

JUNE 17, 2007

JAMES 3:15-18

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

Verse 15:

“**earthly**” – its extent is **limited** to time and space; you aren’t thinking about **God’s** goals, about God’s standards, about God’s desires

“**unspiritual**” – **sensual**, fleshly; belongs to the natural world; all of the **feelings**, impulses, & appetites that flow from man’s unsanctified heart

Every time we substitute the filth or even the best of this **world** for the holiness and glory of **God** in our lives, that is the wisdom we are living.

“**of the devil**” – **Satan** is the prince and the power of the air and the ruler of this world system and this wisdom is of his character and finds its **source** in him.

Verse 16:

“**disorder**” – (1:8, 3:8) – confusion that comes from **instability**; creates strife, **conflict**, & restlessness

“**every evil practice**” – **useless**, worthless; there will never be any true gain coming from it

You live your life for **yourself** & make decisions based on the world’s wisdom and 1) you are going to have all kinds of **pain** & conflict and 2) you are going to accomplish nothing that is **worthwhile**.

Verse 17:

“**pure**” – talking about **motive**: sincere spiritual **integrity**; the deepest part of a believer **wants** to do God’s will, wants to serve God, wants to love God.

“**peace-loving**” – promotes peace because it isn’t **selfish**

“**considerate**” – **gentle**; an attitude of humility, courteousness, kindness, patience

“**submissive**” – reasonable, willing to yield, **teachable**

“**full of mercy**” – concern for people who suffer expressed in **forgiveness** and **compassion**

“**good fruit**” – **works** that honor God

“**impartial**” – **undivided** in commitment

“**sincere**” – without hypocrisy, **authentic**

Verse 18:

True spiritual wisdom is not what you **know**; it is the way you live your **life**.

As you sow the fruit of righteousness, it produces **more** righteousness.

Wisdom comes **from** God **through** a relationship **into** your life.

- 1) Recognize that wisdom comes from **God**
(James 3:17, 1:5; Proverbs 8:22-23)
- 2) You must have a right **relationship** with God
(Psalm 111:10a)
- 3) Wisdom is perfected by **obedience**
(Psalm 111:10b)

Godly, true wisdom is ours if:

We know God

We fear God

We obey God