

## Hebrews 7.11; Matthew 2.1-12

### The Coming of Wisdom

The coming of Christ brought the tremendous bag of blessing we have been considering. The great change in our access to God and the transformation of the very system that we have been given is the heart of this wonderful gift. For Christ has made a way for us to be received into the presence of God. And the many related blessings which come with this transformation have been our study this Christmas season. Today we finish this sidebar, with one final gift, wisdom. Wisdom is such a great need for us, and so easily counterfeited, we need to see the reality of it so that we are not deceived. Wisdom, has come; God, in Christ has given us wisdom for all ages!!

#### I. WISDOM DESCRIBED

A. It is NOT

1. A collection of facts
2. The inherent property of the moneyed - the fortunes of the wealthy do not necessarily mean they have real wisdom...

and yet we allow them to behave as if they have the power and the wisdom to rule the world...

a. WEF

b. Companies like Blackrock and Vanguard that pushed compliance with ESG ratings and seek to backseat steer society into their own desired image

3. Fame and popularity are not sure signs of wisdom, and yet how often does congress interview and listen to testimony from actors and entertainers regarding important social issues, giving credence to their fame as if it also imparts wisdom?

4. Wisdom is NOT simply what the masses want or believe, for it changes all the time according to the pressures of the loudest voices

B. Wisdom IS

1. Defined by a source outside of us - God

*Proverbs 2:6–8 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding; <sup>7</sup> He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a*

*shield to those who walk uprightly; <sup>8</sup> He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.*

2. Mandated by God as the shape that the world should be in, the thing to be desired above all else

*Proverbs 4:7 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.*

3. Displayed and revealed in His Word

*Proverbs 4:20–23 (NKJV) <sup>20</sup> My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. <sup>21</sup> Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; <sup>22</sup> For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. <sup>23</sup> Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.*

4. Given to us BY God for our good, and in perfect alignment with the will and way of God

*Proverbs 8:8–9 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; Nothing crooked or perverse is in them. <sup>9</sup> They are all plain to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge.*

5. Freely available for all who will call upon God for it; and therein lies the rub. For the

natural man hates everything God loves and loves everything God hates. So, left to ourselves we do only what is foolish and not ever what is wise... we seek folly and so, desire our own destruction.

## II. DEATH AND FOLLY

- A. Those who are not spiritually alive cannot discern the things of God

*1Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV) <sup>14</sup> But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

- B. They will misconstrue every single thing that God says

**Jeremiah 6.14-15**

- C. They will stubbornly cling to what they imagine, despite what God says

**Jeremiah 6.16-17**

- D. They will die in their ignorance unless God intervenes

*Jeremiah 6:21 (NKJV) <sup>21</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, And the fathers and the sons together shall fall on them. The neighbor and his friend shall perish."*

### III. WISDOM CONTAINS

Wisdom has specific content. It is the knowledge of God in absolute truth. God has crafted wisdom for us, in order that we might know His perfection.

- A. Perfect peace given, and in that peace we can know wisdom, and we can know God Himself!

*Isaiah 26:3–4 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. <sup>4</sup> Trust in the Lord forever, For in Yah, the Lord, is everlasting strength.*

*John 14:27 (NKJV) <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

- B. Perfect righteousness revealed

**Romans 3.21-26**

- C. Perfect Justice

**Romans 3.4-6**

- D. Perfect Grace

*2Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV) <sup>9</sup> And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

*1Peter 5:10 (NKJV) 10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.*

E. Perfect mercy

**Ephesians 2.4-10**

F. Perfect Love

**John 15.8-11**

*2Corinthians 13:11 (NKJV) 11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.*

G. Perfect wisdom

**1Corinthians 1.26-31**

H. Perfect truth -

1. God defines truth,
  - a. and it shapes us

**2Timothy 2:14-19**

- b. Those who depart from truth condemn themselves
2. The truth of God transforms every part of us

**2Peter 1.5-15**

3. Jesus Is the Truth and He brings us into the presence of God

*John 14:6 (NKJV) 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

4. The truth constrains us and our labor -

*2Corinthians 13:8 (NKJV) 8 For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.*

*Philippians 1:18 (NKJV) 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.*

#### **IV. WISDOM IS GIVEN**

- A. God reveals truth to those whom he wishes to reveal
  1. The magi were not the only ones who watched the skies
  2. Others all over the world saw the star, saw the signs but they did not understand, or they did not believe.
- B. He chooses without our consent nor our help
  1. God chose these men to come and bring honor to His Son,

2. He gave them the understanding that they had, and He gave them the willing hearts to obey Him
- C. He uses means as He pleases, but means alone are not enough
1. The star, the ancient texts which foretold the Christ were available
  2. The money used to make the trip was present
  3. The knowledge they needed was in the courts of the king
  4. But the direction that took them to Jesus AND the direction to go home without returning to Herod was directly attributed to God
  5. They obeyed according to the will of God

## **V. WISDOM DISPLAYED**

- A. The Magi showed that they had wisdom
1. Seeking
  2. Continuing
  3. Asking
- B. They knew the limits of their own wisdom
1. Listening

- 2. Obeying
- C. They trusted the God that they had not worshiped before; and the encounter changed them...
- D. Seeing Christ led them to worship...

## **VI. WISDOM WORSHIPS**

- A. Gold
  - 1. With all you have in possessions
- B. Frankincense
  - 1. Your only God
- C. Myrrh
  - 1. Surrenders your life