

## ~WISDOM (3970)

[Hebrew, *chokh-mah'*, Greek, *so-phi'a*]

- Understanding Fortifies Wisdom In Other Ways
- Divine Wisdom
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- Human Wisdom
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• The Biblical sense of wisdom lays emphasis on **sound judgment**, based on knowledge and understanding, the ability to use knowledge and understanding successfully to solve problems, avoid or avert dangers, attain certain goals, or counsel others in doing so. It is the opposite of foolishness, stupidity, and madness, with which it is often contrasted.

• Is it to Yehowah that you keep doing this way, O people stupid and not **wise**? Is he not your Father who has produced you, He who made you and proceeded to give you stability?  
(Deuteronomy 32:6)

• As for anyone bringing ostracism upon his own house, he will take possession of wind, and a foolish person will be a servant to the one **wise in heart**. (Proverbs 11:29)

• For what advantage does the wise have over the stupid one? What does the afflicted one have in knowing how to walk in front of the living ones? (Ecclesiastes 6:8)

• The basic terms signifying **wisdom** are the Hebrew *chokh-mah'* verb, *cha-kham'*, and the Greek *so-phi'a*, with their related forms. Also, there are the Hebrew *tu-shi-yah'*, which may be rendered, **effectual**

**working or practical wisdom**, and the Greek *phro'ni-mos* and *phro'ne-sis*, from *phren*, the **mind**, relating to, **sensibleness, discretion, or practical wisdom**.

- **Wisdom** implies a **breadth of knowledge** and a **depth of understanding**, these giving the soundness and clarity of judgment characteristic of wisdom. The **wise man treasures up knowledge**, has a fund of it to draw upon.
- The **wise** are the ones that **treasure up knowledge**, but the mouth of the foolish one is near to ruin itself. (**Proverbs 10:14**)
- While **wisdom is the prime thing**, the counsel is that with all that you acquire, acquire **understanding**.
- Acquire **wisdom**, acquire **understanding**. Do not forget, and do not turn aside from the sayings of my mouth. (**Proverbs 4:5**)
- Do not leave it, and it will keep you. Love it, and it will safeguard you. (**Proverbs 4:6**)
- **Wisdom** is the prime thing. Acquire **wisdom**, and with all that you acquire, **acquire understanding**. (**Proverbs 4:7**)
- **Understanding**, a broad term that frequently embraces discernment, adds strength to **wisdom**, contributing greatly to discretion and foresight, also notable characteristics of **wisdom**. Discretion **implies prudence and may be expressed in caution, self-control, moderation, or restraint**.
- The discreet, form of *phro'ni-mos*, man builds his house on a rock-mass, **foreseeing the possibility of storm**, the foolish man builds his on sand and suffers disaster.
- Therefore everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who built his house upon the rock-mass. (**Matthew 7:24**)
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been founded upon the rock-mass. (**Matthew 7:25**)
- Furthermore, everyone hearing these sayings of mine and not doing them will be likened to a foolish man, who built his house

upon the sand. (**Matthew 7:26**)

- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and struck against that house and it caved in, and its collapse was great. (**Matthew 7:27**)

## • Understanding Fortifies Wisdom In Other Ways

- For example, a person may obey a certain command of God because he recognizes the rightness of such obedience, and this is **wisdom** on his part.
- But if he gets real **understanding** of the **reason** for that command, the good purpose it serves, and the benefits accruing from it, his heart determination to continue in that wise course is greatly strengthened.
- In the heart of the understanding one there rests **wisdom**, and in the midst of stupid ones it becomes known. (**Proverbs 14:33**)
- By the laying of a fine on the ridiculer the inexperienced becomes wise, and by ones giving insight to a wise person he gets knowledge. (**Proverbs 21:11**)
- Says that by ones giving **insight** to a wise person he gets **knowledge**. The wise person is happy to get any information that will grant him a clearer view into the underlying circumstances, conditions, and causes of problems.
- Thereby he **gets knowledge** as to what to do regarding the matter and knows what conclusions to draw, what is needed to solve the existing problem.
- Give to a wise person and he will become still wiser. Impart knowledge to someone righteous and he will increase in learning. (**Proverbs 9:9**)
- I myself turned around, even my heart did, to know and to explore and to search for **wisdom** and the reason of things, and to know about the wickedness of stupidity and the foolishness of madness. (**Ecclesiastes 7:25**)
- Who is there like the wise one? And who is there knowing the interpretation of a thing? The **wisdom** of a man itself causes his

face to shine, and even the sternness of his face is changed for the better. (**Ecclesiastes 8:1**)

- Look! You are wiser than Daniel. There are no secrets that have proved a match for you. (**Ezekiel 28:3**)

**See Also INSIGHT**

### · Divine Wisdom

- **Wisdom** in the absolute sense is found in Yehowah God, who is **wise alone** in this sense.
- To God, **wise alone**, be the glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen. (**Romans 16:27**)
- Saying; Amen! The blessing and the glory and the **wisdom** and the thanksgiving and the honor and the power and the strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen. (**Revelation 7:12**)
- Knowledge is acquaintance with fact, and since Yehowah is the Creator, who is from time indefinite to time indefinite.
- O Yehowah, you yourself have proved to be a real dwelling for us during generation after generation. (**Psalms 90:1**)
- Before the mountains themselves were born, or you proceeded to bring forth as with labor pains the earth and the productive land, even from time indefinite to time indefinite you are God. (**Psalms 90:2**)
- He knows all there is to know about the universe, its composition and contents, its history till now. The physical laws, cycles, and standards upon which men rely in their research and invention, and without which they would be helpless and have nothing stable upon which to build, are all of His making.
- Can you raise your voice even to the cloud, so that a heaving mass of water itself may cover you? (**Job 38:34**)
- Can you send forth lightnings that they may go and say to you, Here we are!?! (**Job 38:35**)
- Who put **wisdom** in the cloud layers, or who gave understanding

- to the sky phenomenon? ([Job 38:36](#))
- Who can exactly number the clouds in **wisdom**, or the water jars of heaven, who can tip them over. ([Job 38:37](#))
  - When the dust pours out as into a molten mass, and the clods of earth themselves get stuck together? ([Job 38:38](#))
  - How many your works are, O Yehowah! all of them in **wisdom** you have made. The earth is full of your productions. ([Psalms 104:24](#))
  - Yehowah himself in **wisdom** founded the earth. He solidly fixed the heavens in discernment. ([Proverbs 3:19](#))
  - He is the Maker of the earth by his power, the One firmly establishing the productive land by his **wisdom**, and the One who by his understanding stretched out the heavens. ([Jeremiah 10:12](#))
  - At his voice there is a giving by him of a turmoil of waters in the heavens, and he causes vapors to ascend from the extremity of the earth. He has made even sluices for the rain, and he brings forth the wind from his storehouses. ([Jeremiah 10:13](#))
  - **Logically, his moral standards are even more vital for stability, sound judgment, and successful human living.**
  - The Rock, perfect is his activity, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness, with whom there is no injustice. Righteous and upright is he. ([Deuteronomy 32:4](#))
  - They have acted ruinously on their own part. They are not his children, the defect is their own. A generation crooked and twisted! ([Deuteronomy 32:5](#))
  - Is it to Yehowah that you keep doing this way, O people stupid and not wise? Is he not your Father who has produced you, He who made you and proceeded to give you stability? ([Deuteronomy 32:6](#))
  - **There is nothing beyond his understanding.**
  - **Who has taken the proportions of the spirit of Yehowah, and who**

- as his man of counsel can make him know anything? (**Isaiah 40:13**)
- **With whom did he consult together that one might make him understand, or who teaches him in the path of justice, or teaches him knowledge, or makes him know the very way of real understanding? (**Isaiah 40:14**)**
  - **Though he may allow things that are contrary to his righteous standards to develop and even temporarily prosper, the future ultimately rests with him and will conform precisely to his will, and the things spoken by him will have certain success.**
  - **For the thoughts of you people are not my thoughts, nor are my ways your ways, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Isaiah 55:8**)**
  - **For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. (**Isaiah 55:9**)**
  - **For just as the pouring rain descends, and the snow, from the heavens and does not return to that place, unless it actually saturates the earth and makes it produce and sprout, and seed is actually given to the sower and bread to the eater. (**Isaiah 55:10**)**
  - **So my word that goes forth from my mouth will prove to be. It will not return to me without results, but it will certainly do that in which I have delighted, and it will have certain success in that for which I have sent it. (**Isaiah 55:11**)**
  - **Remember the first things of a long time ago, that I am the Divine One and there is no other God, nor anyone like me. (**Isaiah 46:9**)**
  - **The One telling from the beginning the finale, and from long ago the things that have not been done, the One saying; My own counsel will stand, and everything that is my delight I shall do. (**Isaiah 46:10**)**
  - **The One calling from the sunrising a bird of prey, from a distant land the man to execute my counsel. I have even spoken it. I shall also bring it in. I have formed it, I shall also do it. (**Isaiah 46:11**)**

## See Also YEHOWAH (A God of moral standards)

- For all these reasons it is evident that the fear of Yehowah is the start of **wisdom**.
- The **fear of Yehowah is the start of wisdom**, and the knowledge of the Most Holy One is what **understanding** is. (**Proverbs 9:10**)
- Who should not fear you, O King of the nations, for to you it is fitting, because among all the **wise** ones of the nations and among all their kingships there is in no way anyone like you.
- Who should not fear you, O King of the nations, for to you it is fitting, because among all the wise ones of the nations and among all their kingships there is in no way anyone like you. (**Jeremiah 10:7**)
- He is **wise** in heart and strong in power. Who can show stubbornness to him and come off uninjured?
- He is wise in heart and strong in power. Who can show stubbornness to him and come off uninjured? (**Job 9:4**)
- The wise one fears and is turning away from badness, but the stupid is becoming furious and self-confident. (**Proverbs 14:16**)
- In his mightiness he can intervene at will in human affairs, maneuvering rulers or eliminating them, making his prophetic revelations prove infallible.
- Daniel was answering and saying; Let the name of God become blessed from time indefinite even to time indefinite, for **wisdom** and mightiness, for they belong to him. (**Daniel 2:20**)
- And he is changing times and seasons, removing kings and setting up kings, giving **wisdom** to the wise ones and knowledge to those knowing discernment. (**Daniel 2:21**)
- He is revealing the deep things and the concealed things, knowing what is in the darkness, and with him the light does dwell. (**Daniel 2:22**)
- To you, O God of my forefathers, I am giving praise and commendation, because **wisdom** and mightiness you have given

to me. And now you have made known to me what we requested of you, for you have made known to us the very matter of the king. ([Daniel 2:23](#))

- **Biblical history recounts the futile efforts of powerful kings with their astute counselors to pit their **wisdom** against God, and it highlights the way he has triumphantly vindicated his servants who loyally proclaimed his message.**
- **And he is also wise and will bring in what is calamitous, and he has not called back his own words, and he will certainly rise up against the house of evildoers and against the assistance of those practicing what is hurtful. ([Isaiah 31:2](#))**
- **I am frustrating the signs of the empty talkers, and I am the One that makes diviners themselves act crazily, the One turning wise men backwards, and the One that turns even their knowledge into foolishness. ([Isaiah 44:25](#))**
- **The One making the word of his servant come true, and the One that carries out completely the counsel of his own messengers, the One saying of Jerusalem, She will be inhabited, and of the cities of Judah, They will be rebuilt, and her desolated places I shall raise up. ([Isaiah 44:26](#))**
- **The One saying to the watery deep, Be evaporated! And all your rivers I shall dry up. ([Isaiah 44:27](#))**
- **The One saying of Cyrus: He is my shepherd, and all that I delight in he will completely carry out. Even in my saying of Jerusalem: She will be rebuilt. And of the temple: You will have your foundation laid. ([Isaiah 44:28](#))**
- **Is there not **wisdom** among the aged and understanding in length of days? ([Job 12:12](#))**
- **With him there are **wisdom** and mightiness, he has counsel and understanding. ([Job 12:13](#))**

### •• **God's Wisdom In A Sacred Secret**

- **The rebellion that broke out in Eden presented a challenge to God's **wisdom**. His wise means for ending that rebellion wiping out its effects and restoring peace, harmony, and right order in his universal**



family formed a sacred secret, the hidden **wisdom**, which God foreordained before the systems of things, that is, those systems that have developed during man's history outside Eden.

- But we speak God's **wisdom in a sacred secret**, the hidden wisdom, which God foreordained before the systems of things for our glory. (**1 Corinthians 2:7**)
- Its outlines were contained in God's dealings with, and promises to, his faithful servants during many centuries, it was foreshadowed and symbolized in the Law covenant with Israel, including its priesthood and sacrifices, and was pointed to in innumerable prophecies and visions.
- Finally, after more than 4,000 years, the **wisdom** of that sacred secret was revealed in Jesus Christ.
- The sacred secret that was hidden from the past systems of things and from the past generations. But now it has been made manifest to his holy ones. (**Colossians 1:26**)
- To whom God has been pleased to make known what are the glorious riches of this sacred secret among the nations. It is Christ in union with you, the hope of his glory. (**Colossians 1:27**)
- He is the one we are publicizing, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all **wisdom**, that we may present every man complete in union with Christ. (**Colossians 1:28**)
- Through whom God purposed an administration at the full limit of the appointed times, namely, to gather all things together again in the Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth.
- This he caused to abound toward us in all **wisdom** and good sense. (**Ephesians 1:8**)
- In that he made known to us the sacred secret of his will. It is according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself. (**Ephesians 1:9**)
- For an administration at the full limit of the appointed times, namely, to gather all things together again in the Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth. Yes, in him. (**Ephesians 1:10**)

- In union with whom we were also assigned as heirs, in that we were foreordained according to the purpose of him who operates all things according to the way his will counsels. (**Ephesians 1:11**)
- God's provision of the ransom for the salvation of obedient mankind and his purpose for a Kingdom government, headed by his Son and able to end all wickedness, were revealed. Since God's grand purpose is founded on and centered in his Son, **Christ Jesus** has become to us Christians **wisdom from God**.
- But it is due to him that you are in union with Christ Jesus, who has become to us **wisdom** from God, also righteousness and sanctification and release by ransom. (**1 Corinthians 1:30**)
- Carefully concealed in him are all the treasures of **wisdom** and of knowledge. (**Colossians 2:3**)
- Only through him and by faith in him, God's Chief Agent of life, can salvation and life be attained.
- Whereas you killed the Chief Agent of life. But God raised him up from the dead, of which fact we are witnesses. (**Acts of Apostles 3:15**)
- Jesus said to him; I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (**John 14:6**)
- And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (**2 Timothy 3:15**)
- There is, therefore, no true **wisdom** that fails to consider Jesus Christ, that does not base its judgment and decisions solidly on God's purpose as revealed in him.

**See Also JESUS CHRIST (His Vital Place in God's Purpose)**

#### · **Human Wisdom**

- **Wisdom is personalized** in the book of Proverbs, depicted there as a woman inviting persons to receive what she has to offer. These accounts and related texts show that **wisdom** is indeed a blend of many

**things, knowledge, understanding, which includes discernment, thinking ability, experience, diligence, shrewdness, the opposite of being gullible or naïve.**

- Anyone inexperienced puts faith in every word, but the shrewd one considers his steps. (**Proverbs 14:15**)
- The inexperienced ones will certainly take possession of foolishness, but the shrewd ones will bear knowledge as a headress. (**Proverbs 14:18**)
- **And right judgment. But since true wisdom begins with the fear of Yehowah God.**
- The fear of Yehowah is the beginning of **wisdom**. All those doing them have a good insight. His praise is standing forever. (**Psalms 111:10**)
- The fear of Yehowah is the start of **wisdom**, and the knowledge of the Most Holy One is what understanding is. (**Proverbs 9:10**)
- **This superior wisdom goes beyond ordinary wisdom and includes holding to high standards, manifesting righteousness and uprightness, as well as adhering to truth.**
- For one to know **wisdom** and discipline, to discern the sayings of understanding. (**Proverbs 1:2**)
- To receive the discipline that gives insight, righteousness and judgment and uprightness. (**Proverbs 1:3**)
- True **wisdom** itself keeps crying aloud in the very street. In the public squares it keeps giving forth its voice. (**Proverbs 1:20**)
- At the upper end of the noisy streets it calls out. At the entrances of the gates into the city it says its own sayings. (**Proverbs 1:21**)
- How long will you inexperienced ones keep loving inexperience, and how long must you ridiculers desire for yourselves outright ridicule, and how long will you stupid ones keep hating knowledge? (**Proverbs 1:22**)
- So as to pay attention to **wisdom** with your ear, that you may

**incline your heart to discernment. (Proverbs 2:2)**

- **If, moreover, you call out for understanding itself and you give forth your voice for discernment itself. (Proverbs 2:3)**
- **If you keep seeking for it as for silver, and as for hid treasures you keep searching for it. (Proverbs 2:4)**
- **In that case you will understand the fear of Yehowah, and you will find the very knowledge of God. (Proverbs 2:5)**
- **For Yehowah himself gives **wisdom**, out of his mouth there are knowledge and discernment. (Proverbs 2:6)**
- **And for the upright ones he will treasure up practical **wisdom**, for those walking in integrity he is a shield. (Proverbs 2:7)**
- **By observing the paths of judgment, and he will guard the very way of his loyal ones. (Proverbs 2:8)**
- **In that case you will understand righteousness and judgment and uprightness, the entire course of what is good. (Proverbs 2:9)**
- **When **wisdom** enters into your heart and knowledge itself becomes pleasant to your very soul. (Proverbs 2:10)**
- **Thinking ability itself will keep guard over you, discernment itself will safeguard you. (Proverbs 2:11)**
- **Go to the ant, you lazy one, see its ways and become wise. (Proverbs 6:6)**
- **Does not wisdom keep calling out, and discernment keep giving forth its voice? (Proverbs 8:1)**
- **O inexperienced ones, understand shrewdness, and you stupid ones, understand heart. (Proverbs 8:5)**
- **Listen, for it is about the foremost things that I speak, and the opening of my lips is about uprightness. (Proverbs 8:6)**
- **For my palate in low tones utters truth itself, and wickedness is something detestable to my lips. (Proverbs 8:7)**

- All the sayings of my mouth are in righteousness. Among them there is nothing twisted or crooked. (**Proverbs 8:8**)
- All of them are straight to the discerning one, and upright to the ones finding knowledge. (**Proverbs 8:9**)
- Take my discipline and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold. (**Proverbs 8:10**)
- For **wisdom** is better than corals, and all other delights themselves cannot be made equal to it. (**Proverbs 8:11**)
- I, **wisdom**, I have resided with shrewdness and I find even the knowledge of thinking abilities. (**Proverbs 8:12**)
- Not all **wisdom** measures up to that superior **wisdom**.

#### •• Human Wisdom Is Never Absolute But Is Relative

- **Wisdom** on a limited scale is attainable by man through his own efforts, though he must in any case use the intelligence with which God who even gave the animals certain instinctive **wisdom**.
- He is the One teaching us more than the beasts of the earth, and he makes us wiser than even the flying creatures of the heavens. (**Job 35:11**)
- There are four things that are the smallest of the earth, but they are instinctively **wise**. (**Proverbs 30:24**)
- The ants are a people not strong, and yet in the summer they prepare their food. (**Proverbs 30:25**)
- The rock badgers are a people not mighty, and yet upon a crag is where they put their house. (**Proverbs 30:26**)
- The locusts have no king, and yet they go forth all of them divided into groups. (**Proverbs 30:27**)
- The gecko lizard takes hold with its own hands and it is in the grand palace of a king. (**Proverbs 30:28**)

- Initially endowed man. Man learns from observation of, and working with, the materials of God's creation. Such **wisdom** may vary in type and extent.
- The **Greek** word *so-phi'a* is often applied to **skill in a certain trade or craft**, to skill and sound administrative judgment in governmental and business fields, or to extensive knowledge in some particular field of human science or research. Similarly, the **Hebrew** *chokh-mah'* and *cha-kham'* are used to describe the skillfulness of sailors and ship caulkers
- The inhabitants of Sidon and of Arvad themselves became rowers for you. Your skilled ones, O Tyre, happened to be in you, they were your sailors. (**Ezekiel 27:8**)
- Even old men of Gebal and her skilled ones happened to be in you as caulkers for your seams. All the ships of the sea and their mariners themselves proved to be in you, in order to exchange articles of merchandise. (**Ezekiel 27:9**)
- Those going down to the sea in the ships, doing business on vast waters. (**Psalms 107:23**)
- They reel and move unsteadily like a drunken man, and even all their **wisdom** proves confused. (**Psalms 107:27**)
- **Workers in stone and wood.**
- And with you there are in great number doers of work, stone hewers and workers in stone and wood and every one skillful in every sort of work. (**1 Chronicles 22:15**)
- As well as the **wisdom** and skill of other craftsmen, some having great talent in a wide variety of crafts.
- He was the son of a widowed woman from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a Tyrian man, a worker in copper, and he was full of the **wisdom** and the understanding and the knowledge for doing every sort of work in copper. Accordingly he came to King Solomon and began to do all his work. (**1 Kings 7:14**)
- And now send me a skillful man to work in gold and in silver and in copper and in iron and in wool dyed reddish purple and crimson and blue thread, and knowing how to cut engravings,

- along with the skillful ones that are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father has prepared. (**2 Chronicles 2:7**)
- **And now I do send a skillful man, experienced in understanding, belonging to Hiram-abi. (2 Chronicles 2:13)**
  - **The son of a woman of the sons of Dan but whose father was a man of Tyre, experienced, to work in gold and in silver, in copper, in iron, in stones and in timbers, in wool dyed reddish purple, in blue thread and in fine fabric and in crimson and at cutting every sort of engraving and at designing every sort of device that may be given to him along with your own skillful men and the skillful men of my lord David your father. (2 Chronicles 2:14)**
  - **Even the skilled image carver or idol maker is described by such terms.**
  - **A certain tree as a contribution, a tree that is not rotten, he chooses. A skillful craftsman he searches out for himself, to prepare a carved image that may not be made to totter. (Isaiah 40:20)**
  - **For the customs of the peoples are just an exhalation, because it is a mere tree out of the forest that one has cut down, the work of the hands of the craftsman with the billhook. (Jeremiah 10:3)**
  - **With silver and with gold one makes it pretty. With nails and with hammers they fasten them down, that none may reel. (Jeremiah 10:4)**
  - **They are like a scarecrow of a cucumber field, and cannot speak. Without fail they are carried, for they cannot take any steps. Do not be afraid because of them, for they can do nothing calamitous and, what is more, the doing of any good is not with them. (Jeremiah 10:5)**
  - **In no way is there anyone like you, O Yehowah. You are great, and your name is great in mightiness. (Jeremiah 10:6)**
  - **Who should not fear you, O King of the nations, for to you it is fitting, because among all the wise ones of the nations and among all their kingships there is in no way anyone like you. (Jeremiah 10:7)**

- **And at one and the same time they prove to be unreasoning and stupid. A tree is a mere exhortation of vanities. (Jeremiah 10:8)**
- **Silver beaten into plates is what is brought in even from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the workmanship of a craftsman and of the hands of a metalworker, their clothing is blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple. They are all the workmanship of skilled people. (Jeremiah 10:9)**
- **The shrewd practice of the business world is a form of **wisdom**.**
- **By your **wisdom** and by your discernment you have made wealth for your own self, and you keep getting gold and silver in your storehouses. (Ezekiel 28:4)**
- **By the abundance of your **wisdom**, by your sales goods, you have made your wealth abound, and your heart began to be haughty because of your wealth. (Ezekiel 28:5)**
- **All such **wisdom** may be had even though the possessors lack the spiritual wisdom the Scriptures particularly advocate. Nevertheless, God's spirit may enhance some of these types of wisdom where they are useful in accomplishing his purpose.**
- **His spirit activated those constructing the tabernacle and its equipment as well as those weaving the priestly garments, men and women, filling them with both **wisdom** and **understanding**.**
- **Thereby they not only understood what was desired and the means for accomplishing the work but also displayed the talent, artistry, vision, and judgment necessary to design and produce superb work.**
- **And you yourself are to speak to all the ones wise with a heart that I have filled with the **spirit of wisdom**, and they must make Aaron's garments for sanctifying him, that he may act as priest to me. (Exodus 28:3)**
- **And I shall fill him with the spirit of God in **wisdom** and in **understanding** and in **knowledge** and in every kind of craftsmanship. (Exodus 31:3)**
- **For designing devices, for working in gold and silver and copper.**



**(Exodus 31:4)**

- **And in working of stones to set them and in working of wood to make products of every kind. (Exodus 31:5)**
- **As for me, look! I do put with him Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan, and in the heart of everyone wise of heart I do put **wisdom**, that they may indeed make everything I have commanded you. (Exodus 31:6)**
- **And let all the wise-hearted ones among you come and make all that Yehowah has commanded. (Exodus 35:10)**
- **And all the women who were wise of heart spun with their hands, and they kept bringing as yarn the blue thread and the wool dyed reddish purple, the coccus scarlet material and the fine linen. (Exodus 35:25)**
- **And all the women whose hearts impelled them with **wisdom** spun the goats hair. (Exodus 35:26)**
- **And he proceeded to fill him with the spirit of God in **wisdom**, in understanding and in knowledge and in every sort of craftsmanship. (Exodus 35:31)**
- **He has filled them with **wisdom** of heart to do all the work of a craftsman and an embroiderer and of a weaver in blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple, in coccus scarlet material and fine linen, and of a loom worker, men doing every sort of work and designing devices. (Exodus 35:35)**
- **And Bezalel must work, also Oholiab and every wise-hearted man to whom Yehowah has given **wisdom** and understanding in these things in order to know how to do all the work of the holy service according to all that Yehowah has commanded. (Exodus 36:1)**
- **And Moses proceeded to call Bezalel and Oholiab and every wise-hearted man into whose heart Yehowah had put **wisdom**, everyone whose heart impelled him to approach the work in order to do it. (Exodus 36:2)**
- **And all the wise ones who were doing all the holy work began to come, one man after another, from their work that they were doing. (Exodus 36:4)**

- **And all the wise-hearted among those doing the work went making the tabernacle, the ten tent cloths of fine twisted linen and blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material, with cherubs, the work of an embroiderer, he made them. (Exodus 36:8)**

## •• Ancient Wise Men

- **Men noted for their **wisdom** and counsel were anciently prized by kings and others, even as in modern times. Egypt, Persia, Chaldea, Edom, and other nations had their bodies of **wise** men.**
- **However, Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and the magic-practicing priests of Egypt themselves also proceeded to do the same thing with their magic arts. (Exodus 7:11)**
- **And the king proceeded to say to the wise men having knowledge of the times, for in this way the kings matter came before all those versed in Law and legal cases. (Esther 1:13)**
- **Who should not fear you, O King of the nations, for to you it is fitting, because among all the wise ones of the nations and among all their kingships there is in no way anyone like you. (Jeremiah 10:7)**
- **There is a sword against the Chaldeans, is the utterance of Yehowah, and against the inhabitants of Babylon and against her princes and against her wise ones. (Jeremiah 50:35)**
- **Will it not be in that day? Is the utterance of Yehowah. And I shall certainly destroy the wise ones out of Edom, and discernment out of the mountainous region of Esau. (Obadiah 1:8)**
- **Such bodies evidently included the priests and government officials but were not restricted to such, they probably included all those elders of the nations who were particularly known for their **wisdom** and who resided near the capital so as to be available for counseling.**
- **And it developed in the morning that his spirit became agitated. So he sent and called all the magic practicing priests of Egypt and**

all her wise men, and Pharaoh went on to relate his dreams to them. But there was no interpreter of them for Pharaoh. **(Genesis 41:8)**

- He sent ahead of them a man who was sold to be a slave, Joseph. **(Psalms 105:17)**
- With fetters they afflicted his feet, into irons his soul came. **(Psalms 105:18)**
- Until the time that his word came, the saying of Yehowah itself refined him. **(Psalms 105:19)**
- The king sent that he might release him, the ruler of the peoples, that he might let him loose. **(Psalms 105:20)**
- He set him as master to his household and as ruler over all his property. **(Psalms 105:21)**
- To bind his princes agreeably to his soul and that he might teach **wisdom** to even his elderly men. **(Psalms 105:22)**
- The princes of Zoan are indeed foolish. As regards the wise ones of Pharaoh's counselors, their counsel is something unreasonable. How will you men say to Pharaoh; I am the son of wise ones, the son of kings of ancient time? **(Isaiah 19:11)**
- Where, then, are they, the wise men of yours, that they may now tell you and that they may know what Yehowah of armies has counseled concerning Egypt? **(Isaiah 19:12)**
- And I will make her princes and her wise ones, her governor's and her deputy rulers and her mighty men drunk, and they must sleep an indefinitely lasting sleep, from which they will not wake up, is the utterance of the King, whose name is Yehowah of armies. **(Jeremiah 51:57)**
- The monarchs of Persia had a privy council of seven wise men for quick consultation.
- And the king proceeded to say to the wise men having knowledge of the times, for in this way the kings matter came before all those versed in Law and legal cases. **(Esther 1:13)**

- And those closest to him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, seven princes of Persia and Media, having access to the king, and who were sitting first in the kingdom. ([Esther 1:14](#))
- According to Law what is to be done with Queen Vashti because she has not performed the saying of King Ahasuerus by means of the court officials? ([Esther 1:15](#))
- And lesser Persian officials might have their own staff of wise men.
- And Haman went on to relate to Zeresh his wife and to all his friends everything that had befallen him. At that his wise men and Zeresh his wife said to him; If it is from the seed of the Jews that Mordecai is before whom you have started to fall, you will not prevail against him, but you will without fail fall before him. ([Esther 6:13](#))
- Joseph, by the help of God's spirit, displayed such discretion and **wisdom** that Egypt's ruling Pharaoh made him his prime minister.
- So Pharaoh said to his servants; Can another man be found like this one in whom the spirit of God is? ([Genesis 41:38](#))
- After that Pharaoh said to Joseph; Since God has caused you to know all this, there is no one as **discreet** and **wise** as you are. ([Genesis 41:39](#))
- You will personally be over my house, and all my people will obey you implicitly. Only as to the throne shall I be greater than you. ([Genesis 41:40](#))
- And Pharaoh added to Joseph; See, I do place you over all the land of Egypt. ([Genesis 41:41](#))
- And the family heads became jealous of Joseph and sold him into Egypt. But God was with him. ([Acts of Apostles 7:9](#))
- And he delivered him out of all his tribulations and gave him graciousness and **wisdom** in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And he appointed him to govern Egypt and his whole house. ([Acts of Apostles 7:10](#))

- Moses was instructed in all the **wisdom** of the Egyptians and was **powerful in his words and deeds** even prior to God's making him his spokesman.
- But this human **wisdom** and ability did not qualify Moses for God's purpose. After his first attempt, at the age of about 40, to bring relief to his Israelite brothers, Moses had to wait another 40 years before God sent him forth, a spiritually **wise** man, to lead Israel out of Egypt.
- Consequently Moses was instructed in all the **wisdom** of the Egyptians. In fact, he was powerful in his words and deeds. (**Acts of Apostles 7:22**)
- Now when the time of his fortieth year was being fulfilled, it came into his heart to make an inspection of his brothers, the sons of Israel. (**Acts of Apostles 7:23**)
- And when he caught sight of a certain one being unjustly treated, he defended him and executed vengeance for the one being abused by striking the Egyptian down. (**Acts of Apostles 7:24**)
- He was supposing his brothers would grasp that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not grasp it. (**Acts of Apostles 7:25**)
- And the next day he appeared to them as they were fighting, and he tried to bring them together again in peace, saying; Men, you are brothers. Why do you treat each other unjustly? (**Acts of Apostles 7:26**)
- But the one that was treating his neighbor unjustly thrust him away, saying; Who appointed you ruler and judge over us? (**Acts of Apostles 7:27**)
- You do not want to do away with me in the same manner that you did away with the Egyptian yesterday, do you? (**Acts of Apostles 7:28**)
- At this speech Moses took to flight and became an alien resident in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons. (**Acts of Apostles 7:29**)
- And when forty years were fulfilled, there appeared to him in the

- wilderness of Mount Sinai an angel in the fiery flame of a thornbush. (**Acts of Apostles 7:30**)
- Now when Moses saw it he marveled at the sight. But as he was approaching to investigate, Yehowah's voice came. (**Acts of Apostles 7:31**)
  - I am the God of your forefathers, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob. Seized with trembling, Moses did not dare to investigate further. (**Acts of Apostles 7:32**)
  - Yehowah said to him; Take the sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. (**Acts of Apostles 7:33**)
  - I have certainly seen the wrongful treatment of my people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you off to Egypt. (**Acts of Apostles 7:34**)
  - This Moses, whom they disowned, saying; Who appointed you ruler and judge? This man God sent off as both ruler and deliverer by the hand of the angel that appeared to him in the thornbush. (**Acts of Apostles 7:35**)
  - This man led them out after doing portents and signs in Egypt and in the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years. (**Acts of Apostles 7:36**)
  - And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of **wisdom**, for Moses had laid his hand upon him, and the sons of Israel began to listen to him and they went doing just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Deuteronomy 34:9**)
  - Solomon was already wise before entering into full kingship.
  - And the days of David gradually drew near for him to die, and he proceeded to command Solomon his son, saying; (**1 Kings 2:1**)
  - And you must act according to your **wisdom**, and not let his gray hairs go down in peace to Sheol. (**1 Kings 2:6**)
  - And now do not leave him unpunished, for you are a wise man and you well know what you ought to do to him, and you must

bring his gray hairs down to Sheol with blood. (1 Kings 2:9)

- Yet he humbly acknowledged himself **but a little boy** in prayer to Yehowah and sought his aid in judging God's people. He was rewarded with a wise and understanding heart unequaled among Judah's kings.

- And now, Yehowah my God, you yourself have made your servant king in the place of David my father, and I am but a little boy. I do not know how to go out and how to come in. (1 Kings 3:7)

- And your servant is in the middle of your people whom you have chosen, a multitudinous people that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. (1 Kings 3:8)

- And you must give to your servant an obedient heart to judge your people, to discern between good and bad, for who is able to judge this difficult people of yours? (1 Kings 3:9)

- And the thing was pleasing in the eyes of Yehowah, because Solomon had requested this thing. (1 Kings 3:10)

- And God went on to say to him; For the reason that you have requested this thing and have not requested for yourself many days nor requested for yourself riches nor requested the soul of your enemies, and you have requested for yourself understanding to hear judicial cases. (1 Kings 3:11)

- Look! I shall certainly do according to your words. Look! I shall certainly give you a wise and understanding heart, so that one like you there has not happened to be before you, and after you there will not rise up one like you. (1 Kings 3:12)

- His **wisdom** surpassed the famed wisdom of the Orientals and of Egypt, making Jerusalem a place to which monarchs or their representatives traveled to learn from the Judean king.

- And God continued giving Solomon **wisdom** and understanding in very great measure and a broadness of heart, like the sand that is upon the seashore. (1 Kings 4:29)

- And Solomon's **wisdom** was vaster than the wisdom of all the Orientals and than all the wisdom of Egypt. (1 Kings 4:30)

- And he was wiser than any other man, than Ethan the Ezrahite

- and Heman and Calcol and Darda the sons of Mahol, and his fame came to be in all the nations all around. (**1 Kings 4:31**)
- And he could speak three thousand proverbs, and his songs came to be a thousand and five. (**1 Kings 4:32**)
  - And he would speak about the trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that is coming forth on the wall, and he would speak about the beasts and about the flying creatures and about the moving things and about the fishes. (**1 Kings 4:33**)
  - And they kept coming from all the peoples to hear Solomon's **wisdom**, even from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom. (**1 Kings 4:34**)
  - Now the queen of Sheba was hearing the report about Solomon in connection with the name of Yehowah. So she came to test him with perplexing questions. (**1 Kings 10:1**)
  - Finally she arrived at Jerusalem with a very impressive train, camels carrying balsam oil and very much gold and precious stones, and she came on in to Solomon and began to speak to him all that happened to be close to her heart. (**1 Kings 10:2**)
  - Solomon, in turn, went on to tell her all her matters. There proved to be no matter hidden from the king that he did not tell her. (**1 Kings 10:3**)
  - When the queen of Sheba got to see all the **wisdom** of Solomon and the house that he had built. (**1 Kings 10:4**)
  - And the food of his table and the sitting of his servants and the table service of his waiters and their attire and his drinks and his burnt sacrifices that he regularly offered up at the house of Yehowah, then there proved to be no more spirit in her. (**1 Kings 10:5**)
  - So she said to the king; True has the word proved to be that I heard in my own land about your matters and about your **wisdom**. (**1 Kings 10:6**)
  - And I did not put faith in the words until I had come that my own eyes might see, and, look! I had not been told the half. You have surpassed in **wisdom** and prosperity the things heard to which I



listened. (1 Kings 10:7)

- Happy are your men, happy are these servants of yours who are standing before you constantly, listening to your **wisdom!** (1 Kings 10:8)
- May Yehowah your God come to be blessed, who has taken delight in you by putting you upon the throne of Israel, because Yehowah loves Israel to time indefinite, so that he appointed you as king to render judicial decision and righteousness. (1 Kings 10:9)
- So King Solomon was greater in riches and **wisdom** than all the other kings of the earth. (1 Kings 10:23)
- And all the people of the earth were seeking the face of Solomon to hear his **wisdom** that God had put in his heart. (1 Kings 10:24)
- And they were bringing each his gift, articles of silver and articles of gold and garments and armor and balsam oil, horses and mules, as a yearly matter of course. (1 Kings 10:25)
- **Certain women of ancient times were also noted for their wisdom.**
- And they were bringing each his gift, articles of silver and articles of gold and garments and armor and balsam oil, horses and mules, as a yearly matter of course. (1 Kings 10:25)
- And Solomon kept gathering more chariots and steeds, and he came to have a thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand steeds, and he kept them stationed in the chariot cities and close by the king in Jerusalem. (1 Kings 10:26)
- And the king came to make the silver in Jerusalem like the stones, and cedarwood he made like the sycamore trees that are in the Shephelah for great quantity. (1 Kings 10:27)
- And there was the export of the horses that Solomon had from Egypt, and the company of the kings merchants would themselves take the horse drove for a price. (1 Kings 10:28)
- And a chariot customarily came up and was exported from Egypt for six hundred silver pieces, and a horse for a hundred and fifty,

- and that was the way it was for all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria. It was by means of them that they did the exporting. (**1 Kings 10:29**)
- **And King Solomon himself loved many foreign wives along with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian and Hittite women. (1 Kings 11:1)**
  - **From the nations of whom Yehowah had said to the sons of Israel. You must not go in among them, and they themselves should not come in among you, truly they will incline your heart to follow their gods. It was to them that Solomon clung to love them. (1 Kings 11:2)**
  - **And he came to have seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives gradually inclined his heart. (1 Kings 11:3)**
  - **And it came about in the time of Solomon's growing old that his wives themselves had inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart did not prove to be complete with Yehowah his God like the heart of David his father. (1 Kings 11:4)**
  - **And Solomon began going after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the disgusting thing of the Ammonites. (1 Kings 11:5)**
  - **And Solomon began to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and he did not follow Yehowah fully like David his father. (1 Kings 11:6)**
  - **It was then that Solomon proceeded to build a high place to Chemosh the disgusting thing of Moab on the mountain that was in front of Jerusalem, and to Molech the disgusting thing of the sons of Ammon. (1 Kings 11:7)**
  - **And that was the way he did for all his foreign wives who were making sacrificial smoke and sacrificing to their gods. (1 Kings 11:8)**
  - **And Yehowah came to be incensed at Solomon, because his heart had inclined away from Yehowah the God of Israel, the one appearing to him twice. (1 Kings 11:9)**

- **And respecting this thing he commanded him not to go after other gods, but he had not kept that which Yehowah had commanded. (1 Kings 11:10)**
- **Yehowah now said to Solomon; For the reason that this has taken place with you and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I laid in command upon you, I shall without fail rip the kingdom away from off you, and I shall certainly give it to your servant. (1 Kings 11:11)**
- **However, in your days I shall not do it, for the sake of David your father. Out of the hand of your son I shall rip it away. (1 Kings 11:12)**
- **Only it will not be all the kingdom that I shall rip away. One tribe I shall give to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen. (1 Kings 11:13)**
- **And Yehowah began to raise up a resister to Solomon, namely, Hadad the Edomite of the offspring of the king. He was in Edom. (1 Kings 11:14)**
- **And a wise woman began to call from the city; Listen, men, listen! Say; Please, to Joab; Come near as far as here, and let me speak to you. (2 Samuel 20:16)**
- **So he went near to her, and the woman then said; Are you Joab? To which he said; I am. At this she said to him; Listen to the words of your slave girl. In turn he said; I am listening. (2 Samuel 20:17)**
- **And she went on to say; Without exception they used to speak in former times, saying; Let them but inquire in Abel, and thus they will certainly end the matter. (2 Samuel 20:18)**
- **I represent the peaceable and faithful ones of Israel. You are seeking to put to death a city and a mother in Israel. Why should you swallow up the inheritance of Yehowah? (2 Samuel 20:19)**
- **To this Joab answered and said; It is altogether unthinkable on my part that I should swallow up and that I should bring to ruin. (2 Samuel 20:20)**
- **The matter is not that way, but a man from the mountainous**

region of Ephraim, whose name is Sheba the son of Bichri, has lifted up his hand against King David. You people, give him over by himself, and I will withdraw from the city. Then the woman said to Joab; Look! His head will be pitched to you over the wall! (2 Samuel 20:21)

- At once the woman went in her **wisdom** to all the people, and they proceeded to cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and pitch it to Joab. Upon that he blew the horn, and so they were scattered from the city, each one to his home, and Joab himself returned to Jerusalem to the king. (2 Samuel 20:22)
- From the window a woman looked out and kept watching for him, the mother of Sisera from the lattice, Why has his war chariot delayed in coming? Why must the hoofbeats of his chariots be so late? (Judges 5:28)
- The wise ones of her noble ladies would answer her, yes, she too would talk back to herself with her own sayings. (Judges 5:29)

### •• Not Always Used For Good

- Human **wisdom** can be used for good or for bad. In the latter case it definitely betrays itself as **wisdom** that is only fleshly, not spiritual, not from God.
- Jehonadab was a **very wise man**, but his counsel to David's son Amnon was based on shrewd strategy and manipulation of people by deceit, bringing dubious success and disastrous consequences.
- The wise ones of her noble ladies would answer her, yes, she too would talk back to herself with her own sayings. (Judges 5:29)
- Ought they not to find, ought they not to distribute spoil, a womb, two wombs to every able-bodied man, spoil of dyed stuffs for Sisera, spoil of dyed stuffs, an embroidered garment, dyed stuff, two embroidered garments for the necks of men of spoil? (Judges 5:30)
- Thus let all your enemies perish, O Yehowah, and let your lovers be as when the sun goes forth in its mightiness. And the land had no further disturbance for forty years. (Judges 5:31)
- Then the sons of Israel began to do what was bad in the eyes of

- Yehowah. So Yehowah gave them into the hand of Midian for seven years. (Judges 6:1)**
- **And the hand of Midian came to prevail over Israel. Due to Midian the sons of Israel made for themselves the underground store places that were in the mountains, and the caves and the places difficult to approach. (Judges 6:2)**
  - **And it occurred that, if Israel sowed seed, Midian and Amalek and the Easterners came up, yes, they came up against them. (Judges 6:3)**
  - **And they would camp against them and would ruin the yield of the earth all the way to Gaza, and they would not let any sustenance or sheep or bull or ass remain in Israel. (Judges 6:4)**
  - **For they and their livestock would come up with their tents. They would come as numerous as the locusts, and they and their camels were without number, and they would come into the land to ruin it. (Judges 6:5)**
  - **And Israel became greatly impoverished due to Midian, and the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. (Judges 6:6)**
  - **And it came about that because the sons of Israel called to Yehowah for aid on account of Midian. (Judges 6:7)**
  - **Yehowah proceeded to send a man, a prophet, to the sons of Israel and to say to them; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; It was I who brought you up from Egypt and thus brought you out of the house of slaves. (Judges 6:8)**
  - **So I delivered you out of the hand of Egypt and out of the hand of all your oppressors and drove them out from before you and gave you their land. (Judges 6:9)**
  - **Furthermore, I said to you; I am Yehowah your God. You must not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are dwelling. And you did not listen to my voice. (Judges 6:10)**
  - **Later Yehowah's angel came and sat under the big tree that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abi-ezrite, while Gideon his son was beating out wheat in the winepress so as to get it quickly out of the sight of Midian. (Judges 6:11)**

- **Then Yehowah's angel appeared to him and said to him; Yehowah is with you, you valiant, mighty one. (Judges 6:12)**
- **At this Gideon said to him; Excuse me, my lord, but if Yehowah is with us, then why has all this come upon us, and where are all his wonderful acts that our fathers related to us, saying; Was it not out of Egypt that Yehowah brought us up? And now Yehowah has deserted us, and he gives us into the palm of Midian. (Judges 6:13)**
- **Upon that Yehowah faced him and said; Go in this power of yours, and you will certainly save Israel out of Midian's palm. Do I not send you? (Judges 6:14)**
- **In turn he said to him; Excuse me, Yehowah. With what shall I save Israel? Look! My thousand is the least in Manasseh, and I am the smallest in my father's house. (Judges 6:15)**
- **But Yehowah said to him; Because I shall prove to be with you, and you will certainly strike down Midian as if one man. (Judges 6:16)**
- **At this he said to him; If, now, I have found favor in your eyes, you must also perform a sign for me that you are the one speaking with me. (Judges 6:17)**
- **Do not, please, move away from here until I come to you and I have brought out my gift and set it before you. Accordingly he said; I, for my part, shall keep sitting here until you return. (Judges 6:18)**
- **And Gideon went in and proceeded to make ready a kid of the goats and an ephah of flour as unfermented cakes. The meat he put in the basket, and the broth he put in the cooking pot, after which he brought it out to him under the big tree and served it. (Judges 6:19)**
- **The angel of the true God now said to him; Take the meat and the unfermented cakes and set them on the big rock there, and pour out the broth. At that he did so. (Judges 6:20)**
- **Then Yehowah's angel thrust out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unfermented cakes, and**

- fire began to ascend out of the rock and to consume the meat and the unfermented cakes. As for Yehowah's angel, he vanished from his sight. (**Judges 6:21**)
- **Consequently Gideon realized that it was Yehowah's angel. At once Gideon said; Alas, Sovereign Lord Yehowah, for the reason that I have seen Yehowah's angel face to face! (**Judges 6:22**)**
  - **But Yehowah said to him; Peace be yours. Do not fear. You will not die. (**Judges 6:23**)**
  - **So Gideon built an altar there to Yehowah, and it continues to be called Yehowah-shalom down to this day. It is yet in Ophrah of the Abi-ezrites. (**Judges 6:24**)**
  - **And it came about during that night that Yehowah went on to say to him; Take the young bull, the bull that belongs to your father, that is, the second young bull of seven years, and you must tear down the altar of Baal that is your fathers, and the sacred pole that is by it you should cut down. (**Judges 6:25**)**
  - **And you must build an altar to Yehowah your God at the head of this stronghold, with the row of stones, and you must take the second young bull and offer it up as a burnt offering on the pieces of wood of the sacred pole that you will cut down. (**Judges 6:26**)**
  - **Accordingly Gideon took ten men of his servants and went doing just as Yehowah had spoken to him, but it came about that, as he feared the household of his father and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he went doing it by night. (**Judges 6:27**)**
  - **Absalom cunningly campaigned to unseat his royal father David.**
  - **Accordingly Gideon took ten men of his servants and went doing just as Yehowah had spoken to him, but it came about that, as he feared the household of his father and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he went doing it by night. (**Judges 6:27**)**
  - **When the men of the city got up early in the morning as usual, why, look! The altar of Baal had been pulled down and the sacred pole that was beside it had been cut down, and the second young bull had been offered up on the altar that had been built. (**Judges 6:28**)**

- **And they began to say one to another; Who has done this thing? And they went inquiring and seeking. Finally they said; Gideon the son of Joash is the one that has done this thing. (Judges 6:29)**
- **So the men of the city said to Joash; Bring your son out that he may die, because he has pulled down the altar of Baal, and because he has cut down the sacred pole that was by it. (Judges 6:30)**
- **At this Joash said to all those who stood against him; Will you be the ones to make a legal defense for Baal to see whether you yourselves may save him? Whoever makes a legal defense for him ought to be put to death even this morning. If he is God, let him make a legal defense for himself, because someone has pulled down his altar. (Judges 6:31)**
- **And he began to call him Jerubbaal on that day, saying; Let Baal make a legal defense in his own behalf, because someone has pulled down his altar. (Judges 6:32)**
- **And he began to call him Jerubbaal on that day, saying; Let Baal make a legal defense in his own behalf, because someone has pulled down his altar. (Judges 6:32)**
- **And all Midian and Amalek and the Easterners gathered together as one and proceeded to cross over and camp in the low plain of Jezreel. (Judges 6:33)**
- **And Yehowah's spirit enveloped Gideon so that he went blowing the horn, and the Abi-ezrites got to be called together after him. (Judges 6:34)**
- **And he sent out messengers through all of Manasseh, and they too got to be called together after him. He also sent out messengers through Asher and Zebulun and Naphtali, and they came on up to meet him. (Judges 6:35)**
- **Then Gideon said to the true God; If you are saving Israel by means of me, just as you have promised. (Judges 6:36)**
- **Here I am keeping a fleece of wool exposed on the threshing floor. If dew comes to be on the fleece alone but on all the earth**



- there is dryness, then I must know that you will save Israel by means of me, just as you have promised. ([Judges 6:37](#))
- **And, upon occupying Jerusalem, solicited the advice of two of his fathers counselors, Ahithophel and Hushai, concerning what further steps he might shrewdly take.**
  - **Ahithophel's wise advice was consistently of such accuracy that it appeared as if it came from God. Nevertheless, he had become a traitor to God's anointed, and Yehowah caused his wise battle plan to be rejected in favor of faithful Hushai's plan, which skillfully played on Absalom's vanity and human weaknesses to bring about his downfall.**
  - **As for Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, they entered Jerusalem, and Ahithophel was with him. ([2 Samuel 16:15](#))**
  - **And it came about that, as soon as Hushai the Archite, David's companion, came in to Absalom, Hushai proceeded to say to Absalom; Let the king live! Let the king live! ([2 Samuel 16:16](#))**
  - **At this Absalom said to Hushai; This is the loving-kindness of yours toward your companion, is it? Why did you not go with your companion? ([2 Samuel 16:17](#))**
  - **So Hushai said to Absalom; No, but the one whom Yehowah has chosen and also this people and all the men of Israel, his I shall become, and with him I shall dwell. ([2 Samuel 16:18](#))**
  - **And for the second time I must say; Whom shall I myself serve? Is it not before his son? Just as I served before your father, so I shall prove to be before you. ([2 Samuel 16:19](#))**
  - **Later Absalom said to Ahithophel; You men, give counsel on your part. What shall we do? ([2 Samuel 16:20](#))**
  - **Then Ahithophel said to Absalom; Have relations with the concubines of your father, whom he left behind to take care of the house. And all Israel will certainly hear that you have made yourself foul-smelling to your father, and the hands of all those who are with you will certainly become strong. ([2 Samuel 16:21](#))**
  - **Accordingly they pitched a tent for Absalom upon the roof, and Absalom began to have relations with the concubines of his**

**father under the eyes of all Israel. (2 Samuel 16:22)**

- **And the counsel of Ahithophel, with which he counseled in those days, was just as when a man would inquire of the word of the true God. That was the way all the counsel of Ahithophel was both to David and to Absalom. (2 Samuel 16:23)**
- **And Ahithophel proceeded to say to Absalom; Let me choose, please, twelve thousand men and rise up and chase after David tonight. (2 Samuel 17:1)**
- **And I shall come upon him when he is weary and feeble in both hands, and I shall certainly drive him into trembling, and all the people that are with him will have to flee, and I shall certainly strike down the king by himself. (2 Samuel 17:2)**
- **and let me bring all the people back to you. Equivalent to the returning of all is the man whom you are seeking, and all the people will themselves come to be at peace. (2 Samuel 17:3)**
- **And the word was just right in the eyes of Absalom and in the eyes of all the older men of Israel. (2 Samuel 17:4)**
- **However, Absalom said; Call, please, Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear what is in his mouth, even his. (2 Samuel 17:5)**
- **So Hushai came in to Absalom. Then Absalom said to him, According to this word is the way Ahithophel spoke. Shall we act upon his word? If not, you yourself speak. (2 Samuel 17:6)**
- **At this Hushai said to Absalom; The counsel with which Ahithophel has counseled is not good in this instance! (2 Samuel 17:7)**
- **And Hushai went on to say; You yourself well know your father and the men of his, that they are mighty, and they are bitter of soul, like a female bear that has lost her cubs in the field, and your father is a warrior, and he will not spend the night with the people. (2 Samuel 17:8)**
- **Look! Now he is in hiding in one of the hollows or in one of the other places, and it will certainly occur that, just as soon as he falls upon them at the start, the one hearing of it will then be bound to hear and say; A defeat has taken place among the**

people that are following Absalom! (2 Samuel 17:9)

- And even the valiant man whose heart is as the heart of the lion will himself surely soften in weakness, for all Israel is aware that your father is a mighty man and so, too, are the valiant men that are with him. (2 Samuel 17:10)
- I myself do say in counsel; Let all Israel without fail be gathered to you, from Dan to Beer-sheba, as the sand particles that are by the sea for multitude, with your own person going into the fight. (2 Samuel 17:11)
- And we must come against him in one of the places where he is certain to be found, and we ourselves will be upon him just as the dew falls upon the ground, and there will certainly not be left even a single one among him and all the men that are with him. (2 Samuel 17:12)
- And if it is into some city that he will withdraw, all Israel must also carry ropes to that city, and we shall certainly drag it down to the torrent valley, until there shall not be found there even a pebble. (2 Samuel 17:13)
- Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said; The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel! And Yehowah himself had given command to frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel although good, in order, that Yehowah might bring calamity upon Absalom. (2 Samuel 17:14)
- As Paul wrote of God. He catches the wise in their own cunning. And again; Yehowah knows that the reasonings of the wise men are futile.
- For the **wisdom** of this world is foolishness with God, for it is written: He catches the wise in their own cunning. (1 Corinthians 3:19)
- And again; Yehowah knows that the reasonings of the **wise** men are futile. (1 Corinthians 3:20)
- And he proceeded to say to his people; Look! The people of the sons of Israel are more numerous and mightier than we are. (Exodus 1:9)

- **Come on! Let us deal *shrewdly* with them, for fear they may multiply, and it must turn out that, in case war should befall us, then they certainly will also be added to those who hate us and will fight against us and go up out of the country. (Exodus 1:10)**
- **So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people kept growing more numerous and becoming very mighty. (Exodus 1:20)**
- **And it came about that because the midwives had feared the true God he later presented them with families. (Exodus 1:21)**
- **The scribes and the chief priests now sought to get their hands on him in that very hour, but they feared the people, for they perceived that he spoke this illustration with them in mind. (Luke 20:19)**
- **And, after observing him closely, they sent out men secretly hired to pretend that they were righteous, in order, that they might catch him in speech, so as to turn him over to the government and to the authority of the governor. (Luke 20:20)**
- **And they questioned him, saying; Teacher, we know you speak and teach correctly and show no partiality, but you teach the way of God in line with truth. (Luke 20:21)**
- **Is it lawful for us to pay tax to Caesar or not? (Luke 20:22)**
- **But he detected their *cunning* and said to them. (Luke 20:23)**
- **Show me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have? They said; Caesars. (Luke 20:24)**
- **He said to them; By all means, then, pay back Caesar's things to Caesar, but God's things to God. (Luke 20:25)**
- **Well, they were not able to catch him in this saying before the people, but, in amazement at his answer, they said nothing. (Luke 20:26)**
- **Apostate priests, prophets, and wise men of the Israelite nation in time led the people to oppose God's counsel and commands as spoken by his loyal servants.**

- And they proceeded to say; Come, men, and let us think out against Jeremiah some thoughts, for the Law will not perish from the priest or counsel from the wise one or the word from the prophet. Come and let us strike him with the tongue, and let us pay no attention to any of his words. (**Jeremiah 18:18**)
- As a result, Yehowah caused the **wisdom** of their wise men to perish and the understanding of their discreet men to **conceal itself**.
- And Yehowah says; For the reason that this people have come near with their mouth, and they have glorified me merely with their lips, and they have removed their heart itself far away from me, and their fear toward me becomes mens commandment that is being taught. (**Isaiah 29:13**)
- Therefore here I am, the One that will act wonderfully again with this people, in a wonderful manner and with something wonderful, and the **wisdom** of their **wise** men must perish, and the very understanding of their **discreet men** will **conceal itself**. (**Isaiah 29:14**)
- How can you men say; We are **wise**, and the Law of Yehowah is with us? Surely, now, the false stylus of the secretaries has worked in sheer falsehood. (**Jeremiah 8:8**)
- The wise ones have become ashamed. They have become terrified and will be caught. Look! They have rejected the very word of Yehowah, and what **wisdom** do they have? (**Jeremiah 8:9**)
- Bringing the 500-year-old kingdom to ruin, as he later did to Jerusalem's proud destroyer, Babylon, and to the boastful dynasty of Tyre.
- And you kept trusting in your badness. You have said; There is no one seeing me. Your **wisdom** and your **knowledge**, this is what has led you away, and you keep saying in your heart; I am, and there is nobody else. (**Isaiah 47:10**)
- And upon you calamity must come; You will know no charming against it. And upon you adversity will fall. You will not be able to avert it. And upon you there will suddenly come a ruin that you are not accustomed to know. (**Isaiah 47:11**)

- Stand still, now, with your spells and with the abundance of your sorceries, in which you have toiled from your youth, that perhaps you might be able to benefit, that perhaps you might strike people with awe. ([Isaiah 47:12](#))
- You have grown weary with the multitude of your counselors. Let them stand up, now, and save you, the worshipers of the heavens, the lookers at the stars, those giving out knowledge at the new moons concerning the things that will come upon you. ([Isaiah 47:13](#))
- Look! They have become like stubble. A fire itself will certainly burn them up. They will not deliver their soul from the power of the flame. There will be no glow of charcoals for people to warm themselves, no firelight in front of which to sit down. ([Isaiah 47:14](#))
- Thus they will certainly become to you, with whom you have toiled as your charmers from your youth. They will actually wander, each one to his own region. There will be no one to save you. ([Isaiah 47:15](#))
- Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that your heart has become haughty, and you keep saying; I am a god. In the seat of god I have seated myself, in the heart of the open sea, whereas an earthling man is what you are, and not a god, and you keep making your heart like the heart of god. ([Ezekiel 28:2](#))
- Look! You are wiser than Daniel? There are no secrets that have proved a match for you. ([Ezekiel 28:3](#))
- By your **wisdom** and by your discernment you have made wealth for your own self, and you keep getting gold and silver in your storehouses. ([Ezekiel 28:4](#))
- By the abundance of your **wisdom**, by your sales goods, you have made your wealth abound, and your heart began to be haughty because of your wealth. ([Ezekiel 28:5](#))
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that you make your heart like the heart of god. ([Ezekiel 28:6](#))

- Therefore here I am bringing upon you strangers, the tyrants of the nations, and they will certainly draw their swords against the beauty of your **wisdom** and profane your beaming splendor. **(Ezekiel 28:7)**
- Down to the pit they will bring you, and you must die the death of someone slain in the heart of the open sea. **(Ezekiel 28:8)**
- Will you without fail say; I am god, before the one killing you, whereas you are a mere earthling man, and not a god, in the hand of those profaning you? **(Ezekiel 28:9)**
- The deaths of uncircumcised ones you will die by the hand of strangers, for I myself have spoken, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. **(Ezekiel 28:10)**
- And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; **(Ezekiel 28:11)**
- Son of man, lift up a dirge concerning the king of Tyre, and you must say to him; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; You are sealing up a pattern, full of **wisdom** and perfect in beauty. **(Ezekiel 28:12)**
- In Eden, the garden of God, you proved to be. Every precious stone was your covering, ruby, topaz and jasper, chrysolite, onyx and jade, sapphire, turquoise and emerald, and of gold was the workmanship of your settings and your sockets in you. In the day of your being created they were made ready. **(Ezekiel 28:13)**
- You are the anointed cherub that is covering, and I have set you. On the holy mountain of God you proved to be. In the midst of fiery stones you walked about. **(Ezekiel 28:14)**
- You were faultless in your ways from the day of your being created until unrighteousness was found in you. **(Ezekiel 28:15)**
- Because of the abundance of your sales goods they filled the midst of you with violence, and you began to sin. And I shall put you as profane out of the mountain of God, and I shall destroy you, O cherub that is covering, from the midst of the fiery stones. **(Ezekiel 28:16)**
- Your heart became haughty because of your beauty. You

brought your **wisdom** to ruin on account of your beaming splendor. Onto the earth I will throw you. Before kings I will set you, for them to look upon you. (**Ezekiel 28:17**)

- They rejected spiritual **wisdom** in favor of fleshly **wisdom**.

### •• The Vanity Of Much Of Human Wisdom

- Investigating the calamitous occupation that sin and imperfection have brought mankind, King Solomon weighed the value of the **wisdom** that men in general develop and attain and found it to be a **striving after wind**.

- The disorder, perversion, and deficiencies in imperfect human society were so far beyond man's ability to straighten out or compensate for, that those **getting an abundance of wisdom experienced increased frustration and irritation**, evidently because they became acutely conscious of how little they could personally do to improve matters.

- And I set my heart to seek and explore **wisdom** in relation to everything that has been done under the heavens, the calamitous occupation that God has given to the sons of mankind in which to be occupied. (**Ecclesiastes 1:13**)

- I saw all the works that were done under the sun, and, look! Everything was vanity and a striving after wind. (**Ecclesiastes 1:14**)

- That which is made crooked cannot be made straight, and that which is wanting cannot possibly be counted. (**Ecclesiastes 1:15**)

- I, even I, spoke with my heart, saying; Look! I myself have greatly increased in **wisdom** more than anyone that happened to be before me in Jerusalem, and my own heart saw a great deal of wisdom and knowledge. (**Ecclesiastes 1:16**)

- And I proceeded to give my heart to knowing **wisdom** and to knowing madness, and I have come to know folly, that this too is a striving after wind. (**Ecclesiastes 1:17**)

- For in the abundance of **wisdom** there is an abundance of vexation, so that he that increases knowledge increases pain. (**Ecclesiastes 1:18**)



- **See! This only I have found, that the true God made mankind upright, but they themselves have sought out many plans. (Ecclesiastes 7:29)**
- **For the eager expectation of the creation is waiting for the revealing of the sons of God. (Romans 8:19)**
- **For the creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will but through him that subjected it, on the basis of hope. (Romans 8:20)**
- **That the creation itself also will be set free from enslavement to corruption and have the glorious freedom of the children of God. (Romans 8:21)**
- **For we know that all creation keeps on groaning together and being in pain together until now. (Romans 8:22)**
- **Where the apostle shows God's provision for ending mankind's enslavement to corruption and subjection to futility.**
- **Solomon also found that while such human **wisdom** produced varied pleasures and proficiency that brought material wealth, it could not bring true happiness or lasting satisfaction. The **wise** man dies along with the stupid, not knowing what will become of his possessions, and his human wisdom ceases in the grave.**
- **I explored with my heart by cheering my flesh even with wine, while I was leading my heart with **wisdom**, even to lay hold on folly until I could see what good there was to the sons of mankind in what they did under the heavens for the number of the days of their life. (Ecclesiastes 2:3)**
- **I engaged in greater works. I built houses for myself. I planted vineyards for myself. (Ecclesiastes 2:4)**
- **I made gardens and parks for myself, and I planted in them fruit trees of all sorts. (Ecclesiastes 2:5)**
- **I made pools of water for myself, to irrigate with them the forest, springing up with trees. (Ecclesiastes 2:6)**
- **I acquired menservants and maidservants, and I came to have**

- sons of the household. Also, livestock, cattle and flocks in great quantity I came to have, more so than all those who happened to be before me in Jerusalem. (**Ecclesiastes 2:7**)
- I accumulated also silver and gold for myself, and property peculiar to kings and the jurisdictional districts. I made male singers and female singers for myself and the exquisite delights of the sons of mankind, a lady, even ladies. (**Ecclesiastes 2:8**)
  - And I became greater and increased more than anyone that happened to be before me in Jerusalem. Moreover, my own **wisdom** remained mine. (**Ecclesiastes 2:9**)
  - And anything that my eyes asked for I did not keep away from them. I did not hold back my heart from any sort of rejoicing, for my heart was joyful because of all my hard work, and this came to be my portion from all my hard work. (**Ecclesiastes 2:10**)
  - And I, even I, turned toward all the works of mine that my hands had done and toward the hard work that I had worked hard to accomplish, and, look! Everything was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing of advantage under the sun. (**Ecclesiastes 2:11**)
  - For there is no more remembrance of the wise one than of the stupid one to time indefinite. In the days that are already coming in, everyone is certainly forgotten, and how will the wise one die? Along with the stupid one. (**Ecclesiastes 2:16**)
  - And I, even I, hated all my hard work at which I was working hard under the sun, that I would leave behind for the man who would come to be after me. (**Ecclesiastes 2:18**)
  - And who is there knowing whether he will prove to be wise or foolish? Yet he will take control over all my hard work at which I worked hard and at which I showed **wisdom** under the sun. This too is vanity. (**Ecclesiastes 2:19**)
  - And I myself turned around toward making my heart despair over all the hard work at which I had worked hard under the sun. (**Ecclesiastes 2:20**)
  - For there exists the man whose hard work has been with **wisdom** and with knowledge and with proficiency, but to a man that has

not worked hard at such a thing will be given the portion of that one. This too is vanity and a big calamity. (**Ecclesiastes 2:21**)

- **And I myself have seen all the hard work and all the proficiency in work, that it means the rivalry of one toward another, this also is vanity and a striving after the wind. (**Ecclesiastes 4:4**)**
- **All that your hand finds to do, do with your very power, for there is no work nor devising nor knowledge nor **wisdom** in Sheol, the place to which you are going. (**Ecclesiastes 9:10**)**
- **For he sees that even the wise ones die, together the stupid one and the unreasoning one perish, and they must leave to others their means of maintenance. (**Psalms 49:10**)**
- **Even in life, time and unforeseen occurrence might bring sudden calamity, leaving the **wise** without even such basic needs as food.**
- **I returned to see under the sun that the swift do not have the race, nor the mighty ones the battle, nor do the wise also have the food, nor do the understanding ones also have the riches, nor do even those having knowledge have the favor, because time and unforeseen occurrence befall them all. (**Ecclesiastes 9:11**)**
- **For man also does not know his time. Just like fishes that are being taken in an evil net, and like birds that are being taken in a trap, so the sons of men themselves are being ensnared at a calamitous time, when it falls upon them suddenly. (**Ecclesiastes 9:12**)**
- **By his own **wisdom** man could never find out the work of the true God, never gain solid knowledge of how to solve man's highest problems. (**Job Chapter 28**)**
- **In accord with this I applied my heart to know **wisdom** and to see the occupation that is carried on in the earth, because there is one seeing no sleep with his eyes, either by day or by night. (**Ecclesiastes 8:16**)**
- **And I saw all the work of the true God, how mankind are not able to find out the work that has been done under the sun, however much mankind keep working hard to seek, yet they do not find out. And even if they should say they are wise enough to know, they would be unable to find out. (**Ecclesiastes 8:17**)**

- Solomon does not say human **wisdom** is utterly without value. Compared with mere foolishness, which he also investigated, the advantage of wisdom over folly is like that of light over darkness. For the **wise** man's eyes are in his head, serving his intellectual powers, whereas the stupid man's eyes do not see with thoughtful discernment.
- And I, even I, turned to see **wisdom** and madness and folly, for what can the earthling man do who comes in after the king? The thing that people have already done. ([Ecclesiastes 2:12](#))
- And I saw, even I, that there exists more advantage for **wisdom** than for folly, just as there is more advantage for light than for darkness. ([Ecclesiastes 2:13](#))
- As regards anyone wise, his eyes are in his head, but the stupid one is walking on in sheer darkness. And I have come to know, I too, that there is one eventuality that eventuates to them all. ([Ecclesiastes 2:14](#))
- **Wisdom** is before the face of the understanding one, but the eyes of the stupid one are at the extremity of the earth. ([Proverbs 17:24](#))
- The lamp of the body is the eye. If, then, your eye is simple, your whole body will be bright. ([Matthew 6:22](#))
- But if your eye is wicked, your whole body will be dark. If in reality the light that is in you is darkness, how great that darkness is! ([Matthew 6:23](#))
- **Wisdom** is a protection of greater value than money.
- **Wisdom** along with an inheritance is good and is advantageous for those seeing the sun. ([Ecclesiastes 7:11](#))
- For **wisdom** is for a protection the same as money is for a protection, but the advantage of knowledge is that **wisdom** itself preserves alive its owners. ([Ecclesiastes 7:12](#))
- But Solomon showed that its worth is all relative, entirely dependent on its conformity to God's **wisdom** and purpose.
- With a man there is nothing better than that he should eat and

- indeed drink and cause his soul to see good because of his hard work. This too I have seen, even I, that this is from the hand of the true God. (**Ecclesiastes 2:24**)
- **Everything he has made pretty in its time. Even time indefinite he has put in their heart, that mankind may never find out the work that the true God has made from the start to the finish. (**Ecclesiastes 3:11**)**
  - **I have come to know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good during ones life. (**Ecclesiastes 3:12**)**
  - **And also that every man should eat and indeed drink and see good for all his hard work. It is the gift of God. (**Ecclesiastes 3:13**)**
  - **I have come to know that everything that the true God makes, it will prove to be to time indefinite. To it there is nothing to add and from it there is nothing to subtract, but the true God himself has made it, that people may be afraid on account of him. (**Ecclesiastes 3:14**)**
  - **What has happened to be, it had already been, and what is to come to be has already proved to be, and the true God himself keeps seeking that which is pursued. (**Ecclesiastes 3:15**)**
  - **I myself have said in my heart; The true God will judge both the righteous one and the wicked one, for there is a time for every affair and concerning every work there. (**Ecclesiastes 3:17**)**
  - **Although a sinner may be doing bad a hundred times and continuing a long time as he pleases, yet I am also aware that it will turn out well with those fearing the true God, because they were in fear of him. (**Ecclesiastes 8:12**)**
  - **But it will not turn out well at all with the wicked one, neither will he prolong his days that are like a shadow, because he is not in fear of God. (**Ecclesiastes 8:13**)**
  - **For I took all this to my heart, even to search out all this, that the righteous ones and the wise ones and their works are in the hand of the true God. Mankind are not aware of either the love or the hate that were all prior to them. (**Ecclesiastes 9:1**)**

- A person can be excessive in striving to manifest **wisdom**, pushing himself beyond the limits of his imperfect ability in a self-destructive course.
- Do not become righteous overmuch, nor show yourself excessively wise. Why should you cause desolation to yourself? (**Ecclesiastes 7:16**)
- As regards anything besides these, my son, take a warning. To the making of many books there is no end, and much devotion to them is wearisome to the flesh. (**Ecclesiastes 12:12**)
- But by obediently serving his Creator and being content with food, drink, and the good that his hard work brings him, God will give him the needed **wisdom** and knowledge and rejoicing.
- With a man there is nothing better than that he should eat and indeed drink and cause his soul to see good because of his hard work. This too I have seen, even I, that this is from the hand of the true God. (**Ecclesiastes 2:24**)
- For who eats and who drinks better than I do? (**Ecclesiastes 2:25**)
- For to the man that is good before him he has given **wisdom** and knowledge and rejoicing, but to the sinner he has given the occupation of gathering and bringing together merely to give to the one that is good before the true God. This too is vanity and a striving after wind. (**Ecclesiastes 2:26**)
- The conclusion of the matter, everything having been heard, is. Fear the true God and keep his commandments. For this is the whole obligation of man. (**Ecclesiastes 12:13**)

### ·· **Contrasted With God's Sacred Secret**

- The world of mankind has developed a fund of **wisdom** over the centuries much of it is taught through its schools and by other means of instruction, while some is acquired by individuals through personal association with others or by experience.
- For the Christian there is need to know the right attitude to adopt toward such **wisdom**. In an illustration of an unrighteous steward who manipulated his masters accounts with certain creditors

so as to gain a secure future, Jesus described the steward as acting with practical wisdom, *phro-ni'mos*, **discreetly**.

- This **shrewd** foresight, however, was the **practical wisdom** of the sons of this system of things, not that of the sons of the light.
- Then he went on to say also to the disciples; A certain man was rich and he had a steward, and this one was accused to him as handling his goods wastefully. (**Luke 16:1**)
- So he called him and said to him; What is this I hear about you? Hand in the account of your stewardship, for you can no longer manage the house. (**Luke 16:2**)
- Then the steward said to himself; What am I to do, seeing that my master will take the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, I am ashamed to beg. (**Luke 16:3**)
- Ah! I know what I shall do, so that, when I am put out of the stewardship, people will receive me into their homes. (**Luke 16:4**)
- And calling to him each one of the debtors of his master he proceeded to say to the first, How much are you owing my master? (**Luke 16:5**)
- He said; A hundred bath measures of olive oil. He said to him, Take your written agreement back and sit down and quickly write fifty. (**Luke 16:6**)
- Next, he said to another one; Now you, how much are you owing? He said; A hundred cor measures of wheat. He said to him; Take your written agreement back and write eighty. (**Luke 16:7**)
- And his master commended the steward, though unrighteous, because he acted with practical **wisdom**, for the sons of this system of things are wiser in a practical way toward their own generation than the sons of the light are. (**Luke 16:8**)
- Earlier, Jesus praised his heavenly Father for hiding certain truths from the **wise and intellectual ones** while revealing them to his disciples, who were by comparison like **babes**.

- In that very hour he became overjoyed in the Holy Spirit and said; I publicly praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have carefully hidden these things from **wise and intellectual ones**, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, O Father, because to do thus came to be the way approved by you. **(Luke 10:21)**
- All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and who the Son is no one knows but the Father, and who the Father is, no one knows but the Son, and he to whom the Son is willing to reveal him. **(Luke 10:22)**
- With that he turned to the disciples by themselves and said; Happy are the eyes that behold the things you are beholding. **(Luke 10:23)**
- For I say to you, Many prophets and kings desired to see the things you are beholding but did not see them, and to hear the things you are hearing but did not hear them. **(Luke 10:24)**
- The scribes and Pharisees, educated at rabbinic schools, were among such **wise** and **intellectual ones**.
- And after coming into his home territory he began to teach them in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said; Where did this man get this **wisdom** and these powerful works? **(Matthew 13:54)**
- Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? **(Matthew 13:55)**
- And his sisters, are they not all with us? Where, then, did this man get all these things? **(Matthew 13:56)**
- So they began to stumble at him. But Jesus said to them; A prophet is not unhonored except in his home territory and in his own house. **(Matthew 13:57)**
- Therefore the Jews fell to wondering, saying; How does this man have a knowledge of letters, when he has not studied at the schools? **(John 7:15)**



- In that First Century, the Greeks were especially renowned for their culture and accumulated knowledge, their schools and philosophic groups. Probably for that reason Paul paralleled, Greeks and Barbarians, with **wise and senseless ones**.
- Both to Greeks and to Barbarians, both to **wise** and to **senseless ones** I am a debtor. (**Romans 1:14**)
- Paul strongly emphasized to the Christians at Corinth, Greece, that Christianity is not reliant on nor characterized by the **wisdom, sophi'an**, of the world, that is, the world of mankind alienated from God.
- Where is the **wise** man? Where the scribe? Where the debater of this system of things? Did not God make the **wisdom** of the world foolish? (**1 Corinthians 1:20**)
- Not that among the multiple facets of the world's **wisdom** there was nothing useful or beneficial, for Paul sometimes made use of skill learned in the tentmaking trade and also quoted on occasion from literary works of worldly authors to illustrate certain points of truth.
- And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus who had recently come from Italy, and Priscilla his wife, because of the fact that Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome. So he went to them. (**Acts of Apostles 18:2**)
- And on account of being of the same trade he stayed at their home, and they worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. (**Acts of Apostles 18:3**)
- For by him we have life and move and exist, even as certain ones of the poets among you have said; For we are also his progeny. (**Acts of Apostles 17:28**)
- Seeing, therefore, that we are the progeny of God, we ought not to imagine that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone, like something sculptured by the art and contrivance of man. (**Acts of Apostles 17:29**)
- A certain one of them, their own prophet, said; Cretans are always liars, injurious wild beasts, unemployed gluttons. (**Titus 1:12**)

- But the overall outlook, methods, standards, and goals of the world its philosophy were not in harmony with the truth, were contrary to God's **wisdom in the sacred secret**.

**See Also WORLD (The world alienated from God)**

- So the world in its **wisdom** rejected God's provision through Christ as foolishness, its rulers, though they may have been able and judicious administrators, even **impaled the glorious Lord**.
- For the speech about the torture stake is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is God's power. (**1 Corinthians 1:18**)
- But we speak God's **wisdom** in a sacred secret, the hidden wisdom, which God foreordained before the systems of things for our glory. (**1 Corinthians 2:7**)
- This **wisdom** not one of the rulers of this system of things came to know, for if they had known it they would not have impaled the glorious Lord. (**1 Corinthians 2:8**)
- But God, in turn, was now proving the **wisdom** of the worldly wise to be foolishness, putting their wise men to shame by using what they considered **a foolish thing of God**, as well as persons they deemed **foolish, weak, and ignoble**, to accomplish His invincible purpose.
- For it is written: I will make the **wisdom** of the **wise** men perish, and the intelligence of the intellectual men I will shove aside. (**1 Corinthians 1:19**)
- Where is the wise man? Where the scribe? Where the debater of this system of things? Did not God make the **wisdom** of the world foolish? (**1 Corinthians 1:20**)
- For since, in the **wisdom** of God, the world through its wisdom did not get to know God, God saw good through the foolishness of what is preached to save those believing. (**1 Corinthians 1:21**)
- For both the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks look for **wisdom**. (**1 Corinthians 1:22**)
- But we preach Christ impaled, to the Jews a cause for stumbling but to the nations foolishness. (**1 Corinthians 1:23**)

- However, to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the **wisdom** of God. (1 Corinthians 1:24)
- Because a foolish thing of God is **wiser** than men, and a weak thing of God is stronger than men. (1 Corinthians 1:25)
- For you behold his calling of you, brothers, that not many **wise** in a fleshly way were called, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. (1 Corinthians 1:26)
- But God chose the foolish things of the world, that he might put the **wise** men to shame, and God chose the weak things of the world, that he might put the strong things to shame. (1 Corinthians 1:27)
- And God chose the ignoble things of the world and the things looked down upon, the things that are not, that he might bring to nothing the things that are. (1 Corinthians 1:28)
- Paul reminded the Corinthian Christians that the **wisdom** of this system of things and that of the rulers of this system of things would come to nothing, hence such **wisdom** was not part of the apostles spiritual message.
- Now we speak **wisdom** among those who are mature, but not the **wisdom of this system of things** nor that of the rulers of this system of things, who are to come to nothing. (1 Corinthians 2:6)
- These things we also speak, not with words taught by human **wisdom**, but with those taught by the spirit, as we combine spiritual matters with spiritual words. (1 Corinthians 2:13)
- He warned Christians in Colossae against being ensnared by the philosophy, *phi-lo-so-phi'as*, literally **love of wisdom**, and empty deception according to the tradition of men.
- Look out! Perhaps there may be someone who will carry you off as his prey through the philosophy and empty deception according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary things of the world and not according to Christ. (Colossians 2:8)
- If you died together with Christ toward the elementary things of

- the world, why do you, as if living in the world, further subject yourselves to the decrees. (**Colossians 2:20**)
- Do not handle, nor taste, nor touch. (**Colossians 2:21**)
  - Respecting things that are all destined to destruction by being used up, in accordance with the commands and teachings of men? (**Colossians 2:22**)
  - Those very things are, indeed, possessed of an appearance of **wisdom** in a self-imposed form of worship and mock humility, a severe treatment of the body, but they are of no value in combating the satisfying of the flesh. (**Colossians 2:23**)
  - Despite its temporary benefits and successes, the world's **wisdom** was doomed to produce failure. But the Christian congregation of God's anointed had spiritual wisdom that led to the unfathomable riches of the Christ.
  - Since that congregation formed part of God's sacred secret, by his dealings with it and his purposes fulfilled in it, he made known or revealed **the greatly diversified wisdom of God** through the congregation, even to the governments and the authorities in the heavenly places.
  - To me, a man less than the least of all holy ones, this undeserved kindness was given, that I should declare to the nations the Good News about the unfathomable riches of the Christ. (**Ephesians 3:8**)
  - And should make men see how the sacred secret is administered which has from the indefinite past been hidden in God, who created all things. (**Ephesians 3:9**)
  - This was to the end that now to the governments and the authorities in the heavenly places there might be made known through the congregation the greatly diversified **wisdom** of God. (**Ephesians 3:10**)
  - According to the eternal purpose that he formed in connection with the Christ, Jesus our Lord. (**Ephesians 3:11**)
  - It was revealed to them that, not to themselves, but to you, they were ministering the things that have now been announced to

- you through those who have declared the Good News to you with Holy Spirit sent forth from heaven. Into these very things angels are desiring to peer. (**1 Peter 1:12**)
- That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of **wisdom** and of revelation in the accurate knowledge of him. (**Ephesians 1:17**)
  - The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he called you, what the glorious riches are which he holds as an inheritance for the holy ones. (**Ephesians 1:18**)
  - Its members, having the mind of Christ.
  - Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus. (**Philippians 2:5**)
  - Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (**Philippians 2:6**)
  - No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (**Philippians 2:7**)
  - More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (**Philippians 2:8**)
  - Had knowledge and understanding vastly superior to that of the world, hence they could speak, not with words taught by human **wisdom**, but with those taught by the spirit, with a mouth and **wisdom** opposers could not refute, though such Christians might be looked down upon as, **unlettered and ordinary** by worldly standards.
  - For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit of man that is in him? So, too, no one has come to know the things of God, except the spirit of God. (**1 Corinthians 2:11**)
  - Now we received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God, that we might know the things that have been kindly given us by God. (**1 Corinthians 2:12**)
  - These things we also speak, not with words taught by human

- wisdom**, but with those taught by the spirit, as we combine spiritual matters with spiritual words. (**1 Corinthians 2:13**)
- But a physical man does not receive the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot get to know them, because they are examined spiritually. (**1 Corinthians 2:14**)
  - However, the spiritual man examines indeed all things, but he himself is not examined by any man. (**1 Corinthians 2:15**)
  - For who has come to know the mind of Yehowah, that he may instruct him? But we do have the mind of Christ. (**1 Corinthians 2:16**)
  - For I will give you a mouth and **wisdom**, which all your opposers together will not be able to resist or dispute. (**Luke 21:15**)
  - Now when they beheld the outspokenness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were men unlettered and ordinary, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:13**)
  - But certain men rose up of those from the so-called Synagogue of the Freedmen, and of the Cyrenians and Alexandrians and of those from Cilicia and Asia, to dispute with Stephen. (**Acts of Apostles 6:9**)
  - And yet they could not hold their own against the **wisdom** and the spirit with which he was speaking. (**Acts of Apostles 6:10**)

### •• **Waging Spiritual Warfare**

- The apostle Paul relied on godly **wisdom** in waging spiritual warfare against any who threatened to pervert Christian congregations, such as the one in Corinth.
- Your cause for boasting is not fine. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole lump? (**1 Corinthians 5:6**)
- Clear away the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, according as you are free from ferment. For, indeed, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. (**1 Corinthians 5:7**)

- While God judges those outside? Remove the wicked man from among yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 5:13**)
- For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage warfare according to what we are in the flesh. (**2 Corinthians 10:3**)
- For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but powerful by God for overturning strongly entrenched things. (**2 Corinthians 10:4**)
- For we are overturning reasonings and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are bringing every thought into captivity to make it obedient to the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 10:5**)
- And we are holding ourselves in readiness to inflict punishment for every disobedience, as soon as your own obedience has been fully carried out. (**2 Corinthians 10:6**)
- By truthful speech, by God's power, through the weapons of righteousness on the right hand and on the left. (**2 Corinthians 6:7**)
- He knew that **wisdom** is better than implements for fighting, and merely one sinner can destroy much good.
- **Wisdom** is better than implements for fighting, and merely one sinner can destroy much good. (**Ecclesiastes 9:18**)
- **Wisdom** itself is stronger for the **wise** one than ten men in power who happened to be in a city. (**Ecclesiastes 7:19**)
- His reference to overturning strongly entrenched things.
- For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but powerful by God for overturning strongly entrenched things. (**2 Corinthians 10:4**)
- Corresponds in idea to the **Greek Septuagint** rendering of part of,
- A **wise** one has scaled even the city of mighty men, that he might bring down the strength of its confidence. (**Proverbs 21:22**)

- Paul knew the human tendency to give prime attention to those having impressive manner, obvious talent, or powerful personality and speech, he knew that the quiet speech of a **wise** man of little material wealth is often ignored in favor of those giving greater appearance of mightiness.
- Also this I saw as respects **wisdom** under the sun, and it was great to me. (**Ecclesiastes 9:13**)
- There was a little city, and the men in it were few, and there came to it a great king, and he surrounded it and built against it great strongholds. (**Ecclesiastes 9:14**)
- And there was found in it a man, needy but wise, and that one provided escape for the city by his **wisdom**. But no man remembered that needy man. (**Ecclesiastes 9:15**)
- And I myself said; **Wisdom** is better than mightiness, yet the wisdom of the needy one is despised, and his words are not listened to. (**Ecclesiastes 9:16**)
- The words of the **wise** ones in quietness are more to be heard than the cry of one ruling among stupid people. (**Ecclesiastes 9:17**)
- Even Jesus, who did not have the earthly wealth and position Solomon possessed but who had vastly superior **wisdom**, was shown little respect and attention by the rulers and people.
- The queen of the south will be raised up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the **wisdom** of Solomon, but, look! **Something more than Solomon** is here. (**Matthew 12:42**)
- And after coming into his home territory he began to teach them in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said; Where did this man get this **wisdom** and these powerful works? (**Matthew 13:54**)
- Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? (**Matthew 13:55**)
- And his sisters, are they not all with us? Where, then, did this



man get all these things? (**Matthew 13:56**)

- So they began to stumble at him. But Jesus said to them; A prophet is not unhonored except in his home territory and in his own house. (**Matthew 13:57**)
- And he did not do many powerful works there on account of their lack of faith. (**Matthew 13:58**)
- Look! My servant will act with insight. He will be in high station and will certainly be elevated and exalted very much. (**Isaiah 52:13**)
- To the extent that many have stared at him in amazement, so much was the disfigurement as respects his appearance more than that of any other man and as respects his stately form more than that of the sons of mankind. (**Isaiah 52:14**)
- He will likewise startle many nations. At him kings will shut their mouth, because what had not been recounted to them they will actually see, and to what they had not heard they must turn their consideration. (**Isaiah 52:15**)
- Who has put faith in the thing heard by us? And as for the arm of Yehowah, to whom has it been revealed? (**Isaiah 53:1**)
- And he will come up like a twig before one, and like a root out of waterless land. No stately form does he have, nor any splendor, and when we shall see him, there is not the appearance so that we should desire him. (**Isaiah 53:2**)
- He was despised and was avoided by men, a man meant for pains and for having acquaintance with sickness. And there was as if the concealing of ones face from us. He was despised, and we held him as of no account. (**Isaiah 53:3**)
- To some who boasted in fleshly abilities.
- This is what Yehowah has said; Let not the **wise** man brag about himself because of his **wisdom**, and let not the mighty man brag about himself because of his mightiness. Let not the rich man brag about himself because of his riches. (**Jeremiah 9:23**)
- But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself

because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I do take delight, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 9:24**)

- **Rather than in the heart, Paul's personal appearance was viewed as, weak and his speech contemptible.**
- **We are not again recommending ourselves to you, but giving you an inducement for boasting in respect to us, that you may have an answer for those who boast over the outward appearance but not over the heart. (2 Corinthians 5:12)**
- **For, say they; His letters are weighty and forceful, but his presence in person is weak and his speech contemptible. (2 Corinthians 10:10)**
- **Yet he avoided any extravagance of speech or display of human wisdom and its power to persuade, so that his hearers faith would be built up through God's spirit and power and be founded on Christ rather than on mens wisdom.**
- **For Christ dispatched me, not to go baptizing, but to go declaring the Good News, not with wisdom of speech, that the torture stake of the Christ should not be made useless. (1 Corinthians 1:17)**
- **And so I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come with an extravagance of speech or of wisdom declaring the sacred secret of God to you. (1 Corinthians 2:1)**
- **For I decided not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ, and him impaled. (1 Corinthians 2:2)**
- **And I came to you in weakness and in fear and with much trembling. (1 Corinthians 2:3)**
- **And my speech and what I preached were not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of spirit and power. (1 Corinthians 2:4)**
- **That your faith might be, not in mens wisdom, but in God's power. (1 Corinthians 2:5)**

- We are not again recommending ourselves to you, but giving you an inducement for boasting in respect to us, that you may have an answer for those who boast over the outward appearance but not over the heart. (**2 Corinthians 5:12**)
- With spiritual foresight, Paul was a **wise director of works**, not of material construction but of spiritual construction, working with God to produce disciples that manifested truly Christian qualities.
- For we are God's fellow workers. You people are God's field under cultivation, God's building. (**1 Corinthians 3:9**)
- According to the undeserved kindness of God that was given to me, as a wise director of works I laid a foundation, but someone else is building on it. But let each one keep watching how he is building on it. (**1 Corinthians 3:10**)
- For no man can lay any other foundation than what is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (**1 Corinthians 3:11**)
- Now if anyone builds on the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood materials, hay, stubble. (**1 Corinthians 3:12**)
- Each one's work will become manifest, for the day will show it up, because it will be revealed by means of fire, and the fire itself will prove what sort of work each one's is. (**1 Corinthians 3:13**)
- If anyone's work that he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. (**1 Corinthians 3:14**)
- If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet, if so, it will be as through fire. (**1 Corinthians 3:15**)
- Do you not know that you people are God's temple, and that the spirit of God dwells in you? (**1 Corinthians 3:16**)
- Hence, no matter how much of the world's **wisdom** one might have by virtue of skill in trades, shrewdness in commerce, administrative ability, or scientific or philosophic learning, the rule was:
- Let no one be seducing himself. If anyone among you thinks he

is wise in this system of things, let him become a fool, that he may become **wise**. (1 Corinthians 3:18)

- He should be proud only **of having insight and knowledge** of Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice, and righteousness in the earth, for in this Yehowah takes delight.
- This is what Yehowah has said; Let not the wise man brag about himself because of his **wisdom**, and let not the mighty man brag about himself because of his mightiness. Let not the rich man brag about himself because of his riches. (Jeremiah 9:23)
- But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I do take delight, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 9:24)
- That it may be just as it is written: He that boasts, let him boast in Yehowah. (1 Corinthians 1:31)
- For the **wisdom** of this world is foolishness with God, for it is written: He catches the wise in their own cunning. (1 Corinthians 3:19)
- And again; Yehowah knows that the reasonings of the wise men are futile. (1 Corinthians 3:20)
- Hence let no one be boasting in men, for all things belong to you. (1 Corinthians 3:21)
- Whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things now here or things to come, all things belong to you. (1 Corinthians 3:22)
- In turn you belong to Christ, Christ, in turn, belongs to God. (1 Corinthians 3:23)

#### •• **Wise Administration**

- As **wisdom** personified states; I have counsel and practical wisdom. I understanding. I have mightiness. By me kings themselves

keep reigning, and high officials themselves keep decreeing righteousness.

- **By me princes themselves keep ruling as princes, and nobles are all judging in righteousness. Those loving me I myself love, and those looking for me are the ones that find me.**
- **I, **wisdom**, I have resided with shrewdness and I find even the knowledge of thinking abilities. (**Proverbs 8:12**)**
- **I have counsel and practical **wisdom**. I, understanding, I have mightiness. (**Proverbs 8:14**)**
- **By me kings themselves keep reigning, and high officials themselves keep decreeing righteousness. (**Proverbs 8:15**)**
- **By me princes themselves keep ruling as princes, and nobles are all judging in righteousness. (**Proverbs 8:16**)**
- **Those loving me I myself love, and those looking for me are the ones that find me. (**Proverbs 8:17**)**
- **The Messianic King displays such superior **wisdom** from God.**
- **And there must go forth a twig out of the stump of Jesse, and out of his roots a sprout will be fruitful. (**Isaiah 11:1**)**
- **And upon him the spirit of Yehowah must settle down, the spirit of **wisdom** and of understanding, the spirit of counsel and of mightiness, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yehowah. (**Isaiah 11:2**)**
- **And there will be enjoyment by him in the fear of Yehowah. And he will not judge by any mere appearance to his eyes, nor reprove simply according to the thing heard by his ears. (**Isaiah 11:3**)**
- **And with righteousness he must judge the lowly ones, and with uprightness he must give reproof in behalf of the meek ones of the earth. And he must strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the spirit of his lips he will put the wicked one to death. (**Isaiah 11:4**)**
- **And righteousness must prove to be the belt of his hips, and**

faithfulness the belt of his loins. ([Isaiah 11:5](#))

- Saying with a loud voice; The Lamb that was slaughtered is worthy to receive the power and riches and **wisdom** and strength and honor and glory and blessing. ([Revelation 5:12](#))
- This surpasses the ability men may have or develop naturally, making one wise in the principles of God's Law and, with the aid of his spirit, making it possible to render judicial decisions that are right and free from partiality.
- And you, Ezra, according to the **wisdom** of your God that is in your hand appoint magistrates and judges that they may continually judge all the people that are beyond the River, even all those knowing the laws of your God, and anyone that has not known them you men will instruct. ([Ezra 7:25](#))
- And all Israel got to hear of the judicial decision that the king had handed down, and they became fearful because of the king, for they saw that the **wisdom** of God was within him to execute judicial decision. ([1 Kings 3:28](#))
- These sayings also are for the wise ones. The showing of partiality in judgment is not good. ([Proverbs 24:23](#))
- You should set judges and officers for yourself inside all your gates that Yehowah your God is giving you by your tribes, and they must judge the people with righteous judgment. ([Deuteronomy 16:18](#))
- You must not pervert judgment. You must not be partial or accept a bribe, for the bribe blinds the eyes of wise ones and distorts the words of righteous ones. ([Deuteronomy 16:19](#))
- My brothers, you are not holding the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, our glory, with acts of favoritism, are you? ([James 2:1](#))
- For, if a man with gold rings on his fingers and in splendid clothing enters into a gathering of you, but a poor man in filthy clothing also enters. ([James 2:2](#))
- Yet you look with favor upon the one wearing the splendid clothing and say; You take this seat here in a fine place, and you say to the poor one; You keep standing. Or; Take that seat

- there under my footstool. (**James 2:3**)
- You have class distinctions among yourselves and you have become judges rendering wicked decisions, is that not so? (**James 2:4**)
  - Listen, my beloved brothers. God chose the ones who are poor respecting the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him, did he not? (**James 2:5**)
  - You, though, have dishonored the poor man. The rich oppress you, and they drag you before Law courts, do they not? (**James 2:6**)
  - They blaspheme the fine name by which you were called, do they not? (**James 2:7**)
  - If, now, you practice carrying out the kingly Law according to the scripture; You must love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing quite well. (**James 2:8**)
  - But if you continue showing favoritism, you are working a sin, for you are reprov'd by the Law as transgressors. (**James 2:9**)
  - **Such wisdom is not apathetic toward wickedness but wars against it.**
  - **A wise king is scattering wicked people, and he turns around upon them a wheel. (**Proverbs 20:26**)**
  - **Men selected for responsibility within the Christian congregation qualified, not on the basis of worldly success, fleshly wisdom, or natural abilities, but because of being full of spirit and godly wisdom.**
  - Now in these days, when the disciples were increasing, a murmuring arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution. (**Acts of Apostles 6:1**)
  - So the twelve called the multitude of the disciples to them and said; It is not pleasing for us to leave the word of God to distribute food to tables. (**Acts of Apostles 6:2**)

- **So, brothers, search out for yourselves seven certified men from among you, full of spirit and **wisdom**, that we may appoint them over this necessary business. (Acts of Apostles 6:3)**
- **But we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word. (Acts of Apostles 6:4)**
- **And the thing spoken was pleasing to the whole multitude, and they selected Stephen, a man full of faith and Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. (Acts of Apostles 6:5)**
- **That statement is faithful. If any man is reaching out for an office of overseer, he is desirous of a fine work. (1 Timothy 3:1)**
- **The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach. (1 Timothy 3:2)**
- **Not a drunken brawler, not a smiter, but reasonable, not belligerent, not a lover of money. (1 Timothy 3:3)**
- **A man presiding over his own household in a fine manner, having children in subjection with all seriousness. (1 Timothy 3:4)**
- **If indeed any man does not know how to preside over his own household, how will he take care of God's congregation? (1 Timothy 3:5)**
- **Not a newly converted man, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil. (1 Timothy 3:6)**
- **Moreover, he should also have a fine testimony from people on the outside, in order, that he might not fall into reproach and a snare of the Devil. (1 Timothy 3:7)**
- **Ministerial servants should likewise be serious, not double-tongued, not giving themselves to a lot of wine, not greedy of dishonest gain. (1 Timothy 3:8)**
- **Holding the sacred secret of the faith with a clean conscience. (1 Timothy 3:9)**



- **Also, let these be tested as to fitness first, then let them serve as ministers, as they are free from accusation. (1 Timothy 3:10)**
- **Women should likewise be serious, not slanderous, moderate in habits, faithful in all things. (1 Timothy 3:11)**
- **Let ministerial servants be husbands of one wife, presiding in a fine manner over children and their own households. (1 Timothy 3:12)**
- **For the men who minister in a fine manner are acquiring for themselves a fine standing and great freeness of speech in the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 3:13)**
- **For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might correct the things that were defective and might make appointments of older men in city after city, as I gave you orders. (Titus 1:5)**
- **If there is any man free from accusation, a husband of one wife, having believing children that were not under a charge of debauchery nor unruly. (Titus 1:6)**
- **For an overseer must be free from accusation as God's steward, not self-willed, not prone to wrath, not a drunken brawler, not a smiter, not greedy of dishonest gain. (Titus 1:7)**
- **But hospitable, a lover of goodness, sound in mind, righteous, loyal, self-controlled. (Titus 1:8)**
- **Holding firmly to the faithful word as respects his art of teaching, that he may be able both to exhort by the teaching that is healthful and to reprove those who contradict. (Titus 1:9)**
- **Such ones were among the prophets and wise men and public instructors Jesus had promised to send out, and they could also serve as judges and counselors within the congregation, even as fleshly Israel had had its wise men who served in similar ways.**
- **For this reason, here I am sending forth to you prophets and wise men and public instructors. Some of them you will kill and impale, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city. (Matthew 23:34)**
- **I am speaking to move you to shame. Is it true that there is not**

one wise man among you that will be able to judge between his brothers. (**1 Corinthians 6:5**)

- **They recognized the value of consulting together.**
- **By presumptuousness one only causes a struggle, but with those consulting together there is **wisdom**. (**Proverbs 13:10**)**
- **One wise in strength is an able-bodied man, and a man of knowledge is reinforcing power. (**Proverbs 24:5**)**
- **For by skillful direction you will carry on your war, and in the multitude of counselors there is salvation. (**Proverbs 24:6**)**
- **And certain men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers; Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved. (**Acts of Apostles 15:1**)**
- **But when there had occurred no little dissension and disputing by Paul and Barnabas with them, they arranged for Paul and Barnabas and some others of them to go up to the apostles and older men in Jerusalem regarding this dispute. (**Acts of Apostles 15:2**)**
- **Accordingly, after being conducted partway by the congregation, these men continued on their way through both Phoenicia and Samaria, relating in detail the conversion of people of the nations, and they were causing great joy to all the brothers. (**Acts of Apostles 15:3**)**
- **On arriving in Jerusalem they were kindly received by the congregation and the apostles and the older men, and they recounted the many things God had done by means of them. (**Acts of Apostles 15:4**)**
- **Yet, some of those of the sect of the Pharisees that had believed rose up from their seats and said; It is necessary to circumcise them and charge them to observe the Law of Moses. (**Acts of Apostles 15:5**)**
- **And the apostles and the older men gathered together to see about this affair. (**Acts of Apostles 15:6**)**
- **Now when much disputing had taken place, Peter rose and said**

- to them; Men, brothers, you well know that from early days God made the choice among you that through my mouth people of the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. **(Acts of Apostles 15:7)**
- And God, who knows the heart, bore witness by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us also. **(Acts of Apostles 15:8)**
  - And he made no distinction at all between us and them, but purified their hearts by faith. **(Acts of Apostles 15:9)**
  - Now, therefore, why are you making a test of God by imposing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our forefathers nor we were capable of bearing? **(Acts of Apostles 15:10)**
  - On the contrary, we trust to get saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way as those people also. **(Acts of Apostles 15:11)**
  - At that the entire multitude became silent, and they began to listen to Barnabas and Paul relate the many signs and portents that God did through them among the nations. **(Acts of Apostles 15:12)**
  - After they quit speaking, James answered, saying; Men, brothers, hear me. **(Acts of Apostles 15:13)**
  - Symeon has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name. **(Acts of Apostles 15:14)**
  - And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written. **(Acts of Apostles 15:15)**
  - After these things I shall return and rebuild the booth of David that is fallen down, and I shall rebuild its ruins and erect it again. **(Acts of Apostles 15:16)**
  - In order, that those who remain of the men may earnestly seek Yehowah, together with people of all the nations, people who are called by my name, says Yehowah, who is doing these things. **(Acts of Apostles 15:17)**
  - Known from of old. **(Acts of Apostles 15:18)**

- Hence my decision is not to trouble those from the nations who are turning to God. (**Acts of Apostles 15:19**)
- But to write them to abstain from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (**Acts of Apostles 15:20**)
- For from ancient times Moses has had in city after city those who preach him, because he is read aloud in the synagogues on every Sabbath. (**Acts of Apostles 15:21**)
- Then the apostles and the older men together with the whole congregation favored sending chosen men from among them to Antioch along with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers. (**Acts of Apostles 15:22**)

### ·· Acquiring True Wisdom

- The proverb counsels;
- Buy truth itself and do not sell it, **wisdom** and discipline and understanding. (**Proverbs 23:23**)
- Yehowah, the Source of true **wisdom**, grants it generously to those who sincerely seek it and ask for it in faith, showing a wholesome, reverential fear of him.
- My son, if you will receive my sayings and treasure up my own commandments with yourself. (**Proverbs 2:1**)
- So as to pay attention to **wisdom** with your ear, that you may incline your heart to discernment. (**Proverbs 2:2**)
- If, moreover, you call out for understanding itself and you give forth your voice for discernment itself. (**Proverbs 2:3**)
- If you keep seeking for it as for silver, and as for hid treasures you keep searching for it. (**Proverbs 2:4**)
- In that case you will understand the fear of Yehowah, and you will find the very knowledge of God. (**Proverbs 2:5**)

- For Yehowah himself gives **wisdom**, out of his mouth there are knowledge and discernment. (**Proverbs 2:6**)
- And for the upright ones he will treasure up practical **wisdom**, for those walking in integrity he is a shield. (**Proverbs 2:7**)
- So, if any one of you is lacking in **wisdom**, let him keep on asking God, for he gives generously to all and without reproaching, and it will be given him. (**James 1:5**)
- But let him keep on asking in faith, not doubting at all, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and blown about. (**James 1:6**)
- In fact, let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from Yehowah. (**James 1:7**)
- He is an indecisive man, unsteady in all his ways. (**James 1:8**)
- But the seeker must spend time in study of God's Word, learn His commands, laws, reminders, and counsel, consider the history of God's acts and doings, then apply these in his life.
- See, I have taught you regulations and judicial decisions, just as Yehowah my God has commanded me, for you to do that way in the midst of the land to which you are going to take possession of it. (**Deuteronomy 4:5**)
- And you must keep and do them, because this is **wisdom** on your part and understanding on your part before the eyes of the peoples who will hear of all these regulations, and they will certainly say; This great nation is undoubtedly a wise and understanding people. (**Deuteronomy 4:6**)
- The Law of Yehowah is perfect, bringing back the soul. The reminder of Yehowah is trustworthy, making the inexperienced one wise. (**Psalms 19:7**)
- Who is **wise**? He will both observe these things and show himself attentive toward Yehowah's acts of loving-kindness. (**Psalms 107:43**)
- **Wiser** than my enemies your commandment makes me, because to time indefinite it is mine. (**Psalms 119:98**)

- **More insight than all my teachers I have come to have, because your reminders are a concern to me. (Psalms 119:99)**
- **With more understanding than older men I behave, because I have observed your own orders. (Psalms 119:100)**
- **From every bad path I have restrained my feet, for the purpose that I may keep your word. (Psalms 119:101)**
- **The one wise in heart will accept commandments, but the one foolish with his lips will be trodden down. (Proverbs 10:8)**
- **And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you **wise** for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)**
- **All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)**
- **That the man of God may be fully competent, completely equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:17)**
- **He wisely buys out the opportune time, **not acting unreasonably** in a wicked time, but **perceiving** what the will of Yehowah is.**
- **So keep strict watch that how you walk is not as unwise but as wise persons. (Ephesians 5:15)**
- **Buying out the opportune time for yourselves, because the days are wicked. (Ephesians 5:16)**
- **On this account cease becoming unreasonable, but go on perceiving what the will of Yehowah is. (Ephesians 5:17)**
- **Also, do not be getting drunk with wine, in which there is debauchery, but keep getting filled with spirit. (Ephesians 5:18)**
- **Speaking to yourselves with psalms and praises to God and spiritual songs, singing and accompanying yourselves with music in your hearts to Yehowah. (Ephesians 5:19)**
- **In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ giving thanks always for all**

- things to our God and Father. (**Ephesians 5:20**)
- Go on walking in **wisdom** toward those on the outside, buying out the opportune time for yourselves. (**Colossians 4:5**)
  - Let your utterance be always with graciousness, seasoned with salt, so as to know how you ought to give an answer to each one. (**Colossians 4:6**)
  - He must develop firm faith and unshakable conviction that God's power is invincible, that His will is certain of success, and that His ability and promise to reward faithfulness are sure.
  - Faith is the assured expectation of things hoped for, the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld. (**Hebrews 11:1**)
  - Moreover, without faith it is impossible to please him well, for he that approaches God must believe that he is and that he becomes the rewarder of those earnestly seeking him. (**Hebrews 11:6**)
  - If, indeed, there is no resurrection of the dead, neither has Christ been raised up. (**1 Corinthians 15:13**)
  - But if Christ has not been raised up, our preaching is certainly in vain, and our faith is in vain. (**1 Corinthians 15:14**)
  - If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied. (**1 Corinthians 15:19**)
  - Only in this way can the person make right decisions as to his life course and not be swayed by fear, greed, immoral desire, and other damaging emotions.
  - For Yehowah himself gives **wisdom**, out of his mouth there are knowledge and discernment. (**Proverbs 2:6**)
  - And for the upright ones he will treasure up practical **wisdom**, for those walking in integrity he is a shield. (**Proverbs 2:7**)
  - By observing the paths of judgment, and he will guard the very way of his loyal ones. (**Proverbs 2:8**)
  - In that case you will understand righteousness and judgment and uprightness, the entire course of what is good. (**Proverbs**

**2:9)**

- When **wisdom** enters into your heart and knowledge itself becomes pleasant to your very soul. (**Proverbs 2:10**)
- Thinking ability itself will keep guard over you, discernment itself will safeguard you. (**Proverbs 2:11**)
- To deliver you from the bad way, from the man speaking perverse things. (**Proverbs 2:12**)
- From those leaving the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness. (**Proverbs 2:13**)
- From those who are rejoicing in doing bad, who are joyful in the perverse things of badness. (**Proverbs 2:14**)
- Those whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their general course. (**Proverbs 2:15**)
- To deliver you from the strange woman, from the foreign woman who has made her own sayings smooth. (**Proverbs 2:16**)
- My son, may they not get away from your eyes. Safeguard practical **wisdom** and thinking ability. (**Proverbs 3:21**)
- And they will prove to be life to your soul and charm to your throat. (**Proverbs 3:22**)
- In that case you will walk in security on your way, and even your foot will not strike against anything. (**Proverbs 3:23**)
- Whenever you lie down you will feel no dread, and you will certainly lie down, and your sleep must be pleasurable. (**Proverbs 3:24**)
- You will not need to be afraid of any sudden dreadful thing, nor of the storm upon the wicked ones, because it is coming. (**Proverbs 3:25**)
- For Yehowah himself will prove to be, in effect, your confidence, and he will certainly keep your foot against capture. (**Proverbs 3:26**)



- O Yehowah, show us favor. In you we have hoped. Become our arm every morning, yes, our salvation in the time of distress. **(Isaiah 33:2)**
- And the trustworthiness of your times must prove to be a wealth of salvations, **wisdom** and knowledge, the fear of Yehowah, which is his treasure. **(Isaiah 33:6)**
- As **wisdom** personified says; Happy is the man that is listening to me by keeping awake at my doors day by day, by watching at the posts of my entrances.
- For the one finding me will certainly find life, and gets goodwill from Yehowah. But the one missing me is doing violence to his soul, all those intensely hating me are the ones that do love death.
- Happy is the man that is listening to me by keeping awake at my doors day by day, by watching at the posts of my entrances. **(Proverbs 8:34)**
- For the one finding me will certainly find life, and gets goodwill from Yehowah. **(Proverbs 8:35)**
- But the one missing me is doing violence to his soul, all those intensely hating me are the ones that do love death. **(Proverbs 8:36)**
- The Law of the wise one is a source of life, to turn one away from the snares of death. **(Proverbs 13:14)**
- My son, eat honey, for it is good, and let sweet comb honey be upon your palate. **(Proverbs 24:13)**
- In the same way, do know **wisdom** for your soul. If you have found it, then there exists a future, and your own hope will not be cut off. **(Proverbs 24:14)**

### · Wisdom And The Heart

- Intelligence is obviously a major factor in **wisdom**, yet the heart, which relates not just to thinking but to motivation and affection as well, is clearly a more important factor in gaining true **wisdom**.
- My own mouth will speak things of **wisdom**, and the meditation

- of my heart will be of things of understanding. (**Psalms 49:3**)
- To a proverbial utterance I shall incline my ear, on a harp I shall open up my riddle. (**Psalms 49:4**)
  - In the heart of the understanding one there rests **wisdom**, and in the midst of stupid ones it becomes known. (**Proverbs 14:33**)
  - God's servant wants to get **sheer wisdom** in his **secret self**, have wise motivation in planning his life course.
  - Look! You have taken delight in truthfulness itself in the inward parts, and in the secret self may you cause me to know **sheer wisdom**. (**Psalms 51:6**)
  - Create in me even a pure heart, O God, and put within me a new spirit, a steadfast one. (**Psalms 51:10**)
  - Show us just how to count our days in such a way that we may bring a heart of **wisdom** in. (**Psalms 90:12**)
  - The heart of the **wise** is at his right hand that is, ready to help and protect him at critical moments.
  - I have placed Yehowah in front of me constantly. Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be made to totter. (**Psalms 16:8**)
  - For he will stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those judging his soul. (**Psalms 109:31**)
  - But the heart of the stupid is at his left hand, thus failing to direct him in the course of **wisdom**.
  - The heart of the **wise** is at his right hand, but the heart of the stupid at his left hand. (**Ecclesiastes 10:2**)
  - And also in whatever way the foolish one is walking, his own heart is lacking, and he certainly says to everybody that he is foolish. (**Ecclesiastes 10:3**)
  - Why is it that there is in the hand of a stupid one the price to acquire **wisdom**, when he has no heart? (**Proverbs 17:16**)
  - Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify him as

God nor did they thank him, but they became empty-headed in their reasonings and their unintelligent heart became darkened. **(Romans 1:21)**

- Although asserting they were **wise**, they became foolish. **(Romans 1:22)**
- The truly wise person has trained and disciplined his heart in the way of **wisdom**.
- My son, if your heart has become **wise**, my heart will rejoice, even mine. **(Proverbs 23:15)**
- And my kidneys will exult when your lips speak uprightness. **(Proverbs 23:16)**
- You, O my son, hear and become wise, and lead your heart on in the way. **(Proverbs 23:19)**
- He that is trusting in his own heart is stupid, but he that is walking in **wisdom** is the one that will escape. **(Proverbs 28:26)**
- it is as though he had written righteous commandments and Law upon the tablet of his heart.
- My son, keep my sayings, and may you treasure up my own commandments with you. **(Proverbs 7:1)**
- Keep my commandments and continue living, and my Law like the pupil of your eyes. **(Proverbs 7:2)**
- Tie them upon your fingers, and write them upon the tablet of your heart. **(Proverbs 7:3)**
- So as to pay attention to **wisdom** with your ear, that you may incline your heart to discernment. **(Proverbs 2:2)**
- When **wisdom** enters into your heart and knowledge itself becomes pleasant to your very soul. **(Proverbs 2:10)**

**See Also HEART**

· **Experience And Right Association**

- Experience contributes measurably to **wisdom**. Even Jesus grew in **wisdom** as he passed through childhood.
- And Jesus went on progressing in **wisdom** and in physical growth and in favor with God and men. (**Luke 2:52**)
- Moses assigned as chieftains men who were **wise** and **discreet** and **experienced**.
- Get **wise** and **discreet** and **experienced** men of your tribes, that I may set them as heads over you. (**Deuteronomy 1:13**)
- At that you answered me and said; The thing you have spoken for us to do is good. (**Deuteronomy 1:14**)
- So I took the heads of your tribes, men **wise** and experienced, and put them as heads over you, chiefs of thousands and chiefs of hundreds and chiefs of fifties and chiefs of tens and officers of your tribes. (**Deuteronomy 1:15**)
- While one learns a measure of **wisdom** from suffering punishment or by observing others receive it.
- By the laying of a fine on the ridiculer the inexperienced becomes **wise**, and by ones giving insight to a wise person he gets knowledge. (**Proverbs 21:11**)
- A superior and timesaving way to **wisdom** is profiting by and learning from the experience of those already wise, preferring their company to that of **inexperienced** ones.
- True **wisdom** has built its house, it has hewn out its seven pillars. (**Proverbs 9:1**)
- It has organized its meat slaughtering, it has mixed its wine, more than that, it has set in order its table. (**Proverbs 9:2**)
- It has sent forth its lady attendants, that it may call out on top of the heights of the town. (**Proverbs 9:3**)
- Whoever is inexperienced, let him turn aside here. Whoever is in want of heart, she has said to him. (**Proverbs 9:4**)
- Come, feed yourselves with my bread and share in drinking the

- wine that I have mixed. (**Proverbs 9:5**)
- Leave the inexperienced ones and keep living, and walk straight in the way of understanding. (**Proverbs 9:6**)
  - He that is walking with wise persons will become wise, but he that is having dealings with the stupid ones will fare badly. (**Proverbs 13:20**)
  - Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise ones, that you may apply your very heart to my knowledge. (**Proverbs 22:17**)
  - For it is pleasant that you should keep them in your belly, that they may be firmly established together upon your lips. (**Proverbs 22:18**)
  - Happy are your men, and happy are these servants of yours who are standing before you constantly and listening to your **wisdom**. (**2 Chronicles 9:7**)
  - Older persons are more likely to have such **wisdom**, particularly those who give evidence of having God's spirit.
  - I said; Days themselves should speak, and a multitude of years are what should make **wisdom** known. (**Job 32:7**)
  - Surely it is the spirit in mortal men and the breath of the Almighty that gives them understanding. (**Job 32:8**)
  - It is not those merely abundant in days that prove wise, nor those just old that understand judgment. (**Job 32:9**)
  - This was illustrated notably at the time of Rehoboam's kingship.
  - At this he said to them; Go away for three days and return to me. So the people went away. (**1 Kings 12:5**)
  - And King Rehoboam began to take counsel with the older men who had continued attending upon Solomon his father while he continued alive, saying; How are you advising to reply to this people? (**1 Kings 12:6**)
  - Accordingly they spoke to him, saying; If today you would prove yourself a servant to this people and actually serve them, you

must also answer them and speak to them with good words, and they will be bound to become your servants always. (1 Kings 12:7)

- However, he left the counsel of the older men with which they had advised him, and he began to take counsel with the young men that had grown up with him, who were the ones attending upon him. (1 Kings 12:8)
- And he went on to say to them; What is it that you are offering in counsel that we may reply to this people who have spoken to me, saying; Make the yoke that your father put upon us lighter? (1 Kings 12:9)
- In turn the young men that had grown up with him spoke to him, saying; This is what you should say to this people who have spoken to you, saying; Your father, for his part, made our yoke heavy, but, as for you, make it lighter upon us, this is what you should speak to them; My little finger itself will certainly be thicker than my father's hips. (1 Kings 12:10)
- And now my father, for his part, loaded upon you a heavy yoke, but I, for my part, shall add to your yoke. My father, for his part, chastised you with whips, but I, for my part, shall chastise you with scourges. (1 Kings 12:11)
- And Jeroboam and all the people proceeded to come to Rehoboam on the third day, just as the king had spoken, saying; Return to me on the third day. (1 Kings 12:12)
- And the king began to answer the people harshly, and to leave the counsel of the older men who had counseled him. (1 Kings 12:13)
- And he went on to speak to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying; My father, for his part, made your yoke heavy, but I, for my part, shall add to your yoke. My father, for his part, chastised you with whips, but I, for my part, shall chastise you with scourges. (1 Kings 12:14)
- And the king did not listen to the people, because the turn of affairs took place at the instance of Yehowah, in order, that he might indeed carry out his word that Yehowah had spoken by means of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat. (1

## **Kings 12:15)**

- **When all Israel got to see that the king had not listened to them, then the people replied to the king, saying; What share do we have in David? And there is no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your gods, O Israel. Now see to your own house, O David! With that Israel began to go to their tents. (1 Kings 12:16)**
- **However, better is a needy but wise child, relatively speaking, than an old but stupid king, who has not come to know enough to be warned any longer.**
- **Better is a needy but **wise** child than an old but stupid king, who has not come to know enough to be warned any longer. (Ecclesiastes 4:13)**
- **For he has gone forth from the prison house itself to become king, although in the kingship of this one he had been born as one of little means. (Ecclesiastes 4:14)**
- **I have seen all those alive who are walking about under the sun, how it goes with the child, who is second, that stands up in the other ones place. (Ecclesiastes 4:15)**
- **The city gates, often having adjacent public squares, were places where older men gave **wise** counsel and judicial decisions.**
- **True **wisdom** itself keeps crying aloud in the very street. In the public squares it keeps giving forth its voice. (Proverbs 1:20)**
- **At the upper end of the noisy streets it calls out. At the entrances of the gates into the city it says its own sayings: (Proverbs 1:21)**
- **Does not **wisdom** keep calling out, and discernment keep giving forth its voice? (Proverbs 8:1)**
- **On top of the heights, by the way, at the crossing of the roadways it has stationed itself. (Proverbs 8:2)**
- **At the side of the gates, at the mouth of the town, at the going in of the entrances it keeps crying loudly. (Proverbs 8:3)**

- The voice of foolish persons usually was not heard in such an atmosphere, either in soliciting **wisdom** or offering it, their chatter being elsewhere.
- For a foolish one true **wisdom** is too high, in the gate he will not open his mouth. (**Proverbs 24:7**)
- Though association with wise ones brings discipline and occasional rebuke, this is far better than the song and laughter of the stupid.
- Better is it to hear the rebuke of someone wise than to be the man hearing the song of the stupid ones. (**Ecclesiastes 7:5**)
- For as the sound of thorns under the pot, so is the laughter of the stupid one, and this too is vanity. (**Ecclesiastes 7:6**)
- The person who isolates himself, pursuing his own narrow, restricted view of life and his own selfish desires, eventually goes off on a tangent contrary to all practical **wisdom**.
- One isolating himself will seek his own selfish longing, against all practical **wisdom** he will break forth. (**Proverbs 18:1**)

### •• Revealed In Personal Conduct And Speech

- Has presumptuousness come? Then dishonor will come, but **wisdom** is with the modest ones. (**Proverbs 11:2**)
- States that **wisdom is with the modest ones**, James speaks of the mildness that belongs to **wisdom**.
- Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show out of his fine conduct his works with a mildness that belongs to **wisdom**. (**James 3:13**)
- If jealousy, contention, bragging, or stubbornness is present in a person, it indicates that he is lacking true **wisdom** and is being guided, rather, by **wisdom** that is **earthly, animal, demonic**. True **wisdom** is **peaceable, reasonable, ready to obey**.
- Who is **wise** and understanding among you? Let him show out of his fine conduct his works with a mildness that belongs to **wisdom**. (**James 3:13**)



- **But if you have bitter jealousy and contentiousness in your hearts, do not be bragging and lying against the truth. (James 3:14)**
- **This is not the **wisdom** that comes down from above, but is the earthly, animal, demonic. (James 3:15)**
- **For where jealousy and contentiousness are, there disorder and every vile thing are. (James 3:16)**
- **But the **wisdom** from above is first of all chaste, then peaceable, reasonable, ready to obey, full of mercy and good fruits, not making partial distinctions, not hypocritical. (James 3:17)**
- **Moreover, the fruit of righteousness has its seed sown under peaceful conditions for those who are making peace. (James 3:18)**
- **The rod of haughtiness is in the mouth of the foolish one, but the very lips of the **wise** ones will guard them. They wisely hold back from presumptuous, harsh, or rash speech.**
- **The rod of haughtiness is in the mouth of the foolish one, but the very lips of the wise ones will guard them. (Proverbs 14:3)**
- **Anyone holding back his sayings is possessed of knowledge, and a man of discernment is cool of spirit. (Proverbs 17:27)**
- **Even anyone foolish, when keeping silent, will be regarded as wise, anyone closing up his own lips, as having understanding. (Proverbs 17:28)**
- **The words of the mouth of the wise one mean favor, but the lips of the stupid one swallow him up. (Ecclesiastes 10:12)**
- **The start of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end afterward of his mouth is calamitous madness. (Ecclesiastes 10:13)**
- **And the foolish one speaks many words. Man does not know what will come to be, and that which will come to be after him, who can tell him? (Ecclesiastes 10:14)**

- **From the tongue and lips of the wise comes well-thought-out, healing, pleasant, beneficial speech.**
- **There exists the one speaking thoughtlessly as with the stabs of a sword, but the tongue of the wise ones is a healing. (Proverbs 12:18)**
- **The one that is wise in heart will be called understanding, and he that is sweet in his lips adds persuasiveness. (Proverbs 16:21)**
- **And besides the fact that the congregator had become wise, he also taught the people knowledge continually, and he pondered and made a thorough search, that he might arrange many proverbs in order. (Ecclesiastes 12:9)**
- **The congregator sought to find the delightful words and the writing of correct words of truth. (Ecclesiastes 12:10)**
- **The words of the wise ones are like oxgoads, and just like nails driven in are those indulging in collections of sentences, they have been given from one shepherd. (Ecclesiastes 12:11)**
- **Also, let the peace of the Christ control in your hearts, for you were, in fact, called to it in one body. And show yourselves thankful. (Colossians 3:15)**
- **Let the word of the Christ reside in you richly in all **wisdom**. Keep on teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, praises to God, spiritual songs with graciousness, singing in your hearts to Yehowah. (Colossians 3:16)**
- **And instead of stirring up trouble, they seek to bring calm and to win souls by **wise** persuasion.**
- **The fruitage of the righteous one is a tree of life, and he that is winning souls is **wise**. (Proverbs 11:30)**
- **An answer, when mild, turns away rage, but a word causing pain makes anger to come up. (Proverbs 15:1)**
- **The tongue of **wise** ones does good with knowledge, but the mouth of the stupid ones bubbles forth with foolishness. (Proverbs 15:2)**

- The eyes of Yehowah are in every place, keeping watch upon the bad ones and the good ones. (**Proverbs 15:3**)
- The calmness of the tongue is a tree of life, but distortion in it means a breaking down in the spirit. (**Proverbs 15:4**)
- Anyone foolish disrespects the discipline of his father, but anyone regarding reproof is shrewd. (**Proverbs 15:5**)
- In the house of the righteous one there is an abundant store, but in the produce of the wicked one there is a becoming ostracized. (**Proverbs 15:6**)
- The lips of the wise ones keep scattering knowledge about, but the heart of the stupid ones is not like that. (**Proverbs 15:7**)
- The one that is wise in heart will be called understanding, and he that is sweet in his lips adds persuasiveness. (**Proverbs 16:21**)
- To its owners insight is a well of life, and the discipline of the foolish ones is foolishness. (**Proverbs 16:22**)
- The heart of the wise one causes his mouth to show insight, and to his lips it adds persuasiveness. (**Proverbs 16:23**)
- Men of boastful talk inflame a town, but those who are wise turn back anger. (**Proverbs 29:8**)
- Those who become **wise in their own eyes**, elevating themselves above others, even above God, are worse off than the person who is stupid but does not pretend to be otherwise.
- Answer someone stupid according to his foolishness, that he may not become someone **wise** in his own eyes. (**Proverbs 26:5**)
- Have you seen a man **wise** in his own eyes? There is more hope for the stupid one than for him. (**Proverbs 26:12**)
- The way of the foolish one is right in his own eyes, but the one listening to counsel is **wise**. (**Proverbs 12:15**)
- Such self-assuming persons are too proud to accept correction.
- Do not become wise in your own eyes. Fear Yehowah and turn

- away from bad. (**Proverbs 3:7**)
- The ridiculer does not love the one reproving him. To the **wise** ones he will not go. (**Proverbs 15:12**)
  - Woe to those who are saying that good is bad and bad is good, those who are putting darkness for light and light for darkness, those who are putting bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! (**Isaiah 5:20**)
  - Woe to those **wise in their own eyes** and **discreet even in front of their own faces!** (**Isaiah 5:21**)
  - Paradoxically, both the lazy man and the man who gains riches tend toward this attitude.
  - The lazy one is **wiser** in his own eyes than seven giving a sensible reply. (**Proverbs 26:16**)
  - A rich man is **wise** in his own eyes, but the lowly one who is discerning searches him through. (**Proverbs 28:11**)
  - Give orders to those who are rich in the present system of things not to be high-minded, and to rest their hope, not on uncertain riches, but on God, who furnishes us all things richly for our enjoyment. (**1 Timothy 6:17**)
  - But an earring of gold, and an ornament of special gold, is a **wise** reprover upon the hearing ear.
  - An earring of gold, and an ornament of special gold, is a wise reprover upon the hearing ear. (**Proverbs 25:12**)
  - Yes, give a reproof to a **wise** person and he will love you.
  - Do not reprove a ridiculer, that he may not hate you. Give a reproof to a wise person and he will love you. (**Proverbs 9:8**)
  - The ear that is listening to the reproof of life lodges right in among wise people. (**Proverbs 15:31**)
  - Anyone shunning discipline is rejecting his own soul, but the one listening to reproof is acquiring heart. (**Proverbs 15:32**)

- The fear of Yehowah is a discipline toward **wisdom**, and before glory there is humility. (**Proverbs 15:33**)

## · Wisdom In The Family

- **Wisdom** builds up a household, not just a building, but the family and its successful life as a unit.

- By **wisdom** a household will be built up, and by discernment it will prove firmly established. (**Proverbs 24:3**)
- And by knowledge will the interior rooms be filled with all precious and pleasant things of value. (**Proverbs 24:4**)
- Yehowah himself in **wisdom** founded the earth. He solidly fixed the heavens in discernment. (**Proverbs 3:19**)
- By his knowledge the watery deeps themselves were split apart, and the cloudy skies keep dripping down light rain. (**Proverbs 3:20**)
- He has founded the earth upon its established places, it will not be made to totter to time indefinite, or forever. (**Psalms 104:5**)
- With a watery deep just like a garment you covered it. The waters were standing above the very mountains. (**Psalms 104:6**)
- At your rebuke they began to flee, at the sound of your thunder they were sent running in panic. (**Psalms 104:7**)
- Mountains proceeded to ascend, valley plains proceeded to descend, to the place that you have founded for them. (**Psalms 104:8**)
- A boundary you set, beyond which they should not pass, that they should not again cover the earth. (**Psalms 104:9**)
- He is sending springs into the torrent valleys, between the mountains they keep going on. (**Psalms 104:10**)
- They continually give drink to all the wild beasts of the open field, the zebras regularly quench their thirst. (**Psalms 104:11**)
- Above them roost the flying creatures of the heavens, from

among the thick foliage they keep giving forth sound. (**Psalms 104:12**)

- He is watering the mountains from his upper chambers. With the fruitage of your works the earth is satisfied. (**Psalms 104:13**)
- He is making green grass sprout for the beasts, and vegetation for the service of mankind, to cause food to go forth from the earth. (**Psalms 104:14**)
- And wine that makes the heart of mortal man rejoice, to make the face shine with oil, and bread that sustains the very heart of mortal man. (**Psalms 104:15**)
- The trees of Yehowah are satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. (**Psalms 104:16**)
- Where the birds themselves make nests. As for the stork, the juniper trees are its house. (**Psalms 104:17**)
- The high mountains are for the mountain goats, the crags are a refuge for the rock badgers. (**Psalms 104:18**)
- He has made the moon for appointed times, the sun itself knows well where it sets. (**Psalms 104:19**)
- You cause darkness, that it may become night, in it all the wild animals of the forest move forth. (**Psalms 104:20**)
- The maned young lions are roaring for the prey and for seeking their food from God himself. (**Psalms 104:21**)
- The sun begins to shine, they withdraw and they lie down in their own hiding places. (**Psalms 104:22**)
- Man goes forth to his activity and to his service until evening. (**Psalms 104:23**)
- How many your works are, O Yehowah! All of them in **wisdom** you have made. The earth is full of your productions. (**Psalms 104:24**)
- **Wise** parents do not hold back the rod and reproof, but by discipline and counsel they protect their children against delinquency.

- The rod and reproof are what give **wisdom**, but a boy let on the loose will be causing his mother shame. (**Proverbs 29:15**)
- The **wise** wife contributes greatly to the success and happiness of the family.
- The truly **wise** woman has built up her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands. (**Proverbs 14:1**)
- Her mouth she has opened in **wisdom**, and the Law of loving-kindness is upon her tongue. (**Proverbs 31:26**)
- Children who **wisely** submit to parental discipline bring joy and honor to the family, upholding its reputation against slander or accusation, and give proof to others of their fathers **wisdom** and training.
- A **wise** son is the one that makes a father rejoice, and a stupid son is the grief of his mother. (**Proverbs 10:1**)
- A son is **wise** where there is a fathers discipline, but the ridiculer is one that has not heard rebuke. (**Proverbs 13:1**)
- A **wise** son is the one that makes a father rejoice, but a stupid man is despising his mother. (**Proverbs 15:20**)
- The father of a righteous one will without fail be joyful, the one becoming father to a **wise** one will also rejoice in him. (**Proverbs 23:24**)
- Your father and your mother will rejoice, and she that gave birth to you will be joyful. (**Proverbs 23:25**)
- Be **wise**, my son, and make my heart rejoice, that I may make a reply to him that is taunting me. (**Proverbs 27:11**)