

“James: Authentic Christianity (8) – Earthly Wisdom vs. Godly Wisdom” (3:13-18)

Some people are Intelligent, yet Blunt and Inconsiderate... Self-centeredness and Immaturity

**Spiritual Maturity is Essential
for living an Authentic Christian Lifestyle in a Pagan Culture**

**James’ Indictment of Believers’ Behavior:
Favoritism, Inconsistency of Faith and Deeds and Misuse of Tongues**

**Today: from Controlling the Tongues to Controlling the Thoughts
(James 3:13-18; Matt 15:18-20)...**

**Tongue is not contained by Human Intelligence or Will,
but by Wisdom that is Characterized by Humility, Grace and Peace**

I. Wisdom is Humble (3:13)

A. A Wise and Understanding person Shows it by his Life and Deeds

B. A Wise Man is Characterized by the Humility or Meekness; he practices Good Deeds not to seek the Praises of men, but to Glorify God

II. Wisdom is Gracious (3:14-15)

A. A Meek person of Wisdom does not seek Personal Glory or Gain, but is Gracious toward others

B. Earthly, Unspiritual, Demonic Wisdom Suppresses others and Promotes Self; it harbors Bitter Envy and Selfish Ambition, and is Boastful

Earthly Wisdom produces Disorder/Confusion, and every Evil Practice...

1. The Confusion at the Babel Tower (Gen 11:1-9)

2. The Worldly Wisdom Rejects the Gospel of God (Acts 17:31-32; 1 Cor 1:18)

When Believers follows Earthly Wisdom, the Church and Home will be characterized by Carnality, In-fighting, and the Absence of Purity

III. Wisdom is Peaceable (3:17-18). Godly Wisdom...

**Pure; Peace; Considerate; Submissive; Full of Mercy;
Fruitful of good works; Impartial; Sincere**

✳ Evaluate the *Fruits* produced from our lives and ministries:

- Are we *Peacemakers* who *Sow in Peace*, or who *Sow Bitter Envy* and *Selfish Ambition*?
- What are we *Reaping*? A harvest of *Righteousness* or a harvest of *Disorder* and every *Evil Practice*?

Authentic Christianity requires Godly Wisdom... Do you have it?

**“If any of you Lack Wisdom, he should ask God” (1:5)
Pursue Wisdom, Pursue Jesus!**

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