

(From Homework?) How do we need to differentiate wisdom?

What are the 2 kinds of wisdom?

Eric's sermon on James 3 a month ago.

Worldly knowledge                      Gods reasoning for the practical and moral issues of life

Where are you?

Andrew Murray gave voice to the great danger of having a false wisdom when he said:

*Here is one of the reasons why the Church of Christ enters so little into the death of Christ; men do not want to believe that the curse of God is upon everything in them that has not died with Christ. People talk about the curse of sin, but they do not understand that the whole nature has been infected by sin, and that the curse is on everything.*

*My intellect, has that been defiled by sin? Terribly, and the curse of sin is on it, and therefore my intellect must go down into the death. Ah, I believe that the Church of Christ suffers more to-day from trusting in **intellect**, in **sagacity**, in **culture**, and in **mental refinement**, than from almost anything else. The Spirit of the world comes in, and men seek by **their** wisdom, and by **their** knowledge, to help the Gospel, and they rob it of its crucifixion mark.*

*Christ directed Paul to go and preach the Gospel of the cross, but to do it not with **wisdom** of words. The curse of sin is on all that is of nature.*

*If there be a minister who has delighted in preaching, who has done his very best, who has given his very best in the way of talent and of thought, and who asks, "Must that go down into the grave?" I say, "Yes, my brother, the whole man must be crucified."*

\*\*Let us slow down and spend **this** year seeking **real wisdom, instruction, prudence, understanding and discernment**. Let's turn back in our Bibles to the front pages where God gave us his written wisdom for our every moment. Todd Murray describes Wisdom as expertise in fearing God. DO you want to be an expert in Fearing God?

READ *James 3:13-18 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

Since Eric sliced us with the sword of the truth of what have you seen in yourself? Do you see more of an attitude of longing for others to worship you as the wise 4<sup>th</sup> member of the trinity? Or are you growing in purity, gentleness, reasonableness, mercy, unwavering predictability, and a lack of hypocrisy?

IS your wisdom shown in your walk and not just your words? If you lost all ability to speak tomorrow would wisdom be seen in you?

There is so much for us to learn and seek to understand when we ask God for the spirit of wisdom. We cannot even scratch the surface in these couple of week we will spend looking at it. This is a lifelong search for Hidden Treasure my friend.

Seeking the mind of Christ through His word-your thirst should grow and build throughout life so that even on your deathbed you are considering all that you still have to learn about the wisdom of our Great and Good God.

### **Chapter 1 verse 20 through 33**

#### **Intro to Lady Wisdom.**

Read verses.

Last week we heard from the Voice of Instruction as Solomon opened up the conversation with his son at his knee in the royal palace.

Secondly we heard from the Voice of Temptation as Solomon began by warning about the wicked friendships that lead one away from Gods wisdom for His children into wickedness.

Now in chapter 1 verse 20-33 we will hear the

#### Voice of **Salvation**

- In Proverbs Solomon uses the picture of a woman to represent both wisdom and folly. We will be calling them Lady Wisdom and Dame Folly. Who are Lady Wisdom and Dame Folly? Today we will meet Lady Wisdom in 1:20 and Dame Folly in 2:16
- Solomon uses Poetic device to attract his boys to wisdom. A Seductress draws. And Gods revelation of himself poetically to grab their attention.
- Warning section. Lady wisdom Pleads loudly as an evangelist, then offers counseling, then turns and judges. They laugh but then she laughs at them in an eternal sense. She's in the streets where the noisy milieu of life rages in our every moment.
- Dame Folly describes the lures of adulterating yourself to sin

From homework #7, what word or words did you conclude we can replace the word Wisdom with? The mind of Christ dedicated to living in a righteous way. Without God there is no wisdom.

Again, who exactly is this Lady Wisdom? God's wisdom applied to life's path

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

*Yet we do speak **wisdom** among those who are mature; a **wisdom**, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; but we speak God's **wisdom** in a mystery, the hidden **wisdom** which God predestined before the ages to our glory; the **wisdom** which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; .....*

*but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him." For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human **wisdom**, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. **For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.***

1 Corinthians 2:16 elaborates that wisdom is having "the mind of Christ." As we study this book, constantly keep before you that this **wisdom** is putting on the mind of Christ, in loving God and loving

others as He has prescribed. IT is the skill of applying God's knowledge of life and the fear of Him to our walk, our path. It is walking the road as Pilgrim did with the mind of Christ as learned in the pages of His diary.

And so Solomon calls his sons and, through inspiration, **us** to his knee and uses the picture of Lady Wisdom.

She is speaking on behalf of Yahweh to get us to change **now**. This is urgency!

20-21 Lady Wisdom cries out to us from the Head of the noisy street. God getting our attention She is after 3 unlikely types of people. People not looking for help-think they're ok. People we give up on because they won't listen or as you may find, people just like us. We need to shine the light into the corners of our hearts to see if one or all three of these are us.

**Naïve-casual and indifferent** Hearers not in a mood to listen. NO filter of truth. Easily seduced. Prone to wander. State of immaturity(ok when young but must grow) These naïve LOVE their simplicity and naivety. Casually lingering over their scripture with no life change.

**Foolish-stubborn and unteachable** Hears information and knowledge and despises it. Spiritual fool, not mental problem. Makes God his enemy to his desires.

**Scoffer-arrogant and incorrigible** Mocks the scripture. Cynic and skeptic. Suspicious of every point and command. Love to say things that undermine the scripture. Hate spiritual influence-delight and pleasure in their scoffing. I'm sure you can imagine people you've met that fit these descriptions. Reality is .....that we are all these people. But for the grace of God we are fully them right now. God calls into our darkness to wake us from the slumber of our sinful state.

22 Gets frustrated with their ignorance/distraction-How long?  
**What things distract us?** Media, life, like little kids attention spans, drugs/alcohol, sea of opinions in my own mind, lack off urgency(complacency-verse 32)

How many sermons will you hear, how many friends will talk to you, how many times will do a Bible study. I keep giving you good food and you keep choosing trash. How many times must I say.... Eventually you can trample grace too many times.

**23-25 The confrontation:**

Calls us to turn to her. Offer of Hope. Offer of grace. Strong correction usually causes us to run and hide. Hide and cover. Wisdom says, turn and embrace(repent). Humility. God can cut and heal. I will pour (gush) Ruah-my spirit-flood of grace, kindness, rebirth, help of spirit. Don't be stupid.

Study and obey and submit heart in believing truth by faith. Wrestle and coach your heart into yielding and grace and faith accomplish the work.

Like someone giving help to a mtn. Climber in distress-no I'll go my way, I'll figure it out.

**26-27 Chilling judgment**—Dangerous lady to ignore. Set in their sin-this is large rejection  
\*discipleship session with sons(ch4).

How to live now in light of what could happen.  
Seems harsh but **warning is love. The choice lies in our own hearts.**

Laugh: Holy contempt. Righteous grief and indignation. Vindication of God's righteousness  
Homework #4

### **28-32 Consequences**-- answer to homework #5

How do I avoid this? "I hated knowledge."

Love it. Make it your meditation.

29. Choose. Not a feeling.

Anxious to please Him and to avoid offending Him.

How you respond to His word. John 10, Romans 1

What happens to people who go to churches that don't preach the word/exposing their unbelief. \*Unbelievers think they're saved(assured). \*Believers want to respond, fill with guilt and lack assurance.

You are what you eat. You have eaten in judgment. Hosea 8:7

*Waywardness*: unbelief

*Complacency*: a fool who hears the truth and remains un-urgent.

15<sup>th</sup> century play proverb: "Hell has no fury like a woman scorned". Lady wisdom scorned.  
God rebuffed.

### **33 The reminder**

Listen-hear the word and obey. Trust in me by faith. Be secure.

What or how would this look like in our lives-

Urgency! Wake up boys!

Get serious about casual places in your spiritual walk

Softening to truth as a pattern of Your life.

### **Chapter 2 verses 1 through 22**

**"Your best life now"**. Obedience If/then

1. Walk: with God. 1-9. (Path verse 8)

Set of 4 conditional **IF** statements

**IF** you will receive my sayings and treasure my Commandments within you.

(**IF** you) make your ear attentive to wisdom, Incline your heart to understanding. (hearing implies obeying)

For **IF** you cry for discernment and lift your voice for understanding.

**If** you seek her as silver and search for her as for hidden treasure.

What attitudes are described here? Being:

Humble(1)                      Teachable(2)                      dependant Prayer(3)

Remember:

*Philippians 2:12-13 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*

**THEN** verses 5-22

**THEN** you will **discern** the fear of the Lord.

Benefits of obeying/Blessings:

And discover the **knowledge** of God.  
For the Lord gives **wisdom**  
From His mouth come **knowledge** and **understanding**  
He stores up sound **wisdom** for the upright  
He is a shield to those who walk in **integrity**  
**Guarding** the paths of **justice**  
And He **preserves** the way of His **godly** ones

**THEN** you will **discern** (righteousness and justice and equity and every good course.)

For **wisdom** will enter your heart (comprehension)

And **knowledge** will be pleasant to your soul (appetites)

**Discretion** will guard you, **understanding** will watch over you.

Isn't this why we are here? It goes well for the child of God who learns to trust AND obey!!!

2. Walk: with wicked 10-19. (Path verse 15)

Dame Folly she does not have to be loud. *We are naturally complacent, lazy, naïve and temptable.*

Dame Folly: The "unfaithful wife" of the prologue is a whore among men and a harlot against God (W-124)

Vs 17-The faithful husband is called "the companion of her youth". This is an example of \*metonymy\* Her husband is her teacher, personal friend, confidante, companion, comrade (W-122). Unfaithful woman refused to honor her commitment.

WE will talk more about this in chapter 5, but it is good to mention that our sexual life is married to our spiritual life.

1 Timothy 1:5 "But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

Homework question #11

3. Walk: with the righteous 20-22. (path verse 20) Homework #12

To live in the land/being cut off from the land is metonymy for Eternal Life.

We must seek to walk with the righteous.

Most people don't plan to be unfaithful, they simply don't see it coming and fall into the trap of another person. What causes this? Apathy and complacency of the fool.

What you are not actively pursuing you are sliding backwards towards your natural nature and fleshly wisdom.

IT is a ladder to climb the way of the righteous, but it is a greased slide to sin.

So then the one that is not actively pursuing righteousness will be living in self-wisdom which is earthly, natural and demonic. James 3:13-18

Jeremiah 17:9-10 "The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it? "I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds."

Let's end today with reviewing how you will actually have your best life now, my friends.

1. Listen to the call of **Wisdom** above the **noise**
2. Reject **waywardness** (Jerry sermon on spiritual drifting), hardhearted **unbelief** and **complacency** of the Naïve, Scoffers and Fools.
3. Listen with your **mind** and bend your **heart** to your creator who has your best in mind **Rom 8:28**
4. Avoid the path of the **wayward** that seduces you with **deception** that what is bad is actually good.
5. Seek diligently the path of wisdom, **life** and **righteousness** which is found in the mind of **Christ**.

The mind of Christ is found in this book, from cover to cover, and not just by mystical meditation of emptying your mind.

*1 Peter 2:1-2 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,*