

Wisdom from Above is Not False to the Truth, v. 14-16

I. Wisdom from above is meek and lowly. It is from a true knowledge of ourselves as helpless and sinful creatures in light of a Holy and Almighty God.

A. In contrast to false wisdom that arises from our sinful nature, which is self-reliant and independent of God.

A.1. It begins in the heart. The heart needs to be changed (Matt. 5.5).

What is false wisdom or worldly wisdom?

A.1.a) First, it is earthbound. It is only concerned with the here and the now.

A.1.b) Second, it is unspiritual. It is sensual and bodily only. It is against the spiritual man; the new man in Christ (Col. 3.10).

A.1.c) Thirdly, it is demonic (2.19). It is full of disorder, unrest, unsettled and never satisfied, always roaming seeking someone to devour and control as jealousy and ambition requires.

(A.1.c.1) It leads to every vile practice unlike our God who is undivided, who is not a God of confusion or disorder but a God of peace (1 Cor. 14.33).

Wisdom from Above is Peaceable, v. 17-18

I. He gives us a list of eight characteristics similar to Paul's list describing the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5.22-23). It begins with purity and the rest fall under this umbrella.

A. It is peaceable or peace-loving; not jealous or envious or fierce; gentle, mild, equitable or considerate of others not selfish; open to reason, compliant, easily obeying or easily persuaded, submissive in the non-essentials without the need to demand strict claims or exaggerate one's own position; "full of mercy and good fruit" (Matt. 5.7).

A.1. It is to be impartial, like God, transparent and sincere. Such are those who are reliable and trustworthy giving proper advice.

A.1.a) He is describing the Christian who bears much fruit as Jesus says he would (John 15.8). They reflect their covenant-keeping God. **They are peacemakers.**

(A.1.a.1) They are those who have received the gospel of peace. The peace that has been made between the sinner and God through Jesus Christ and they have been made wise unto salvation (2 Tim. 3.15).

II. Application.

A. This wisdom that sows peace can only come from God. It is not self-made or earthly. It is spiritual.

A.1. What is driving our discussions, arguments and agendas? Is it a lust for power, control or selfish ambition? Or is it for the good of others and/ or the body of Christ?

A.1.a) The opposite of our selfish ambition is what makes for peace. Anger, jealousy and selfish ambition can only reap ungodliness, disorder and every vile practice.

(A.1.a.1) It is not following the pattern of our Lord who served in meekness and gentleness in order to redeem his people. He was the ultimate Peacemaker. He is the all-wise God in the flesh, who gives wisdom and peace to those who ask him. Amen.