

James 3:13-18

True Wisdom

October 3, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Solomon: - Wisdom is better than refined gold.

James 3:13-18 - 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. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, don't boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” doesn't come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. 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. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

Ten Characteristics of True Wisdom.

1. True wisdom is more than knowledge.

v. 13 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their *good life*.

Yourdictionary.com: **Knowledge is the information you've learned, while wisdom is the ability to use that knowledge in a profound way.**

2. True wisdom is humble.

v. 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*.

How are wisdom and humility connected?

Have you ever heard of the Dunning-Kruger Effect?

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Proverbs 9:8-9 - Correct a wise man, and he will love you. Instruct a wise man, and he will be wiser still.

3. True wisdom comes from God.

v. 17 - But the wisdom that comes from *heaven*...

4. True wisdom is pure.

v. 17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure;

Deuteronomy 4:1-2 - Listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you. *You shall not add to the word which I command you.*

v. 15 - Such “wisdom” doesn't come down from heaven but is *earthly, unspiritual, demonic.*

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5. True wisdom loves peace.

Romans 14:19 - Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

6. True wisdom is considerate.

v. 16 - Where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

7. True wisdom is open to reason.

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1 Samuel 25:28 - "Please forgive your servant's offense, for the LORD will surely make a lasting dynasty for my lord, because he fights the LORD's battles. May no evil be found in you as long as you live."

1 Samuel 25:32-33 - "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me this day! May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands."

8. True wisdom is full of mercy.

9. True wisdom is impartial.

Col. 3:11 - Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free. Christ is all that matters, and He lives in all of us.

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10. True wisdom is sincere.

Prov. 4:7 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

#1 - Conversion

1 Cor. 1:30 - It is because of Him that you're in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God.

#2 - Reverence

Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

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#3 - Scripture

Psalm 119:98-100 - *Your commands* make me wiser than my enemies, for they are my constant guide. Yes, I have more insight than my teachers, for I'm always thinking of *Your laws*. I'm even wiser than my elders, for I've kept *Your commandments*.

#4 - Prayer

James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

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Ten Characteristics of True Wisdom.

1. True wisdom is more than _____.

2. True wisdom is _____.

3. True wisdom comes from _____.

4. True wisdom is _____.

5. True wisdom loves _____.

6. True wisdom is _____.

7. True wisdom is _____.

8. True wisdom is _____.

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9. True wisdom is _____.

10. True wisdom is _____.

How can you get wisdom?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____