

JAMES



Wisdom From Above

3:13-18

Where FAITH becomes ACTION

JAMES 3:13-18

Series on James

Who is James?

Audience of the Book

James – Claims vs. Reality

- hearing and doing – don't be deceived
- religion w/o controlling speech – false
- faith w/o works – dead faith
- partiality due to position – sin, guilty
- teachers – guard the tongue



JAMES 3:13-18

Question today:

'Who is wise and understanding among you?'

- important to the audience

- Proverbs 1:7

- Proverbs 1:32

- Proverbs 4:7

- Proverbs 8:11

- Proverbs 9:10

- Col. 2:3 "which is Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."



JAMES 3:13-18

Topic already introduced

- James 1:5
- James 1:17
- James 3:13-18 "Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.



JAMES 3:13-18

¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”



JAMES 3:13-18

1. Claims Must Have Evidence vs.13

a) Who has this wisdom?

b) Evidence of their Claim?

- not age, knowledge, title or position

- Good Conduct – character, track record

- Posture – meekness of wisdom

- meekness – power under control



JAMES 3:13-18

2. Critical Posture of Heart

- people and postures – heart attitudes
- affects outcome every time

a) Posture filled with self

- bitter jealousy
 - Proverbs 14:30, Job 5:2
- selfish ambition
 - Phil. 2



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b) Driven by Earthly Wisdom

- cultural values
- earthly, unspiritual, demonic
- Romans 1:21-22
- 1 Cor. 1:18-21

c) The Fruit & Evidence of This

- where jealousy and selfish ambition exist
- Disorder
- 1 Cor. 14:33

Every Vile Practice – Romans 1



JAMES 3:13-18

3. Posture of Humility

- wisdom from above
- Phil 2:3-8

a) Evidences

- pure
- peaceable
- gentle
- open to reason
- full of mercy
- good fruits



JAMES 3:13-18

- impartial

- sincere

b) Result

- harvest of righteousness

- Sown in Peace by those who Make Peace



JAMES 3:13-18

Phil 4:8-9 "8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."



JAMES 3:13-18

So What?

1. Take Care with Your Claim
 - evidence – conduct, good works, posture
2. Pursue Wisdom
 - recognize false wisdom
 - avoid consequences of adopting it
 - limit influence of those promoting it
3. Identify Source & Evidence of Godly Wisdom

