

# Wise Relationships

The Test of Wisdom: Part 2, True Wisdom James 3:17-18 Chris Mueller 1-30-22

Introduction:

**17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. **18** And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

## Unwise versus Wise (James 3:13-18)

	The Unwise	The Wise
<b>CORE</b> (3:13-14)	1. Bitter Jealousy 2. Selfish ambition (3:14)	1. Good behavior 2. Gentle deeds (3:13)
<b>CHARACTERISTICS</b> (3:14-15,17)	1. Arrogant 2. Dishonest 3. Worldly 4. Natural 5. Demonic (3:14-15)	1. Pure 2. Peaceable 3. Gentle 4. Reasonable 5. Merciful 6. Bountiful 7. Unwavering 8. Sincere (3:17)
<b>CONDUCT</b> (3:16,18)	1. Disorder 2. Every evil (3:16)	1. Righteousness 2. Peace (3:18)

#1 The test of wisdom 13

#2 The taint of false wisdom 14-16

#3 The \_\_\_\_\_ of true wisdom 17-18

1<sup>st</sup> The C \_\_\_\_\_ of true wisdom 13

2<sup>nd</sup> The C \_\_\_\_\_ of true wisdom 17

**17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

1. PURE = But the wisdom from above is first pure

**1 John 3:3** everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure

**Hebrews 12:14** sanctification ... no one will see the Lord

**Matthew 5:8** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God

2. PEACEABLE = then peaceable

**Matthew 5:9** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God

The truly wise don't enact conflict through selfishness; they engender peace through humility

Man's wisdom says to cover up sin to make peace. God's wisdom says to confess sin to make peace

**Romans 12:18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men

**Ephesians 4:26** Do not let the sun go down on your anger

3. GENTLE

**Matthew 5:39-40** I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also.

The gentle person does not deliberately cause fights, but neither does he compromise the truth in order to keep peace

**Isaiah 42:3** A bruised reed He will not break. And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish

**2 Timothy 2:24-25** the Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged with GENTLENESS correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth.

#### 4. REASONABLE

You want what's right more than what you want

Reasonable wisdom will choose principle over preference

#### 5. MERCIFUL = *full of mercy*

Mercy implies looking on somebody with compassion when they deserve punishment

**Matthew 5:7** *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy*

**Luke 6:36** *Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful*

#### 6. BOUNTIFUL = *full of...good fruits*

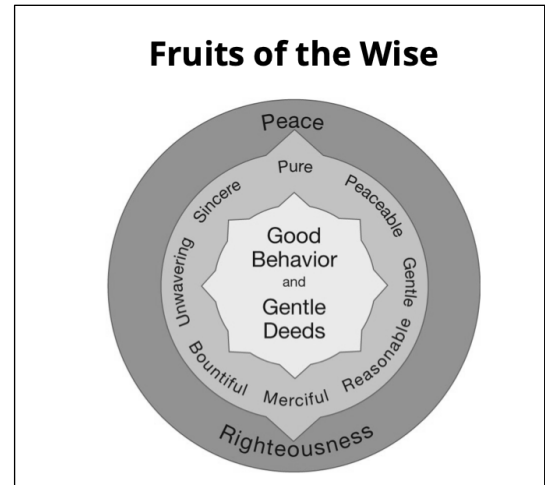
**John 15:16** *You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain,*

#### 7. UNWAVERING

#### 8. SINCERE = *without hypocrisy*

**Ephesians 4:15** *speaking the truth in love*

Wherever you find God's people pretending and hiding, you can be sure the wisdom of this world is governing their ministry



### 3<sup>rd</sup> The C of true wisdom 18

**18** *And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

If you claim to have wisdom like you should, then why do you live like you shouldn't?

#### TAKE HOME:

A. Like faith without works is dead, so wisdom without Christlike \_\_\_\_\_ is empty

**Ephesians 1:17** *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom*

B. The first step to healthy \_\_\_\_\_ is to live by God's Wisdom

**17** *the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy...*

C. The pursuit of godly wisdom will require dependent \_\_\_\_\_

D. You will never become wise without \_\_\_\_\_ as Lord

### QUESTIONS for GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Define wisdom and describe how you know a believer is actually living by wisdom.
2. How should wisdom change the way we solve conflict in relationships?
3. How can wisdom strengthen a marriage, a family, a friendship, and those in ministry together?
4. What characteristic of true wisdom is your weakest, and which is your strongest?
5. What steps will you take to practice wisdom in relationships this week?
6. How will you maintain an ongoing long-term commitment to grow in wisdom from above?



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