

Wisdom Literature – Lesson 2

The Ministry of the Word

July 6, 2025

How many of us have had to make a decision about something very important in our life or in the life of someone we love>>

*What we **need** is the *wisdom* of God>>*

This morning we will begin to look at the three *wisdom* Books of>>

Ecclesiastes, Job and Proverbs>>

During the next few weeks we will just give an overview of each>>

However, before we begin, we need to understand the meaning and function of *wisdom* in the Tanakah>>

The Hebrew word for *wisdom* is *chokman*>>

<<*chokmah* [*wisdom*] is the practical use of or skill that comes from knowledge and understanding>>

<<*wisdom* working according to knowledge and understanding>>

This knowledge and understanding certainly applies to the physical world>>

For instance>>

Ex. 31:3 *...I have filled [Bezalel] with the Spirit of God in *wisdom*, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship...>>*

In this example we see that *wisdom* and knowledge and understanding are interrelated and interdependent qualities>>

<<imparted by the Spirit of God for the glory of God in us>>

Col 1:9-10 *...we... pray... that you may be filled with the knowledge of [God's] will in all spiritual *wisdom* and understanding, 10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects...>>*

In using the phrase *...in all spiritual *wisdom* and understanding...>>*

<<Paul is emphasizing God's unique *wisdom* in contrast to human wisdom>>

<<that there are two very different types of wisdom>>

This is what we learn in **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, 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.

By the Spirit, James tells us that there are only two types of wisdom>>

<<the wisdom of this world and the wisdom of God>>

Wordly wisdom is that wisdom that operates according to the authority of and for the purpose of Satan, ...*the god of this world* [2 Cor.4:4]...>>

<<the goal of wordly wisdom is exaltation or glory of humanity>>

The wisdom of God is the wisdom that operates according to the authority of God ...so *that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ* [1 Peter 4:11]...>>

The wisdom that God is an attribute of God given to us in Christ by ...*Spirit of wisdom* [Eph. 1:17]...>>

Mark 12:13-17 is an example of Godly wisdom in Jesus>>

...some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. 14 They came to him and said, "Teacher, we know you are a man of integrity. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not? 15 Should we pay or shouldn't we?" But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. "Why are you trying to trap me?" he asked. "Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." 16 They brought the coin, and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's," they replied. 17 Then Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." And they were amazed at him.

In the same way that ...*Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men* [Luke 2:52]...>>

<<we also are also to be ... increasing in wisdom...>>

We are to be ever mindful of our need for God's wisdom>>

James 1:5 ...*if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, Who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting...*>>

As the Holy Spirit tells us in **Ecc. 7:25**, we must ...*seek wisdom*...>>

For this reason, for next few weeks we will be looking at God's wisdom in **Proverbs**, **Job** and **Ecclesiastes**>>