

“Learning How to Pass the Test of Having True Wisdom” 3/06/11 James 3:13-18

James- Pressing on Toward Spiritual Maturity

The spiritually mature will: 1) be patient in trials/testing; 2) practice the truth; 3) control the tongue; 4) be a peacemaker, not a trouble maker; 5) be prayerful in various challenges (Warren Wiersbe on book of James)

Who was the wisest man who ever lived? 1 Kings 3:5-12

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” Proverbs 9:10

“The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding” Job 28:28

“For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he” Proverbs 23:7 **ATTITUDE and CONDUCT**

Wisdom- not merely knowledge, but properly & effectively relating and applying truth to the actions of everyday life.

POINT 1- To pass the test we must understand the nature of wisdom from BELOW

A. The “wisdom” from below demonstrates an attitude of SELFISHNESS (3:14-15; Phil 2:3; Rom 8:7, 1 Cor 2:14, Jude 19, 1 Tim 4:1; 2 Cor 11)

ILL- M. Ed, ray cotton; Did you SEE, HEAR, KNOW

B. The “wisdom” from below demonstrates a conduct which is EVIL (3:16; James 1:8- unstable; worthless, no value)

Going Deeper *God wants us to check our attitude and conduct against worldliness!*

POINT 2- To pass the test we must understand the nature of wisdom from ABOVE

A. The wisdom from above demonstrates an attitude of PURITY (3:17a; unmixed, untainted, loyal to God’s word)

B. The wisdom from above demonstrates a conduct which is RIGHTEOUS
Peaceable- non-combative, non-pointy, agreeable, easy going
Gentle- considerate, lenient, not insistent, kind, tolerant
Reasonable- willing to submit, compliant, yielding
Full of mercy- intense concern and compassion for others in need
Full of good fruits- Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 5:9
Unwavering- fully committed, undeterred, decisive, consistent, impartial
Without hypocrisy- genuine, sincere, no pretense or guile

What is the wisest thing you have ever done? 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; Col 2:3

Going Deeper *God wants us to check our attitude and conduct to increase righteousness!*