

## INTRODUCTION

- \* Last week, we transitioned in James' letter to discussion of the Perfect Way of Wisdom.
- \* James initially reveals the Contrast between Worldly Wisdom and Heavenly Wisdom. He declares that World Wisdom is of a earthly, sensual, and demonic nature, and is evidenced by envy, self-seeking, and confusion. Heavenly Wisdom, on the other hand, was Wisdom that comes from God and is evidenced in purity, peace, gentleness, submission, mercy, and good fruits.
- \* Clearly, these two forms of wisdom ARE NOT compatible. James next addresses the Conflict that exists with believers following worldly wisdom. He first presents arguments AGAINST the wisdom of the world and then instructions FOR Walking in the Wisdom of God

## INSTRUCTION

### I. A P \_\_\_\_\_ AGAINST WORLDLY WISDOM (v. 1-6)

#### A. The I \_\_\_\_\_

1. THE QUESTION:
2. THE ASSERTION:
3. THE VALIDATION (cf. Luke 8:14; Titus 3:3; James 4:1,3; 2 Peter 2:1-3, 12-13)

#### B. The C \_\_\_\_\_

1. THE QUESTION:
2. THE ASSERTION:
3. THE VALIDATION (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:17; Proverbs 3:34; 1 Peter 5:5)

### II. A P \_\_\_\_\_ FOR HEAVENLY WISDOM (v. 7-12)

#### A. Submit to God (v. 7)

**B. Resist the Devil ... and he will flee from you!** (v. 7; cf. Romans 13:1-2; Ephesians 6:10-14; 1 Peter 5:6-9)

**C. Draw Near to God** (v. 8; Matthew 15:7-9; 26:45-46; Hebrews 7:18-19; 10:19-22)

**D. Cleanse Your Hands ... you sinners** (v. 8)

**E. Purify Your Hearts ... you double-minded** (v. 8; Psalms 24:3-5; Isaiah 1:15-16 (v. 10-20); Matt 5:8; 1 John 1:5-9)

**F. Lament!** (v. 9; cf. Rom 7:24; James 5:1; Rev 3:17)

**G. Mourn!** (v. 9; cf. Mt 5:14; 9:15; Lk 6:25; 1 Cor 5:2; 2 Cor 12:21; Rev 18:7,8,11,15,19)

**H. Weep!** (v. 9)

**I. Humble Yourself ... in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up** (v. 10; cf. v. 6; 1 Peter 5:6)

**J. Do Not Speak Evil ... of one another brethren** (v. 11-12; cf. 1 Peter 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:16)

## INTROSPECTION

- \* Which Way of Wisdom are you following?
- \* Are you setting your mind on the things above? Are you actively seeking to draw near to God?
- \* Is your life full of stress and conflict? Are you leading a hedonistic lifestyle?
- \* Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

## INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- \* Into what areas do the "Tentacles" - of the "Wisdom" we choose to follow - reach?
- \* What affect do they have upon our relationships in our homes, neighborhoods, extended families, etc?