

THE LAWS OF INCREASE AND PROTECTION IN GOD'S KINGDOM

Part 5: The Law of Wisdom

Key Scriptures

[Proverbs 16:16](#) says, "How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!"

[Proverbs 4:7](#) ⁷Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

James 1:5-8 ⁵If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

⁶But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

⁷For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

⁸A double minded man is unstable in all his ways".

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

⁵If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of ^[a]the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally *and* ungrudgingly, without reproaching *or* faultfinding, and it will be given him.

⁶Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither *and* thither and tossed by the wind.

⁷For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord,

⁸[For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable *and* unreliable *and* uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].

Where does Godly wisdom come from?

Proverbs 2:6-13 (KJV)

⁶ For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

⁷ He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

⁸ He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

⁹ Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

¹⁰ When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

¹¹ Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

¹² To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things;

¹³ Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;..”

The difference between having knowledge wisdom and understanding?

Knowledge is the information you have learned, while wisdom is the ability to use that knowledge in a profound way. Wisdom goes beyond learning facts (knowledge) and includes making sense of those facts.

When you have wisdom, you have the ability to apply knowledge correctly. Some of the smartest people make some of the worst decisions.

Having wisdom does not mean having a high IQ. It also does not mean having a large amount of faith. You can have great faith without wisdom, and vice versa.

The two types of wisdom in the world

There is obviously a difference between godly wisdom and worldly wisdom (see [James 3:13–17](#)).

1. Worldly Wisdom
2. Godly Wisdom

Worldly Wisdom – Wisdom of this world

[First Corinthians 3:19](#) says, “For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight.” And verse 20 says, “The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile.”

James 3:14-16

¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy (envy) and contention (rivalry, selfish ambition) in your hearts, do not pride yourselves on it and thus be in defiance of *and* false to the Truth.

¹⁵ This [superficial] wisdom is not such as comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual (animal), even devilish (demoniacal).

¹⁶ For wherever there is jealousy (envy) and contention (rivalry and selfish ambition), there will also be confusion (unrest, disharmony, rebellion) and all sorts of evil *and* vile practices.

Worldly wisdom is not concerned about honoring God but with pleasing oneself. With worldly wisdom, we may become educated, street-smart, and have “common sense” that enables us to play the world’s game successfully. Godly wisdom enables us to prepare ourselves for eternity.

Godly Wisdom – The wisdom from above

Godly wisdom may look very different from worldly wisdom. Jesus highlighted these differences in His [Sermon on the Mount](#) ([Matthew 5—7](#)).

For example, He said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in

heaven.” Godly wisdom often requires us to do that what is opposite our natural inclinations. Godly wisdom goes against the “conventional wisdom” of the day; it is not focused on self-preservation but on furthering the kingdom of God. We can only live in godly wisdom when we are committed to crucifying our flesh and living in the Spirit (see [Galatians 2:20](#); [Ephesians 5:16, 25](#)).

Let us look at James 3:17-18 (AMPC)

¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first of all pure (undefiled); then it is peace-loving, courteous (considerate, gentle). [It is willing to] yield to reason, full of compassion and good fruits; it is wholehearted *and* straightforward, impartial *and* unfeigned (free from doubts, wavering, and insincerity).

¹⁸ And the harvest of righteousness (of conformity to God’s will in thought and deed) is [the fruit of the seed] sown in peace by those who work for *and* make peace [in themselves and in others, that peace which means Godly wisdom is, of course, from God and honors God. Godly wisdom starts with the fear of God and results in a holy life. (concord, agreement, and harmony between individuals, with undisturbedness, in a peaceful mind free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts).

With godly wisdom, we trade earthly values for biblical values ([1 John 2:15–16](#)). We recognize we are citizens of another kingdom, and we make choices that reflect that allegiance ([Philippians 1:27](#); [3:20](#)). Having godly wisdom means we strive to see life from God’s perspective and act accordingly.

How do we gain Godly wisdom

The primary way we gain godly wisdom is by learning God’s Word ([Psalm 119:169](#)). “The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple” ([Psalm 119:130](#)). No one is born wise; we must acquire wisdom from God if we are to be truly wise: “Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts” ([Psalm 119:98–100](#)).

[Colossians 3:16](#) says, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns

and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Immersion in God’s Word produces a heart of worship and thanksgiving. That heart of worship becomes fertile soil for seeds of wisdom to grow. Jesus prayed to the Father: “Sanctify them by your truth; [your word is truth](#)” ([John 17:17](#)). He wants His followers to be set apart from the world, making godly choices and living godly lives ([1 Peter 1:15](#)). We can only do that when His Word lives in us.

We can also develop godly wisdom by carefully selecting those who journey through life with us: “Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm” ([Proverbs 13:20](#)). Paul instructed the Corinthians to “imitate me as I imitate Christ” ([1 Corinthians 4:16](#); [11:1](#)). Those who want godly wisdom will choose for their heroes those who exhibit wisdom in their personal lives.

Scripture tells us to ask for godly wisdom: “But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him” ([James 1:5](#)). God wants us to have His wisdom. He is delighted to give it to us when our hearts are set to receive it. However, James goes on to say, “But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways” (verses 6–8). God knows the position of our hearts. When we are committed to trusting Him and obeying His Word, He pours out His wisdom on us (see [Jeremiah 29:13](#)). But if we want to retain the right to disobey, we are double-minded and may not receive the wisdom we ask for.

[Solomon](#) received godly wisdom when he asked the Lord for it ([2 Chronicles 1:10–11](#)). He became known for his great wisdom, yet, in his later years, he turned away from following the wisdom he’d been given. He disobeyed the Lord and even began to worship idols ([1 Kings 11:1–11](#)). Receiving wisdom did not insure that Solomon would follow the path of wisdom. Sadly, he exchanged his godly wisdom for worldly wisdom, and he suffered for it.

The Bible says in Proverbs 4:6-7, “Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. **Wisdom is supreme; therefore, get wisdom.**”

Knowing that wisdom is available as a source of protection, we would do well to spend a little time meditating on Bible verses about wisdom.

How does godly wisdom benefit us?

Walking in wisdom helps us to make the right choices for our lives and protects us (Proverbs 2:11-16; 29:8). It equips us to handle difficult situations and relationships.

Wisdom helps you work smarter, not harder (Ecclesiastes 10:10). Those who have God's wisdom will show it in the way that they live.

Wisdom is of **great importance** in our lives, as it helps us to deal with things in the best possible way to achieve the best results that a person seeks, taking into account all the possibilities that may arise to change the order of priorities and thus change the goal-seeking behavior.

Conclusion: When you have Godly wisdom, you have access to two sides of knowledge about God – knowledge of who God is and the knowledge of the workings and principles of God.