

Ephesians 1:8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence:

- Here we see the Apostle continuing his statement from verses 6-7.
- **Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;**
 - God has bestowed upon us:
 1. Made us acceptable in the Family of God
 2. Gave us redemption through his blood
 3. Forgiven our sins
 4. Gave us his rich grace
- So now we also get to participate in godly wisdom and understanding.
 - This is the key into Christian maturity.
 - We know as Christians that we are to read the scriptures but what we do with what we read is important.
 - God has come along side of our understanding.
 - He has entered our psyche to bring a godly element to our understanding.
 - This is the work of the Holy Spirit in us.
 - whenever someone ask me where they should start reading the bible I always tell them to take the first 31 days and read a proverb a day.
 - The reasoning behind this is the book of proverbs is a book of wisdom.
 - I want to point the person in the direction of godly wisdom in order for them to begin to realign their mind to function as a Christian.
 - If a person is asking where they should start then I know God is drawing them closer.
 - **Wisdom**-sophia-The trait of utilizing knowledge and experience with common sense and insight.
 - Some of the things that we did in our youth and pre-Christ days were just stupid.
 - We knew better but still acted the way we did.
 - Wisdom is the proper use of knowledge. So if you use the knowledge the wrong way that would make you a fool.
 - Wisdom is a cognitive trait.
 - People always say that gray hair means wisdom. I think that is a very wrong statement. Because wisdom just doesnt come.
 - Wisdom comes through shrewdness and positive outcomes of learning
 - Commonsense is utilized but the power to utilize common sense comes through the anointing on our lives.
 - God gives us the power to overcome our fleshly desires and responses to stimuli in order to get the optimal outcome.
 - Prudence-understanding (capacity) deals with cleverness and skill.
 - It is an illumination or spiritual highlights not as in highlights of moments but as if you were to use a highlighter to make sure your eyes move to a particular point of a text.
 - God illuminates aspects of our understanding to make us skillful and effective in the things he will have us to do.
 - It is a disposition of insight.
 - Godly understanding becomes apart of who you are.
- **Proverbs 9:10-18**
 - 10The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
 - 11 For through wisdom^[b] your days will be many, and years will be added to your life.
 - 12 If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.
 - 13 Folly is an unruly woman; she is simple and knows nothing.
 - 14 She sits at the door of her house, on a seat at the highest point of the city,
 - 15 calling out to those who pass by, who go straight on their way,
 - 16 "Let all who are simple come to my house!" To those who have no sense she says,

¹⁷ "Stolen water is sweet;
food eaten in secret is delicious!"

¹⁸ But little do they know that the dead are there,
that her guests are deep in the realm of the dead.