

James 3:13-18

1. The identity of the _____ ([James 3:13-14](#))

A. The wise are those who have _____.

σοφός (sophos) - wise, _____, expert

ἐπιστήμων (epistēmōn) - _____, understanding, learned

i. Wise conduct results in _____.

ii. Wise conduct is a _____ witness, not just a _____ attitude.

B. The characteristics of _____ “wisdom”

i. _____ jealousy

πικρός (pikros) - bitter, _____, resentful

ζῆλος (zēlos) - jealousy, envy, _____

ii. Selfish _____

ἐριθεία (eritheia) - selfish ambition, implying _____, want to fight with someone else

iii. _____ over the truth

iv. Being _____ to the truth

2. The _____ of false wisdom ([James 3:15-16](#))

A. False wisdom doesn't come from _____.

B. False wisdom is from _____ sources.

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

C. False wisdom results in _____ and every vile practice.

3. The wisdom that comes from _____ ([James 3:17](#))

A. Pure - ἁγνός (hagnos) - pure, _____

B. Peaceable - εἰρηνικός (eirēnikos) - free from _____

C. Gentle - ἐπιεικής (epieikēs) - _____

- D. Open to reason - εὐπειθής (*eupeithēs*) - _____, open minded
- E. Full of _____
- F. Good _____
- G. Impartial - ἀδιάκριτος (*adiakritos*) - not _____, unwavering, straightforward
- H. Sincere - ἀνυπόκριτος (*anypokritos*) - _____, without hypocrisy
4. The _____ of heavenly wisdom ([James 3:18](#))
- A. A Harvest of _____
- B. Sown in _____

Discussion Questions

1. The passage contrasts "wisdom that comes from heaven" with "earthly, unspiritual, demonic" wisdom. What are the key characteristics James uses to differentiate these two types?
2. James states that earthly wisdom leads to "bitter envy and selfish ambition." How do these manifest in individuals and communities? Can you think of examples?
3. What does James mean when he says that where envy and selfish ambition exist, there is "disorder and every vile practice"? How do these negative traits create such outcomes?
4. What does it mean to be "open to reason"? How does this contrast with being stubborn or unwilling to listen to others?
5. James emphasizes being "full of mercy and good fruits." How does true wisdom manifest in acts of compassion and kindness?
6. How can we cultivate the characteristics of heavenly wisdom in our own lives? What practical steps can we take?
7. How does this passage challenge common societal views on what it means to be wise or successful?