



How to Have Godly Wisdom

James 3:13-18

James 3:13-14, *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. But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying.*

Proverbs 4:5-9, *Get wisdom; develop good judgment. Don't forget my words or turn away from them. 6 Don't turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you. Love her, and she will guard you. 7 Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment. 8 If you prize wisdom, she will make you great. Embrace her, and she will honor you. 9 She will place a lovely wreath on your head; she will present you with a beautiful crown."*

1. How many of you have ever known uneducated folks who were very wise?

1 Corinthians 1:27, *but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the*

wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong. NASB

I. Do you have worldly wisdom? James 3:15-16

James 3:15, *For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic.*

A. Unspiritual. James 3:15

James 3:16, *For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.*

B. Jealous. James 3:16; Proverbs 14:30

Proverbs 14:30, *A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones.*

C. Selfish. James 3:16

II. Do You Have Divine Wisdom (from God)? James 3:17-18

A. Pure. James 3:17a; 1 John 3:2-3

James 3:17a, *But the wisdom from above is first of all pure...*

1 John 3:2-3,...for we will see him as he really is. **3** And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.

B. Peaceable. James 3:17b

James 3:17b, ... It is also peace loving...

C. Gentle. James 3:17c; Titus 3:1-2

James 3:17c, ...gentle at all times...

Titus 3:1-2, Remind the believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good. **2** They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone.

D. Unselfish. James 3:17d; 1 COR 13:4-6

James 3:17d, ...willing to yield to others....

1 Corinthians 13:4-6, Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. **6** It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.

E. Merciful. James 3:17e

James 3:17e, ... It is full of mercy and good deeds...

F. Impartial. James 3:17f; James 2:9

James 3:17f, ...It shows no favoritism...

James 2:9, But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

G. NOT hypocritical. James 3:17g

James 3:17g, ...and is always sincere...

James 3:14, But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying.

H. Fruitful. James 3:18; Galatians 5:22

James 3:18, And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

Galatians 5:22, But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

APPLY GOD'S WORD:

- 1. Are you counting on your wisdom to earn God's approval?**
- 2. Is the wisdom in your life indicative of demonic or divine wisdom?**
- 3. What does the fruit of your life say about your relationship with Christ?**
- 4. What is He leading you to do in response to what we have just learned?**