# The Wise Person

James 3:13-18

 <sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15 Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

James 3:13-18

# Overview of James 1-3

#### **PURPOSE**

- To make us mature & complete so we lack nothing
- To transform our character

#### **PROCESS**

- Temptations
- Treasures
- Truth
- Tongue
- Treating others
- Trust

#### **PRODUCT**

- The Perfect Person (1-12)
- The wise person (13-18)

Chapter 1

Chapter 1-2

Chapter 3



# The Perfect Person & The Wise Person (James 3)

#### The Perfect Person (V1-12)

- Is seen through **CONVERSATIONS**
- Able to control the tongue

#### The Wise Person (V13-18)

- Is seen through CHARACTER
- Is humble

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

Humility is to make a right estimate of one's self. It is no humility for a man to think less of himself than he ought, though it might rather puzzle him to do that

**Charles Spurgeon** 

"A correct vision of God secures humility. Seeing God for who He is enables us to see ourselves for what we are"

Dallas Willard

Humility makes us **bold**, for we (can) see clearly what great "good and evil" are at issue, and (can) we see that it is not up to us to accomplish it, but up to God - who is more than able. Humility is **powerful** because it is a great secret of rest of soul because it does not presume to secure outcomes

**Dallas Willard** 

# How to cultivate Humility?

**Dallas Willard** 

#### Do not PRETEND

Do not PRESUME

DO not PUSH



But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

### "Not easily provoked but easily pacified"

"In the ethics of the Jewish Fathers - Pirke Avot, Mishnah"

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

## Summary: "The Wise Person"

- **Defines** character by Humility
- **Draws** wisdom from God & live by it
- <u>Distills</u> words and action through a pure heart
- <u>Directs</u> daily affairs with peace-loving motive
- <u>Decorates</u> the world with goodness and make it beautiful

