



## Lesson 7: Desire to Acquire Wisdom (3:13-18)

The Bible makes it clear that wisdom is far more valuable than treasures, health, and power. In fact, Proverbs 8:11 says, “all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.” Yet, even though the Bible makes it very clear that wisdom is far more valuable than rubies, and gold, and any other thing we still hear very few messages on it. The very essence of Scripture is a comparison between wisdom from above – mentioned in verse \_\_\_ – and wisdom from below – mentioned in verse \_\_\_.

There needs to be a premium placed on the importance of wisdom. And although we would all like to think we are wise James raises this question: “Who among you is \_\_\_\_\_?” Wisdom is a treasure. The only way this treasure can be obtained is if the Spirit of God meets with us in a very special way and helps us to understand that which this passage is trying to convey.

Today let us desire to acquire wisdom. Godly wisdom is of such great importance every Christian must make it his top \_\_\_\_\_ to attain it.

### YOU NEED TO RECOGNIZE THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GODLY WISDOM

James is a master wordsmith who uses questions to prick the heart. Here he starts with a question given to alert us to true wisdom: “Who is wise?”

#### A. Wisdom is displayed through your \_\_\_\_\_ (“Conversation”)

It is in the even flow of your daily activities that your wisdom is on display. The course of the wise man’s daily living is distinctly different because he is distinctly different.

#### B. Wisdom is displayed through your \_\_\_\_\_ (“\_\_\_\_\_”)

Let him who claims to be wise show it not only in one field but in all fields, not only on one side of his character but in all sides of what makes him who he is. James is concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ more than just about \_\_\_\_\_.

### YOU NEED TO RECOGNIZE THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ WISDOM

When we come to verse fourteen the Word of God is used as a mirror which allows our hearts to be truly seen.

#### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the disease (v. 14)

The man who has been infected with the disease of false wisdom is filled with “bitter jealousy.” He possesses a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ heart. He is controlled by “selfish ambition.” His motivation extols such virtues as power, privilege, and prestige.

#### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the disease (v. 15)

This wisdom is secular – it is earthly, sensual, and devilish. Earthly wisdom is spawned by demons. It is reflective of sensual feelings, and goes no further than the \_\_\_\_\_ of mankind.

#### C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the disease (v. 16)

The result is confusion and every evil work. Only chaos and catastrophe can come from false wisdom

### YOU NEED TO \_\_\_\_\_ A DESIRE TO ACQUIRE TRUE WISDOM

James has already give us an incredible promise concerning wisdom in 1:1

#### A. The godly \_\_\_\_\_ of true wisdom (v. 17)

It’s first “\_\_\_\_\_.” The word implied sincere moral spiritual character. Isn’t it interesting that its only “\_\_\_\_\_” after it’s “pure.”

#### B. The godly \_\_\_\_\_ of true wisdom (v. 18)

The fruit of earthly wisdom is “confusion and every evil deed,” but the fruit of heavenly wisdom consists in \_\_\_\_\_.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

James follows a clear line of thinking. If one professes to be a Christian he must prove it by living like a Christian.

You ask yourself: Do I? Do I have the wisdom from God? The answer is not anything other than what is the character of your life.

In all you do you must \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom.