

Origin

Food4Life
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Keep Your Head Up

James 3:13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

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. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

The Context:

- ⇒ We were created to retain, learn and absorb.
- ⇒ We're not supposed to die dumber than we were born.
- ⇒ We need wisdom to live a life of health, joy and meaning

Two Kinds of Wisdom:

- ⇒ Earthly wisdom and heavenly wisdom.
- ⇒ We can determine what type of wisdom in informing our life by the way we relate to others.

The Differences Between the Two:

Wisdom from earth

- ⇒ Motivated by bitter envy and selfish ambition
- ⇒ Personal gain as life's highest goal
- ⇒ Narrow minded
- ⇒ Limited
- ⇒ Unspiritual
- ⇒ Fleshly
- ⇒ Wisdom according to the fallen human nature

Wisdom from heaven

- ⇒ Peace-loving; contrary to “selfish ambition”
- ⇒ Pure; the absence of any sinful attitude or motive
- ⇒ An inner attitude flowing outward effecting other people
- ⇒ Considerate; descriptive of God as King in the New Testament
- ⇒ Submissive; ready to yield
- ⇒ Full of mercy and good fruit: always ready to help those in need
- ⇒ Impartial; shows no favoritism, and does not discriminate
- ⇒ Sincere; without hypocrisy
- ⇒ “The wisdom that comes from heaven” creates the climate to “raise a harvest of righteousness”

The Bottom Line

Every arena of our lives will be dramatically affected based on how we relate to other people