

INTRODUCTION: Definition of WISDOM: Ability to discern present action with a view to the ultimate result of such action.

"He that thinks himself the wisest is generally that greatest fool."
-Colton

Proverbs 8:11; "For wisdom is better than rubies; and all things that may be desired are not to be compared to it."

Proverbs 16:16; "How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver."

1 Kings 3:9; "Give therefore thy servant an understanding (hearing) heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad, for who is able to judge this thy so great a people."

THE SOURCE OF WISDOM

James 1:5; "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and up braideth not; and it shall be given you."

1. God the source of wisdom.

1. "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God."
2. Matt. 7:7; "Ask and it shall be given unto you."
3. In asking of God, we study God's word, conform our lives to his will, and pray to God that we might have the "faith and strength to accept those things we cannot change, faith and strength to change those things that should be changed, and the wisdom with which to know the difference."

WHAT WISDOM IS

1. Wisdom is the ability to clearly distinguish between the immediate value versus the ultimate value.
2. Wisdom shows itself not so much in doing the right thing, as in doing the right thing at the right and proper time.
 1. By delaying the doing of a thing that is right within itself and should be done, all incentive for accomplishment has gone out the window. By the delay, souls have been prepared for hell and the blessings of a good work have been denied to those involved.
3. Wisdom is more than knowledge. It is more than mere intelligent apprehension of acquired knowledge.
 1. A man might be a walking Bible (great knowledge of the Bible) and lack the wisdom with which to apply that knowledge. What good does it do any man to know what is required to live the Christian life if he will not live it?

PROVERBS 3:11, 12 Here we learn:

1. PATIENCE IN AFFLICTION

1. We are not to despise it for it is of the Lord.
2. It is the true testimony of the Lord's love for us.
3. It is not a dark doom, nor a cruel fate, nor a blind necessity of things.
4. It is administered to us by a Father who loves us, and who delights in us, even as a father who loves his son. See 1 Thess. 2:11, James 5:11.

PROVERBS 3:13-14. Man's duty in obtaining wisdom:

1. He must search for it; "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom."
2. He must recognize its value in order to have the proper incentive to search for it.

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Church of Christ

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WHAT WISDOM WILL DO FOR US

1. Nothing to compare with wisdom.
 1. More precious than rubies, gold and silver. Proverbs 3:14,15
2. Possess or of wisdom have a well-being that endures.
 1. "Length of days are in her right hand: and in her left hand riches and honor. 3:16
3. Wisdom is the source of genuine esteem. 3:16
 1. Those who consult God's will in the guidance of their lives are honored of thier brethren, enjoy the esteem of their neighbors, live and die in the fragrance fo generla high regard. "And in her left hand, riches nad honor."
4. Wisdom is the perennial spring of peace and joy.
 1. "Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." 3:17
 2. "She is the tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her." 3:18
5. Wisdom guarantees security against sin.
 1. How many are the stumblers, those who seem to trip and fall as they ascend or descend the hills of life.
 2. "The shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and they foot shall not stumble." 3:23
6. Wisdom guarantess the guardianship of God.
 1. There are thos whose lives are filled with fear and dread. By day they dread the evils which assail the wicked, by night the perils of darkness.
 2. "When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet." 3:24

