

James 3:13 (NLT)

If you are wise and understand God's ways,  
prove it by living an honorable life, doing  
good works with the humility that comes  
from wisdom.

## James 3:14-15 (NLT)

But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying.

[15] For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic.

James 3:16 (NLT)

For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

# **Wisdom From BELOW**

**James 3:13-16**

→ There is a **difference** between  
**WISDOM - KNOWLEDGE**

**Knowledge-** facts, information, and skills  
**LEARNED** through experience or education

**Wisdom-** having experience and good  
judgment in **APPLYING Knowledge**

James 3:1 (NIV)

**Not many** of you should  
**presume to be teachers....**

[13] Who is wise and understanding  
among you?

Let him **SHOW** it by his **good life**,  
by **deeds done** in the **humility**  
that comes from wisdom.

→ Talk is **CHEAP**

## **A Life of godly WISDOM Means...**

- not being **ARROGANT**
- being **TEACHABLE**
- total **OBEDIENCE**

**Bitter Envy** and **Selfish Ambition**

**ALWAYS**

**destroy spiritual life and work.**

Expositor's

**Worldly Wisdom** measures everything by how it affects you. It's concerned with how you can **advance yourself, promote yourself, or assert yourself.** CCE

→ Satan has challenged the **Wisdom**  
of **GOD** from the **Beginning**

[15] This is **NOT** the **wisdom** that comes  
down from **above**, but is **earthly**,  
**unspiritual**, **demonic**. (ESV)

Genesis 3:1 (NLT)

**The SERPENT** was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “**Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from ANY of the trees in the garden?**”

Genesis 3:4–5 (NLT)

**You won't die!** the serpent replied  
to the woman. God knows that your  
eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it,  
**and you will be LIKE God...**

[13] **Who is wise** and understanding  
among you? **Let him show it**  
by his **good life, by deeds done**  
**in the humility** that comes  
from wisdom.

Acts 5:3-4 (NLT)

...Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. [4] The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away.

How could you do a thing like this?

**You weren't lying to us but to God!**

**True Wisdom** makes  
**NO ROOM** for bitter envy  
or for selfish ambition.

Matthew 6:19-20 (NIV)

Do not **STORE UP** for yourselves **TREASURES** on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. [20] But **STORE UP** for yourselves **TREASURES** in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)

For **WHERE** your **TREASURE IS**,  
there your **HEART** will **BE** also.

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

**But SEEK FIRST His kingdom**  
**and His righteousness,**  
and all these things will be given  
to you as well.