



# PURE WISDOM

## What Does Wisdom from Above Look Like?

Dr. Dave Currie

### James 3:13-18 NIV

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

<sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

### James 3:13-18 NLT

<sup>13</sup>If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don’t cover up the truth with boasting and lying. <sup>15</sup>For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. <sup>16</sup>For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

<sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. <sup>18</sup>And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

### James 3:13-18 TLB

<sup>13</sup>If you are wise, live a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds will pour forth. And if you don’t brag about them, then you will be truly wise! <sup>14</sup>And by all means don’t brag about being wise and good if you are bitter and jealous and selfish; that is the worst sort of lie. <sup>15</sup>For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, inspired by the devil. <sup>16</sup>For wherever there is jealousy or selfish ambition, there will be disorder and every other kind of evil.

<sup>17</sup>But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure and full of quiet gentleness. Then it is peace-loving and courteous. It allows discussion and is willing to yield to others; it is full of mercy and good deeds. It is wholehearted and straightforward and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness.

### James 3:13-18 TPT

“If you consider yourself to be wise and one who understands the ways of God, advertise it with a beautiful, fruitful life guided by wisdom’s gentleness. Never brag or boast about what you’ve done and you’ll prove that you’re truly wise. But if there is bitter jealousy or competition hiding in your heart, then don’t deny it and try to compensate for it by boasting and being phony. For that has

nothing to do with God's heavenly wisdom but can best be described as the wisdom of this world, both selfish and devilish. So, wherever jealousy and selfishness are uncovered, you will also find many troubles and every kind of meanness. But the wisdom from above is always pure, filled with peace, considerate and teachable. It is filled with love and never displays prejudice or hypocrisy in any form and it always bears the beautiful harvest of righteousness! Good seeds of wisdom's fruit will be planted with peaceful acts by those who cherish making peace."

### James 3:13-18 AMP

<sup>13</sup> Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good conduct show his [good] deeds with the gentleness *and* humility of *true* wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant, and [as a result] be in defiance of the truth. <sup>15</sup> This [superficial] wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly (secular), natural (unspiritual), *even* demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder [unrest, rebellion] and every evil thing *and* morally degrading practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure [morally and spiritually undefiled], then peace-loving [courteous, considerate], gentle, reasonable [and willing to listen], full of compassion and good fruits. It is unwavering, without [self-righteous] hypocrisy [and self-serving guile]. <sup>18</sup> And the seed whose fruit is righteousness (spiritual maturity) is sown in peace by those who make peace [by actively encouraging goodwill between individuals].

## 'MY WAY' CHARACTERISTICS

### My Way or Wisdom from Below or Superficial, Earthly, Secular, Unspiritual & Demonic Wisdom

- Bitterness
- Envy – Jealous
- Harboring – Lying – hiding who you really are – pretending to be what you are not.
- Selfishness – Selfish
- Ambition (Self-centered) – Ambition in your heart – competition to beat others
- Boasting – Bragging about Sin – worst sort of lies – Bragging – being a PHONY - Arrogant
- Denial of the Truth – defiance of the Truth
- Unspiritual – reflecting this world's thinking
- Inspired by the Devil

### RESULT

- Disorder – unrest, rebellion
- Every Evil Practice/actions. Many troubles. consistent meanness, morally degrading practice
- Selfish, disorderly lifestyle with many personal troubles, evil practices and hurtful to others

## 'HIS WAY' CHARACTERISTICS

### His Way or Wisdom from Above or Heavenly Wisdom or Spiritual Wisdom

- Pure – morally and spiritually undefiled
- peace-loving – quiet gentleness – filled with peace – gentleness - courteous
- considerate – gentle at all times – courteous – allows discussion
- submissive – willing to yield to others – teachable – humility – Reasonable – willing to listen
- full of mercy – filled with love and compassion
- Full of good fruit – good deeds

- Impartial – show no favouritism – whole-hearted/straight forward – shows no prejudice
- Sincere – no hypocrisy in any form, no self-serving guile, not self-righteous
- Peace-maker – cherishes making peace – encouraging goodwill between people

## **RESULT**

- Harvest of Righteousness, Goodness, beautiful harvest of righteousness
- Shown by good conduct
- A transformed lifestyle of right-living and right-loving – rewards for faithful sowing

## **CONCLUSION on PURE WISDOM:**

**Surrender your life to His Way!**

**Target Life Change by living His Way!**

**Measure Each Day against Living His Way!**

**Learn all you can about His Way!**

**All Your Relationships should Mirror His Way!**

**THAT IS PURE WISDOM – Wisdom from Above!**