

## THE WISDOM OF GOD

Holy Father, please give us the strength and fortitude to rely upon your wisdom and not our own. As we are never as wise as we may believe there is one truth and that comes from you and your wisdom not our own. So let us seek your Word, your wisdom and your truth as we make our daily walk through life.

As we venture through the attributes we move from His immutability to His wisdom. As Tozer likes to say, “we shall not seek to understand in order that we may believe but to believe in order that we may understand.” What is meant by this is that, as God-fearing individuals, we do not need proof that God is wise, we know that He is wise, and we simply wish to gain new perspective on this attribute. The unbelieving mind would not be convinced by any proof and the worshipping heart needs none. Furthermore, it doesn’t occur to the Christian that God should furnish proof of His wisdom, it is enough that He is God. The prophet Daniel had the right attitude when he said, “blessed be the name of God for ever and ever for wisdom and might are His.” Should we be the recipient of wisdom it is from Him that we receive it, it is not of our own.

We see this initially in the garden of Eden at the fall of man. Throughout scripture, wisdom when used of God and good men, always carries a strong moral connotation. It is conceived as being pure, loving, and good. In James 3:17, the half-brother of Jesus tells us what wisdom is “but the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy”. We see the temptation of man by Satan when he compels Adam and Eve to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The question was designed to suggest that God was not good and just because He restricted the eating of the fruit of the trees. In Deuteronomy 32:4, Moses had this to say within the hearing of the assembly of Israel “The Rock! His work is perfect, for His ways are just: A God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He.” It has been said by me and many others that He is God, and I am not, therefore, what He says goes. So, we can question His motives or actions all we wish but that doesn’t change the fact that He knows better than we do. God is unaffected by our opinions of Him, He does not need our approval and He is God whether we believe or agree, or we don’t.

So, if I seek wisdom concerning life or situation it would behoove me to seek it from the creator and distributor of wisdom who gives abundantly and then I will likely find the answer to my query within the Scripture. When I do seek and discover said wisdom it will be pure, peaceable, and gentle because it will have His will at the center of it. It will be reasonable because it will not have my selfish human character in mind. It will be merciful because vengeance does not belong to me it belongs to the Lord, and it will contain good fruits because

it will have His works within it. It will be unwavering because He does not sway one way or another, He is consistent in His Word unlike man who changes with the wind and whose mindset is contingent upon his environment. It will be without hypocrisy because it will not contradict itself or go against itself. It will be consistent because He devises perfect ends by perfect means all because He sees the end from the beginning so there is no need for Him to guess or conjecture. We have a chess match between the wisdom of God and the cunning of Satan that the serpent doesn't realize was over when it started.

So, rewinding back to the moral connotations, if God's wisdom is pure, loving, and good, can it be improved upon? No, an infinitely wise God works in such a manner that cannot be improved upon. This was previously discussed with the immutability of God. His wisdom was and is and will forever be. As we read in Genesis chapter one, "And God saw everything that He had made and behold it was very good", that includes you and me. As creations in His image, we could not be improved upon until we took it upon ourselves to acquire a wisdom akin to that of God's. His wisdom surpassed ours because He had the knowledge of foresight that we did not have. To be all wise, He is also all knowing. How often do we begin a project that falls short, start a business that doesn't work out, enter into a relationship that fall apart? These things are not an issue for God because He knew the outcome before we were created. We can take comfort in such things because no matter how things may look in this fallen world, all Gods acts are wrought in perfect wisdom. Our faith plays a crucial role in this because our faith dictates that we find rest in who God is. Isaiah 40:28 says this "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable." When we struggle to understand why things are the way that they are we remind ourselves that God is not worried, neither shall we be.

There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge. I've known many educated men who are fools, I've known many men who never went to college who far surpass me in the wisdom and know-how categories. Wisdom is not just knowledge, it is the know-how, and they are not mutually exclusive. Knowledge is not required to obtain wisdom nor is a person wise just because they possess knowledge. In other words, wisdom involves a healthy dose of sound judgement and the ability to make sound judgements about a subject while knowledge is simply knowing. Sometimes it is imperative that we recognize our lack of wisdom as it is not our job to win arguments but to win hearts and often times we simply aren't as wise as we would like to believe. Our job as Christians isn't always to explain but to proclaim. For example, by no means can we fully grasp all that God did at the cross. Peter says that not even the angels know. The best way is to repudiate our own wisdom and embrace His perfect wisdom. We are finite creatures with a failure to grasp the infinite and insistence upon seeing ahead is a hindrance to our growth. In Matthew 6:34 Jesus famously says not to worry about tomorrow because it will have it's own worries and each day has troubles of it's own. We do

not have the wisdom to comprehend what God has in store for tomorrow nor does He want us to assume the burden of that.

### QUESTION SECTION

1. Job chapters 12-14 give us his response to his friends. 12:13 says "With him are wisdom and might; to Him belong counsel and understanding." Which friend was this spoken to? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In 1 Corinthians 1, Paul refers to Jesus as the Wisdom of God twice and concludes with "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord". Paul got this from which prophet who said "let not a wise man boast of his wisdom" \_\_\_\_\_
3. In Ephesians chapter one, Paul refers to the beloved. Who is he referring to? \_\_\_\_\_
4. In Colossians chapter two, Paul refers to "God's mystery, that is Christ Himself, in whom are hidden... \_\_\_\_\_"
5. In Deuteronomy chapter four, Moses says that Mosaic law was not given to the nation of Israel as a burden but to distinguish her as wise and pleasing in the sight of God. At this time, they were in the plains of Moab. Who was the father of Moab?  
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Prov. 2:6; "For the Lord gives wisdom. From His mouth come knowledge and understanding."