



# PRACTICAL WISDOM

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A STUDY OF THE  
BOOK OF JAMES

WALKING WISDOM— JAMES 3:13-18



# James 3:

13 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural,





# James 3:

demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

# WHO IS WISE?

- Who is the wisest person you know?
- School: who was smart? Who was wise?
  - Were they different? Why???
  - Mistake knowledge for wisdom! Bad!
  - *sophs/sophia* = clear, practical, skilled
  - *epistemon* = intelligent, experienced (1x)



# Wise?

**1Cor 1:20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not *come to* know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.**



# HOW IS WISDOM SHOWN?

- NOT degrees or titles...Character!
  - Show –
  - “better conversation/life”
  - Gentle, ‘mEEK’ spirit/behavior
- Wisdom is lived out in our deeds

# EFFECTS AND CONSEQUENCES

- Bitter jealousy –
- Selfish ambition –
- Arrogance – Boasting
- Lie/deny truth
- Not God's wisdom! 'earthy', breathy...



# EFFECTS AND CONSEQUENCES

- Demonic!?! Remember the Garden...
  - The way of the deceiver...
- The outcome is always tragic!
- Disorder = unstable, confusion
- 'bad' things – cheap, evil, wicked



# THE BETTER SOURCE

- “from above” – higher source
- Qualities and results:
  1. Pure – not half-way, clean
  2. Peace-filled and focused, not victory
  3. Gentle, fair and suitable

# THE BETTER SOURCE

4. Reasonable – easy going, open
5. Full of mercy 2:13
6. Good fruits – produce of the root!
7. Unwavering – varying, flickering
8. No hypocrisy



# FROM THIS 'PLANTING':

- 'Fruit'/harvest of right-ness
- Sown in peace
- Makes for peace
- The fruits of the wisdom is key = source
- Who has input into your life???





And a  
**HARVEST OF  
RIGHTEOUSNESS**

is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**JAMES 3:18**