

Wisdom From Above or Below

James 3:13-18

Introduction

In his letter, James speaks a lot about the importance of Wisdom. James is known as the Proverbs of the New Testament. Proverbs is the book of Wisdom in the Old Testament.

Solomon wrote the dense book of Proverbs

1 Kings 3:6-15 He asked for wisdom therefore God gave it.

James 1:5 God gives wisdom liberally

The Divided Baby Story

Proverbs 3:13-18

Proverbs 4:4-8

Ecclesiastes = All is vanity

Jack Graham

"Wisdom is seeing things from God's perspective and making decisions based on that perspective"

Al Janssen's Prayer of Wisdom:

"Lord may I see what You see, hear what You hear, love what You love, hate what You hate, and feel what You feel."

Knowledge is achieved but wisdom is given from above

Mike Huckabee:

"You can google knowledge but wisdom is from above"

Everyone has an opinion but not everyone has wisdom.

Knowledge can pick things apart but wisdom puts things back together.

Jesus

Matthew 7 A wise man builds his house on a rock

Paul

1 Corinthians 1:24 Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God

Colossians 2:3 In Christ all treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden

James here looks closely at true fruits of Godly and worldly wisdom

Verse 13 Wisdom that is proven

1. Who is wise among you
2. Please stand up
3. If you are wise show me and prove it
4. True wisdom is shown in good conversation (conduct)
5. Our words and our works reveal wisdom

Verses 14-16 Wisdom from Below

1. Wisdom from below produces bitter envy
2. Wisdom from below produces strife in the heart
3. Wisdom from below give no glory when it is against the truth
4. The father of ungodly wisdom is Satan
5. He had bitter envy towards the glory of God
6. The first sin was conceived in wisdom from below
7. This wisdom is not from above
8. It is earthly
9. It is sensual
10. It is devilish
11. If a church has jealousy, envy, and strife there is confusion, envy, and strife
12. When it's all about who gets the credit then it from below
13. It is all about worship
14. Wisdom from above is about God getting the glory
15. Wisdom from below is about you getting the glory
16. We want the credit
17. This is how the world operates
18. Get yours
19. Politics, Hollywood, Athletics, Media

Verses 17-18 Wisdom from Above

1. Wisdom from God is pure
2. Wisdom from God is peaceable
3. Wisdom from above is gentle
4. Wisdom from above is easy to be entreated (reasonable)
5. Wisdom from above shows mercy
6. Wisdom from above produce good fruits
7. Wisdom from above loves everyone
8. Wisdom from above is real and genuine
9. The fruit of righteousness is sown in them that make peace
10. It is for the glory of God
11. It is not for our own selfish purposes
12. Godly wisdom is selfless

Conclusion:

1. Is everything you do for the self-promotion and to impress others
2. Do you serve simply to bring glory and pleasure to God
3. Is your wisdom from above or below
4. Look at the cross and the wisdom from above and below

Challenge:

1. Ask for the wisdom from above
2. Reject the wisdom from below