

The Correspondent

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study (Adult) 1:30 PM

Bible Study (All Ages) 7:00 PM

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(618) 667-6708



*For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place.
(1 Thessalonians 1:8)*

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The Wisdom from Above

- Renn Ferguson

In the later part of James chapter three, James describes the wisdom from above. First, he points out that if one behaves with bitter jealousy and selfish ambition, we can be sure they do not possess heavenly wisdom. Then, to help us better understand the marks of heavenly wisdom, he describes it in verse seventeen. Let us briefly look at these characteristics of the wisdom from above.

First, this wisdom is pure. This word means chaste or clean. It is free from everything that is earthly. Such as the jealousy, and selfishness ascribed to the earthly, unspiritual, demonic wisdom (V. 15).

Second, this wisdom is peaceable. Those who live for God are called to peace (Romans 12:18, Matthew 5:9). While peace is not always possible, we must strive to cultivate and maintain peace to the best of our ability.

Third, this wisdom is gentle. One cannot help but to think of Christ when reading the word gentle (Matthew 11:29). Just as Christ, we must be gentle with all, speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15).

Fourth, this wisdom is open to reason. Rather than being obstinate and hard-hearted one who exercises the wisdom from above can be reasoned with (Acts 28:27).

Fifth, this wisdom is full of mercy. When one truly understands and appreciates the mercy they have received from God, it will be all the more easy to be merciful to others (Luke 6:36). Such is a mark of one who lives according to the wisdom from above.

Sixth, this wisdom is full of good works. As Christians, we are created for good works (Ephesians 2:10). Living our life dedicated to the work of the Lord is a true indication of wisdom.

Seventh, this wisdom is impartial. God has shown no partiality among men (Romans 2:11). We would wise to do the same (James 2:1-13).

Eighth, this wisdom is sincere. Anyone can appear to possess the wisdom from above, but if they are insincere, in time that will be revealed (1 Timothy 5:24). Only those who live for God with love and sincerity will reap the rewards (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

Are the marks of heavenly wisdom present in our life?

