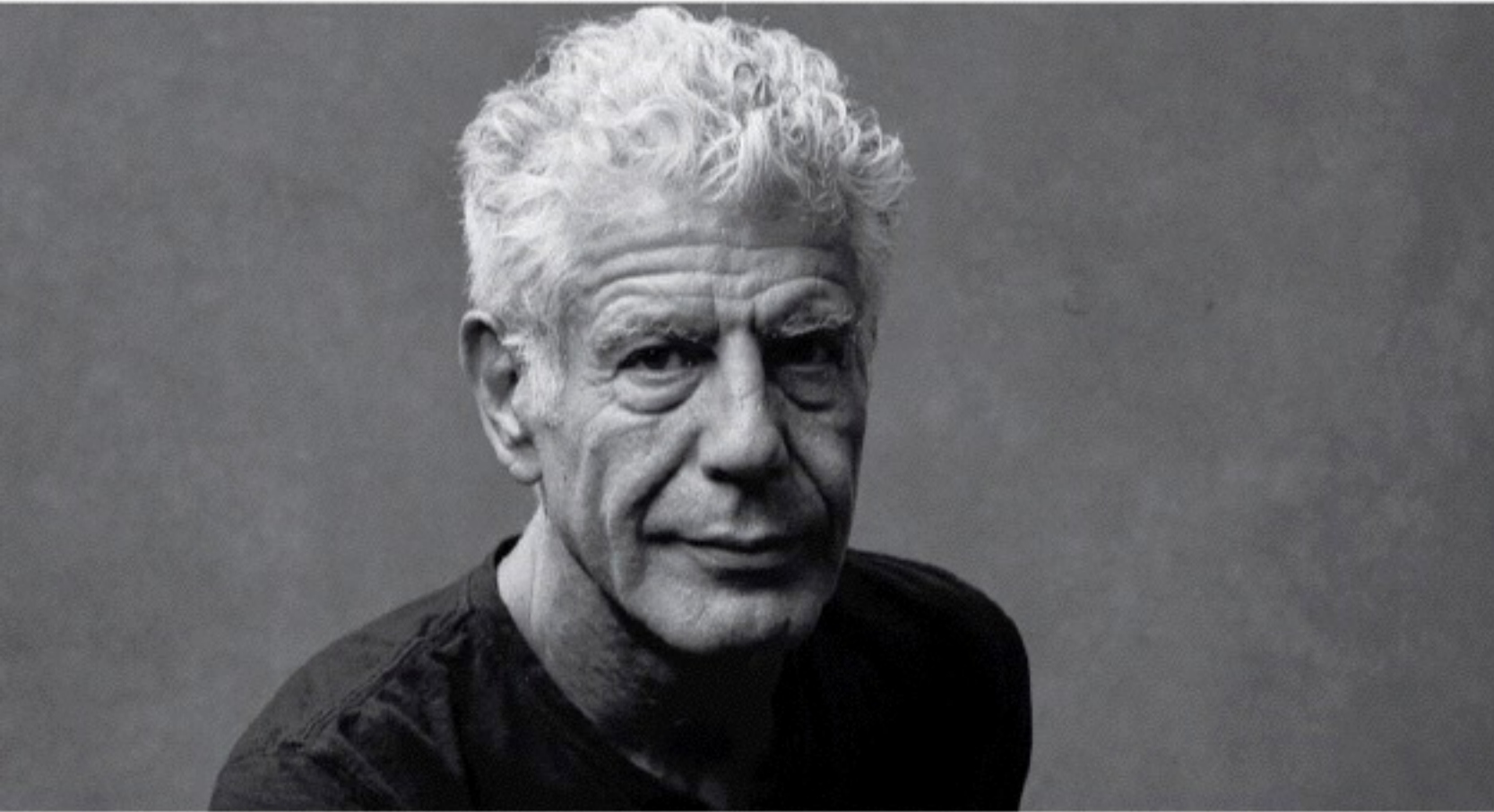
we are defined by  
our reason and ethics

we are defined by  
whatever we desire  
to be defined by

we are defined by  
our experiences or pleasure

# ANTHONY BOURDAIN

1956-2018



“Look, I understand that inside me there is a greedy, gluttonous, lazy, hippie...there’s a guy inside me who wants to lay in bed, and smoke weed all day, and watch cartoons, and old movies. I could easily do that. My whole life is a series of stratagems to avoid and outwit that guy. I’m aware of my appetites, and I don’t let them take charge.”

*Interview, Men’s Journal, 2014*



# TAKING GOD'S ADVICE REQUIRES CHOOSING HIS VOICE

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Proverbs 3:1-2 (NLT)

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Proverbs 3:1-2 (NLT)

# AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

354-430 A.D.



“I had my back to the light and my face turned toward the things upon which the light fell: hence my face, by which I looked upon the things that were lit up, was not itself in the light.”

# TAKING GOD'S ADVICE REQUIRES CHOOSING HIS VOICE

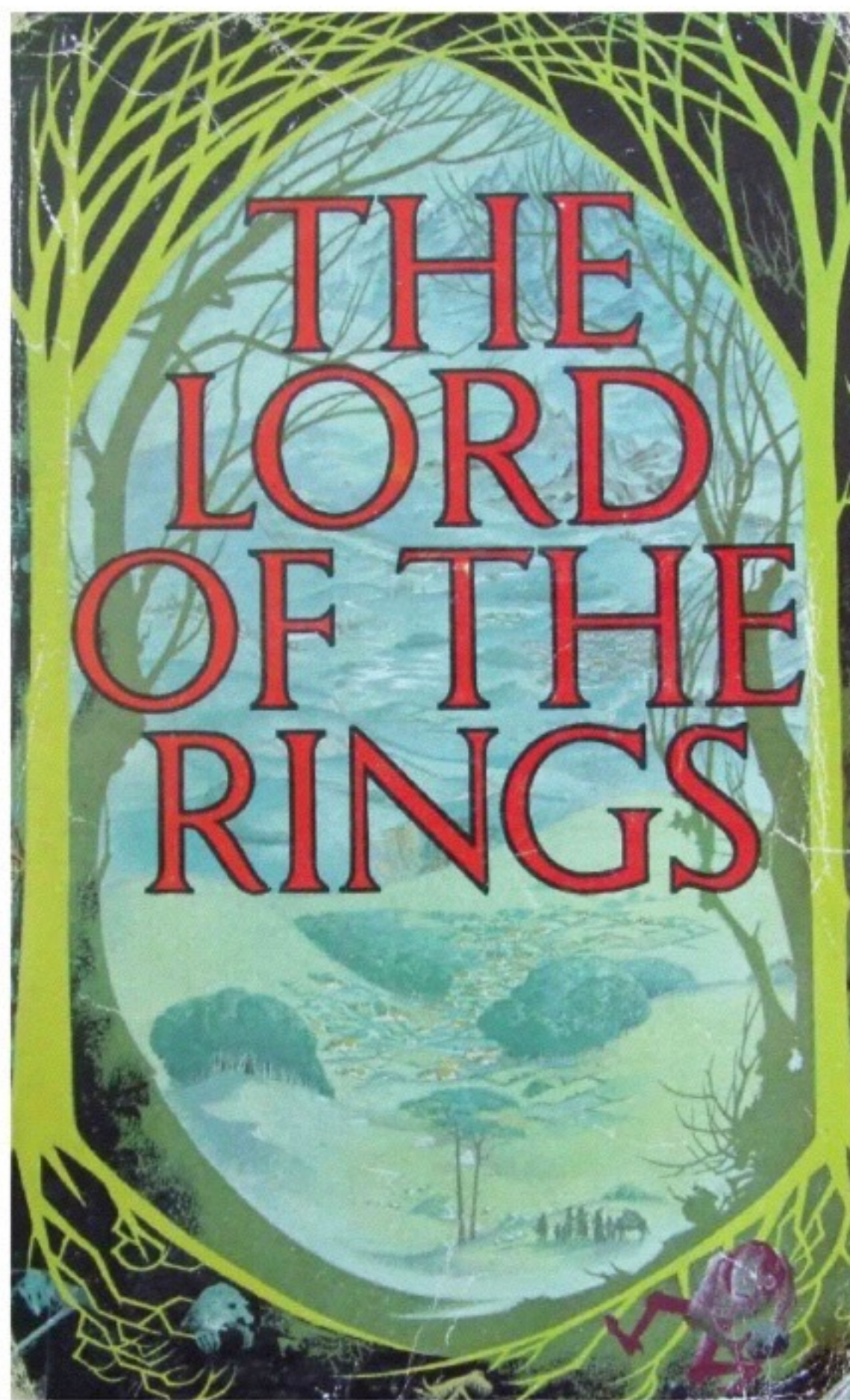
<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds?...<sup>17</sup> faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead...<sup>26</sup> As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

James 2:14, 17, 26 (NIV)

**Real faith distinguishes between intent and action!**

# TAKING GOD'S ADVICE REQUIRES CHOOSING HIS VOICE

“The heart is the first thing that wanders from God and the first also that returns.” - Charles Bridges



“One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,  
One Ring to bring them all, and in the darkness  
bind them.”

“A mortal who keeps one of the great rings does  
not die, but he does not grow or attain life, but only  
continues, until every moment is weariness...he  
becomes in the end invisible permanently, and  
walks in the twilight...neither the strength or  
purpose will last. Sooner or later, the dark power  
will devour you.”

- *The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien*

# TAKING GOD'S ADVICE REQUIRES NOT LETTING GO OF THE WORD

<sup>1</sup>My child, **never forget** the things I have taught you. **Store my commands** in your heart. <sup>2</sup>If you do this, you will live many years, and your life will be satisfying.

Proverbs 3:1-2 (NLT)

# TAKING GOD'S ADVICE REQUIRES NOT LETTING GO OF THE WORD

<sup>16</sup> Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

Philippians 3:16 (NIV)