

A dark, textured background, possibly a book cover or a piece of fabric, with a pair of glasses and a book visible. The glasses are in the upper left, and the book is in the lower left. The text is centered in the middle.

Who is Wise and
Understanding Among You?

Who is Wise and Understanding Among You?

- Man's interest in wisdom dates back to Adam and Eve
 - Gen. 3:4-6 - “Then the serpent said to the woman, You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

Who is Wise and Understanding Among You?

- Wisdom is very desirable blessing
 - James 3:13 - “Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.”
 - Prov. 2:6 - “For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding”

Who is Wise and Understanding Among You?

- The world recognizes wisdom, it just can't produce it.
 - “True wisdom comes from the overcoming of suffering and sin. All true wisdom is therefore touched with sadness.” (Whittaker Chambers)
 - “Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much; wisdom is humble that he knows no more.” (William Cowper)
 - “All wisdom may be reduced to two words: wait and hope.” (Alexandre Dumas)

Who is Wise and Understanding Among You?

- Ecc. 9:17-18 - “Words of the wise, spoken quietly, should be heard Rather than the shout of a ruler of fools. 18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war; But one sinner destroys much good.”
- Consider some identifying characteristics of a wise man

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who humbly performs good works that reflect the wisdom of God
 - James 3:13 - “Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.”
 - 1Cor. 3:18-20 - “Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He catches the wise in their own craftiness; 20 and again, The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who respect his parents
 - Prov. 13:1 - “A wise son heeds his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.”
 - Prov. 15:5 - “A fool despises his father's instruction, But he who receives correction is prudent.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- Wisdom is manifested by being a obedient child
 - Eph. 6:1 - “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”
 - Luke 2:51 - “Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who controls his lips
 - Prov. 10:19 - “In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.”
 - Prov. 17:28 - “Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.”
 - Prov. 29:11 - “A fool vents all his feelings, But a wise man holds them back.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who controls his lips
 - Psalm 39:1 - “I said, I will guard my ways, Lest I sin with my tongue; I will restrain my mouth with a muzzle, While the wicked are before me.”
 - 1Peter 3:10 - “For He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- A wise man refrains from:
- Cursing
 - Ex. 20:7 - “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.”
- Railing (to revile, speak evil of)
 - 1Tim. 6:4-5 - “He is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, 5 useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- A wise man refrains from:
- Filthy speaking
 - Eph. 4:29 - “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”
 - Col. 3:17 - “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- A wise man refrains from:
- Hasty words
 - James 1:19 - “So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath”
- Deceit
 - Jer. 9:8 - “Their tongue is an arrow shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.”
- Gossip
 - Lev. 19:16 - “You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who wins souls
 - Prov. 11:30 - “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.”
- Bringing one soul to Christ is the highest achievement possible for a human being. Bringing souls to Christ is the first and primary work of a local church.

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who wins souls
- This is the last instruction Christ gave on earth before ascending to His Father
 - Matt. 28:18-20 - “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- Mark 16:15-16 - “And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”
- Ez. 33:8-9 - “When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you shall surely die!’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. 9 Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who fears evil and departs from it
 - Heb. 3:13 - “But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin”
 - Prov. 14:16 - “A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self-confident.”
 - 1Thes. 5:22 - “Abstain from every form of evil.”
 - Rom. 12:9 - “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.”
 - 1Peter 3:11 - “Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- People tend to have three different approaches toward sin:
 - All embracing - Little, if any, moral compass; unashamed; belligerent toward instruction or correction
 - Apologetic - Mildly embarrassed; somewhat troubled in conscience; insufficient self-control; unwilling to discipline self
 - Actively resistant - Aware that one is not perfect, but strongly striving for perfection; struggles with temptation and sin with all of one's strength, and seeks restoration immediately upon failure

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who hears and obeys the Lord
 - Ecc. 12:13 - “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.”
 - Matt. 7:24 - “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who hears and obeys the Lord
 - James 1:21-25 - “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- One who prepares
 - Matt. 25:1-4 - “Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- Contrast these two men:
- Saul
 - 1Sam. 15:13, 24-25, 30 - “Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD... 24 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. 25 Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD... 30 Then he said, I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- Contrast these two men:
- Saul
 - 1Sam. 26:21 - “Then Saul said, I have sinned. Return, my son David. For I will harm you no more, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Indeed I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.”

Who Is A Wise Man?

- Contrast these two men:
- Paul
 - 2Tim. 4:6-8 - “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”
- The prepared man succeeds; the unprepared man fails.