

## Wisdom from ABOVE ~ James 3:16-18

→Scripture Reading James 3.13, 16, 17-18

### INTRODUCTION

→Worldly Wisdom or godly Wisdom?

A godly life cannot be developed in a climate of bitter-envy and selfish-ambition which is fostered by wisdom from BELOW. PTW

**Romans 8:8** (NIV) Those CONTROLLED by the sinful nature cannot please God.

### WISDOM from ABOVE is Really all About... ~ James 3:16-18

[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 raise a harvest of righteousness.

The godly person's heart is PURE in its unmixed devotion to God. PTW

**Isaiah 26:3** (HCS) You will keep the mind that is DEPENDENT on You in perfect PEACE, for it is trusting in You.

PEACE is way more than the absence of conflict or strife it includes FULLNESS that does not depend on external circumstances. NLTSB

The gentle person does not deliberately cause fights, but neither does he compromise the truth in order to keep peace. Wiersbe

People who are faithful are fruitful. God's WISDOM does not make a life empty; it makes it full. Wiersbe

Wisdom from above brings strength from above. Wiersbe

**Rom 12.9** (NIV) Love must be SINCERE. Hate what is evil; CLING to what is good.

Godly wisdom is living without scheming. Wiersbe

**Matt. 5:9** (NIV) Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS, for they will be called sons of God.

**Isaiah 32:17** (NIV) The FRUIT of righteousness will be PEACE; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

Righteousness cannot be produced in the climate of bitter-envy and selfish-ambition fostered by wisdom from below. Righteousness can only grow in a climate of PEACE. PTW

### IMPLICATIONS

→As Christians we Cannot JUSTIFY or GLORIFY living by Worldly Wisdom

**Luke 6:27-28** (NIV) But I tell you who hear ME: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

**We Live for HIM by...**

- LOVING your enemies
- Doing GOOD to those who HATE us
- BLESSING those who CURSE us
- PRAYING for those who MISTREAT us

## → Wisdom from Above is about the Holy Spirit having CONTROL

[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.

**Romans 8:8** (NIV) Those CONTROLLED by the sinful nature cannot please God.

**2 Thessalonians 1:11** (NLT) So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to ENABLE you to live a life worthy of his call. May HE give you the power to ACCOMPLISH all the good things your faith prompts you to do.

**Matthew 11:28-30** (NIV) Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] Take MY YOKE upon you and LEARN from ME, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For MY yoke is easy and MY burden is light."

## → There is a Difference between HATING CONFLICT and being a PEACEMAKER

**Romans 12:18** (NIV) IF it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at PEACE with everyone.

**Romans 12:21** (NIV) Do not be overcome by evil, but OVERCOME evil with GOOD.

## TAKE AWAY ??

### Peace WITH God

**Romans 5:1-2** (NIV) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we HAVE Peace WITH God through our Lord Jesus Christ...

### Peace OF God

**Philippians 4:6-7** (NIV) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. [7] And the Peace OF God, which transcends ALL understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds IN Christ Jesus.

**James 1:2** (NIV) Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face TRIALS of many kinds...

- Will we go to God in DEPENDENCE
- Will we go to God with DEMANDS

**James 1:5** (NIV) If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ASK God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.