

JUNE 10, 2007

JAMES 3:13-14

Your **relationship** to God is revealed by the kind of wisdom you live out.

“*understanding*” – **specialist** or a professional who is highly skilled in some area of knowing and doing

“*wisdom*” – ability to apply knowledge to the matter of living life

Wisdom is **truth lived out**.

How?

“*good life*” – good **lifestyle**, if you are wise its going to affect the way you live your **entire** life

“*by deeds*” – the specifics of **daily** life

If you are really wise, your life is going to be characterized by goodness that people can **see**.

“*humility that comes from wisdom*” – your **attitude** in what you do; submitted to the **control** of God

Philippians 2:3-4

Look at **what** you do.

Look at **how** you do it.

Look at **why** you do it.

“*bitter envy*” – self-centeredness that produces basically a **resentful** attitude toward everyone else

“*selfish ambition*” – **personal** gratification at any cost

If you are motivated by bitter envy or selfish ambition, stop claiming to have wisdom which you're not **living** because you are denying the **truth**.

Practical Application:

When you make decisions ask:

- 1) Is this in obedience to what I know is in **Scripture**?
- 2) Am I doing this for **selfish** reasons?

When James says “*who is wise among you*,” he is setting up a **test** of authentic faith. If your faith is real, you will have godly **wisdom**.

Proverbs 9:10

Psalms 11:10

John 16:13

2 Corinthians 1:22

1 Corinthians 1:30

If your faith is authentic, your life will be a consistent pattern of you **applying** what you know of God's Word.