

February 12, 2023

**Wisdom**  
**James 3:13-18**  
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Vol. 13 Num. 7

## Using This Study

### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

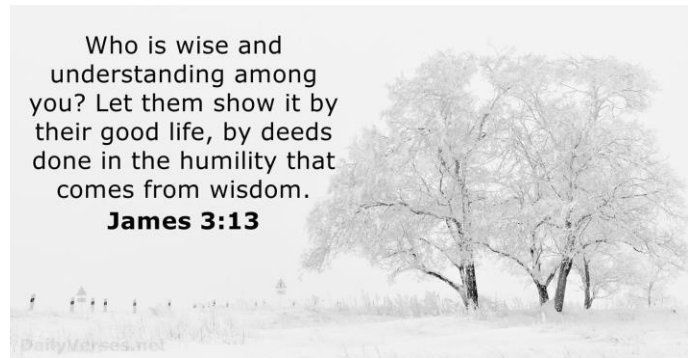
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

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.

**James 3:13**



The second part of James chapter 3 is a passage talking about wisdom. There are many differences between what our society considers wisdom and the way James is describing wisdom. It is no coincidence that this discussion about wisdom is in the same chapter as the discussion about the tongue. Join us this week as we talk about true wisdom and the lies that Satan tells about wisdom in this world.



### **Wisdom from Above**

13Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. 14But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and *so* lie against the truth. 15This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.**

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
What does God MEAN?

1. How does the world define wisdom? (not from the passage)
2. Is it possible to have wisdom and selfish ambition?
3. Where does false wisdom come from?
4. How does the passage define wisdom?
5. What is the seed in verse 18?
6. How does this passage about wisdom relate to the first half of the chapter about the tongue?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

7. How can we grow in wisdom? Explain how this can work.

8. Does this passage help us identify those with wisdom?

9. What is James' main idea of the passage?

10. What do you think our main application should be for this passage?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*