

WHO IS WISE?
JAMES 3:13-18

WE ARE MAKING OUR WAY THROUGH THE EPISTLE OF JAMES. I MUST SAY, THE CONFIRMATION THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS LED US TO STUDY THIS BOOK IS SO CLEAR. WE ARE IN A NEW SEASON HERE AT HIS PLACE AND GOD PRUNES THE CHURCH OF IT'S DEAD BRANCHES TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE HARVEST OF NEW FRUIT THAT IS COMING. THIS HAPPENS CORPERATELY AND INDIVIDUALLY. THE MORE INTENTIONAL WE ARE AT LIVING OUT ARE FASITH IN OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD, THE MORE FREEDOM WE EXPERIENCE. JAMES PREACHES HARD TRUTHS ABOUT GENUINE FAITH. OUR FAITH WILL BE TESTED IN TRIALS, TEMPTATIONS, OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD, HOW WE TREAT THOSE IN NEED, WHAT WE DO, WHAT WE SAY, AND HOW WE SAY IT. JAMES CARES DEARLY FOR THE CHURCH, AS DO I. HE KNOWS THE TRADGEDY OF ONE WHO PROFESSES FAITH IN CHRIST BUT LACKS THE EVIDENCE OF THAT ACTUALLY BEING TRUE. THEIR DEEDS, THEIR WORDS, ATTITUDE, AND BEHAVIOR TESTIFY THAT THEY ARE NOT WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE. KEEP IN MIND, NONE OF US ARE PERFECT. WE ALL FALL SHORT, BUT OUR GROWTH IN CHRIST SHOULD BE EVIDENT TO US, AND OTHERS AROUND US. JAMES HITS THE CHURCH WITH ONE MORE UPPERCUT OF A TEST. DO WE OPERATE IN THE WISDOM THAT COMES FROM GOD? OR DO WE OPERATE OUT OF OUR OWN EARTHLY WISDOM? WISDOM IS MORE THAN JUST KNOWLEDGE. TRUE GODLY WISDOM IS THE APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE WITH DEVINE POWER AT THE RIGHT TIME IN THE RIGHT WAY, TRANSFORMING BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES

INTO RIGHTEOUSNESS. BUCKLE UP CHURCH. AND MAY I ENCOURAGE YOU TODAY, TO OWN WHAT YOU NEED TO OWN. LET THE HOLY SCRIPTURES CONVICT YOU AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO TURN FROM SIN AND GO DEEPER IN YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST. WHETHER YOUR BRAND NEW IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, OR YOU'VE BEEN WALKING WITH HIM FOR DECADES, WE CAN ALL DO BETTER. AMEN? PLEASE TRY TO REFRAIN FROM THINKING, "I HOPE BROTHER OR SISTER SO & SO HEARS THIS, BECAUSE THEY REALLY NEED IT". AND FOCUS ON YOUR OWN HEART. PLEASE.

James 3:13 NIV

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

WE ARE GETTING CALLED OUT, "ARE YOU WISE?"

"DOES YOUR LIFE WALK THE WALK? OR DO YOU JUST TALK THE TALK?" HAVE YOU JUST LEARNED CHRISTIANESE? OR DO YOU CRUCIFY YOUR EGO IN ORDER TO OBEY SCRIPTURE?

JAMES LISTS THREE PROOFS OF GODLY WISDOM

1. GENERAL CONDUCT. 2. SPECIFIC ACTS. 3. ATTITUDE
HUMILITY/PRAUTES/GENTLENESS, MEEKNESS(SUBMISSIVENESS
A GOOD LIFE, GOOD DEEDS, AND HUMILITY COMES FROM
TRUE WISDOM

THE WISDOM BOOKS IN THE BIBLE ARE JOB, PROVERBS,
PSALMS, SONG OF SONGS, AND ECCLESIASTES

Job 28:20-28 NIV

²⁰ Where then does wisdom come from?

Where does understanding dwell?

²¹ It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing,
concealed even from the birds in the sky.

²² Destruction and Death say,

“Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.”

²³ God understands the way to it
and he alone knows where it dwells,

²⁴ for he views the ends of the earth
and sees everything under the heavens.

²⁵ When he established the force of the wind
and measured out the waters,

²⁶ when he made a decree for the rain
and a path for the thunderstorm,

²⁷ then he looked at wisdom and appraised it;
he confirmed it and tested it.

²⁸ And he said to the human race,

“The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom,
and to shun evil is understanding.”

FEAR/YIRA/REVERENCE

WISDOM BEGINS WITH AN AWE OF GOD

FEAR OF THE LORD=SAVING FAITH

TURN AWAY FROM EVIL...REJECT IT

Proverbs 3:13-18 NIV

- ¹³ Blessed are those who find wisdom,
those who gain understanding,
¹⁴ for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than gold.
¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies;
nothing you desire can compare with her.
¹⁶ Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honor.
¹⁷ Her ways are pleasant ways,
and all her paths are peace.
¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her;
those who hold her fast will be blessed.

IF YOU ARE TRULY BORN AGAIN, YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE WISDOM OF GOD THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. NONE OF US MANIFEST THE FULL WISDOM OF GOD BUT IT SHOULD BE INCREASING IN MANIFESTATION AS WE GROW IN OBEDIENCE TO HIS WORD. HOW YOU LIVE IS A BAROMETER OF YOUR FAITH AND WISDOM.

HERE ARE THE WORDS OF JESUS

Matthew 7:24-27 NIV

- ²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who

hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

PRACTICE BEFORE THE STORM COMES
WISDOM IS DOING WHAT THE WORD SAYS TO DO...EVEN
WHEN IT'S UNCOMFORTABLE.... THE FOOLISH THINK THAT
GOING TO CHURCH OR A BIBLE STUDY, ECT. CHECKING THE
BOX, THEN BEHAVING LIKE THE WORLD IS NOT GOOD
ENOUGH. GOD IS THE GOD OF LOVE, GRACE, AND MERCY....
BUT HE IS ALSO HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS

James 3:14 NIV

¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

MOTIVES BEHIND EARTHLY WISDOM
ENVY/ZELOS/JEALOUSY, MORALLY CORRUPT ZEALOUS ILL WILL
SELFISH AMBITION/ERITHEIA/SELF SEEKING, ANTAGONISTIC

ANYONE WHO DIFFERS WITH THEM IS WRONG AND AN ENEMY
MY WAY OR THE HIGHWAY KIND OF SELF CENTEREDNESS
HUMAN WISDOM IS SELF FOCUSSED/LOOKING OUT FOR #1
EGO FULLFILLMENT...PRIDE

JAMES IS SAYING THAT IF YOU CARRY THESE THINGS IN YOUR
HEART, DO NOT BOAST THAT YOUR “SPIRIT LED” BECAUSE YOU
ARE LYING

DENY/PSEUDOMAI/ LIE, TO SPEAK UNTRUTHS

JAMES IS ASKING US TO LOOK AT OUR HEART

James 3:15 NIV

¹⁵Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FALSE WISDOM ARE OUR ENEMY

1. THE WORLD. 2. THE FLESH. 3. THE DEVIL

ONE IS MARKED BY THEIR OWN CURSE BY LIVING THIS WAY.
PRIDE AND SELF CENTEREDNESS WILL LEAVE YOU BANKRUPT
SPIRITUALLY, EMOTIONALLY, & RELATIONALLY BANKRUPT

James 3:16 NIV

¹⁶For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

RESULTS OF EVIL MOTIVES:

DISORDER/AKATASTASIA/REBELLION, CHAOS, CONFUSION
EVERY EVIL PRACTICE

THESE DESTROY UNITY, FELLOWSHIP, HARMONY, LOVE,
INTIMACY, AND PEACE

James 3:17 NIV

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

GODLY WISDOM'S MOTIVE IS FIRST PURE, FREE FROM ARROGANT SELF PROMOTION, FREE FROM ANY TYPE OF EVIL AGENDA

PURE/HAGNOS/INNOCENT.

PEACE-LOVING/EIRENIKOS/PEACEFUL WITH A FOCUS OF HAVING FREEDOM FROM EMOTIONAL WORRY AND FRUSTRATION

JAMES IS DRAWING FROM THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
MATTHEW CHAPTER 5

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

"Wise people know how to learn; they never seek knowledge for their own sake. They know how to talk; they speak the truth

in love. They know how to act; they pursue justice and evade evil. Perceptive people balance their words and actions. They say and do the right things at the right time for the right reasons. The discerning person soon realizes that biblical wisdom is more about practice than philosophy. Wise people live skillfully. They apply heavenly counsel to earthly conduct."

OUT OF OUR REVERENCE AND OBEDIENCE TO GOD, COMES GREAT WISDOM.... GODLY WISDOM CREATES PURPOSE, HEALING, BALANCE, PEACE, UNITY, AND LOVE IN ABUNDANCE

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