

The Epistle of James

Week 6: James 3:13-18 – Wisdom From Above and Righteousness [dikaiosune]

A. The Meekness of Wisdom 3:13

1:21

Ps. 37:10-11; Is. 11:4; Ps. 45:4; Is. 29:19; Num. 12:3

B. Wisdom that is earthly, sensual and demonic 3:14-16

Bitter envy/jealousy = (the Greek word *zealous*) 3:14, 16

Self-seeking/ambition = political ambition 3:14, 16

Confusion/disorder = insurrection 3:16

Acts 5:17; 13:45

C. Wisdom that is from above 3:17-18

“Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” (James 3:13–18, NKJV)

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:3–10 (NKJV)

Gal. 5:22–26

Luke 9:54-56