

## **Gaining True Wisdom Pt.3**

### **I. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom!**

#### **Four worldly philosophies...**

- 1. INDIVIDUALISM – I live for myself.**
- 2. SECULARISM – God is not necessary.**
- 3. RELATIVISM – There is no absolute truth.**
- 4. TOLERANCE – All ideas are equally right and true; politically correct.**

### **II. We can learn true wisdom from those who fear the Lord!**

#### **Challenge 1: Learn from those who fear the Lord!**

**Challenge 2: As someone who fears the Lord, you also invest yourself into someone else who needs to grow in the Lord.**

**Challenge 3: Parents, teach your children to fear the Lord!**

### **III. Why is God's wisdom so needed?**

Proverbs 1:1-6 (MSG)

[1] These are the wise sayings of Solomon, David's son, Israel's king—

[2] Written down so we'll know how to live well and right, to understand what life means and where it's going;

[3] A manual for living, for learning what's right and just and fair;

[4] To teach the inexperienced the ropes and give our young people a grasp on reality.

[5] There's something here also for seasoned men and women,

[6] still a thing or two for the experienced to learn—Fresh wisdom to probe and penetrate, the rhymes and reasons of wise men and women.

**1. God's Wisdom puts us on the right path pointing us in the right direction!**

- WISDOM: Thinking according to God's truth; knowledge applied at the right time and place.
- DISCIPLINE: Self-controlled; willing to accept correction.

## **2. God's Wisdom gives us God's perspective and insight on life!**

Proverbs 1:3 (MSG) - "A manual for living, for learning what's right and just and fair"

Colossians 3:2 (ESV) - Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Colossians 3:2 (MSG) - Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.

## **3. God's Wisdom teaches us how not to do stupid stuff!**

Proverbs 1:4 (ESV) - to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth.

Proverbs 1:4 (MSG) - "To teach the inexperienced the ropes and give our young people a grasp on reality".

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (ESV)

1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,

2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 and all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

7 Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play."

8 We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

9 We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents,

10 nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

11 Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

12 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (MSG) - Remember our history, friends, and be warned. All our ancestors were led by the providential Cloud and taken miraculously through the Sea. They went through the waters, in a baptism like ours, as Moses led them from enslaving death to salvation life. They all ate and drank identical food and drink, meals provided daily by God. They drank from the Rock, God's fountain for them that stayed with them wherever they were. And the Rock was Christ. But just experiencing God's wonder and grace didn't seem to mean much—most of them were defeated by temptation during the hard times in the desert, and God was not pleased. The same thing could happen to us. We must be on guard so that we never get caught up in wanting our own way as they did. And we must not turn our religion into a circus as they did—"First the people partied, then they threw a dance." We must not be sexually promiscuous—they paid for that, remember, with 23,000 deaths in one day! We must never try to get Christ to serve us instead of us serving him; they tried it, and God launched an epidemic of poisonous snakes. We must be careful not to stir up discontent; discontent destroyed them. These are all warning markers—danger!—in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel—they at the beginning, we at the end—and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were. Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence. No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it.

#### **4. God's Wisdom increases and grows in our lives; the wise can become wiser.**

Proverbs 1:5-6 (MSG) - There's something here also for seasoned men and women, still a thing or two for the experienced to learn—Fresh wisdom to probe and penetrate, the rhymes and reasons of wise men and women.

James 1:5 (NLT) - If you need wisdom—if you want to know what God wants you to do—ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking.

#### **IV. We must answer wisdom's cry!**

Proverbs 1:20-21 (ESV)

20 Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice;  
21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

1 Corinthians 1:24 (NLT) - "Christ is the mighty power of God and the wonderful wisdom of God".

Proverbs 5:21-23 (MSG)

[21] Mark well that God doesn't miss a move you make; he's aware of every step you take.

[22] The shadow of your sin will overtake you; you'll find yourself stumbling all over yourself in the dark.

[23] Death is the reward of an undisciplined life; your foolish decisions trap you in a dead end.