

The Wisdom from Above

How can I better demonstrate God's wisdom?

"¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." - James 3:13-18

"The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young." - Proverbs 1:1-4

Earthly, demonic "wisdom" and wisdom from above.

Wisdom is something we demonstrate in three ways: a good life, deeds done in humility, and humility that comes from wisdom.

"Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18

"... peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere."

"... (harboring) bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice." James 3:14-16

People outside the church are watching us.

"² You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone." - II Corinthians 3:2

"... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:16.

It is heaven sent wisdom when we ask heaven to send it. It doesn't happen by default: the acquisition of godly wisdom is intentional - I have to ask for it.

“Create in me a pure heart, O God ... Show me your ways, Lord; teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me.” - Psalms 51 and 25

1. *Feel the need*
2. *Prepare our hearts*
3. *Expect an answer*