

## Faith Takes Grit: The Power of Pure Biblical Wisdom

James 3:13-18

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Read: James 3:13-18

Biblical wisdom is not just intellectual, it is behavioral. vv. 13, 17

- How does wisdom show up in your *personal behavior*?
- How *can meekness and greatness go hand in hand*? Don't they contradict each other?
- How has James described wisdom previously? (James 1:5-8)
- What is the *difference between knowledge and wisdom*?
- How does the *world define wisdom*?

Wisdom from above is pure.

Pure biblical wisdom is peaceable.

Pure biblical wisdom is gentle.

Pure biblical wisdom is open to reason.

Pure biblical reason is full of mercy.

Pure biblical wisdom is full of good fruits.

Pure biblical wisdom is impartial.

Pure biblical wisdom is sincere.

**Test time:** Score yourself 0-8. 8 = you exhibit all of these traits quite regularly in your life.

0 = goose egg. How well do you score with exhibiting these, on a daily basis, in your life? Ask somebody who knows you well if they agree with your score.

Biblical wisdom will exude purity and peacefulness rather than jealousy and strife. – vv. 14-16

- How does James characterize 'earthly wisdom?' (Verse 3:14-16)
- What is the result of 'earthly wisdom?' Where does it lead? (Verse 3:16) Give an example, in your own life, of this.

Biblical Wisdom produces a life of harvest. V. 18

- How does James describe 'heavenly wisdom?' How does a wise person act? (Verse 3:17)
- What does heavenly wisdom produce? (Verse 3:18) What damage can bitter envy do to you?
- What about selfish ambition? (Hebrews 12:15) How does the gospel of Jesus help rid you of bitter envy and selfish ambition?
- Why is earthly wisdom "demonic"? Think of some modern-day examples of earthly, unspiritual, demonic wisdom.
- What is the difference between being a peacemaker and a peacekeeper? Which one is more difficult? What was Jesus? How did he display it? What scripture supports your answer?

Apply:

1. **Pray!** That the Holy Spirit will convict of the areas that you fall short in biblical wisdom and help grow you in those areas?
2. What are 3-4 specific things you can do this week to grow in biblical wisdom?
3. What can you do this week to specifically plant peace in a relationship or situation which has been bothering you? Name that relationship and have somebody hold you accountable to planting that seed.

