



The Wisdom of the Faithful

James 3:13-18

- 1) Intro: If offered one thing by God...? (2 Chron. 1:7-13; cf. Jas. 1:5)
- 2) Who is the wise, understanding Christian? (3:13)
 - a) He who professes Christ accompanied by good works
 - i) Enduring life's trials w/ joy (1:2-12)
 - ii) Resisting sinful temptations (1:13-18)
 - iii) Responding positively to God's Word (1:19-27)
 - iv) Rejecting prejudice, loving all (2:1-13)
 - v) Acting kindly toward those in need (2:14-26)
 - vi) Taming the tongue which reflects the heart (3:1-12)
 - b) Possessing gentleness in character (cf. Matt 5:5; Gal 5:23; 2 Tim 2:24)
- 3) Who is the pseudo-Christian? (3:14-16; cf. John 8:23, 44; 1 John 3:10)
 - a) Angry & discontented; unable to acknowledge the truth; victim
 - b) Wisdom is *earthly, natural, demonic*
- 4) What does heavenly wisdom look like? (3:17-18)
 - a) Pure: morally innocent
 - b) Peaceable & gentle: amiable & humble; not pugilistic (Matt 5:8-9)
 - c) Reasonable: teachable (cf. Gen. 13); open to correction
 - d) Merciful w/ good fruits: refusing to judge; showing grace
 - e) Unwavering: fixed, firm godly principles
 - f) Without hypocrisy: consistent; sincere