

# The Elements of Wisdom: Which part of wisdom do we want?

**Fear of the LORD – Keep your tongue from evil, guile; do good not evil; seek and pursue peace:** Ps 34:12-15 What man [is he that] desirer life, [and] loveth [many] days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD [are] upon the righteous, and his ears [are open] unto their cry.

Pro 9:10 The fear of the LORD is **the beginning of wisdom**; and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Pro 15:33 The fear of the LORD is **the instruction of wisdom**; and before honour is humility.

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

Proverbs 1:7 The **FEAR OF THE LORD** [is] the **beginning of knowledge**: [but] fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 8:13 The **FEAR OF THE LORD** [is] to **hate evil**: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

## **Discretion-- Get wisdom...be good, and discretion will follow.**

Pro 10:19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

Pro 2:11-12 **Discretion** shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil *man*, from the man that speaketh froward things;

Discretion is avoiding being with evil people, to avoid evil appearances or actions of evil.

Ps 112:5 A **good man** sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Pro 19:11 The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and *it is* his glory to pass over a transgression.

## **Understanding – Know the holy, depart from evil, obey, treat others right.**

Understanding is the knowledge of the holy. (Pro 9:10) "...and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. "

Job 28:28 ... "and to depart from evil is understanding."

Understanding causes you to hold your peace. (Pro 11:12) to be slow to wrath. (Pro 14:29) to obey God's commands. (Ps 111:10)

Understanding causes you to walk uprightly. (Pro 15:21) You must hear reproof to get understanding (Pro 15:32) Understanding causes you to have life. (Pro 16:22) Understanding keeps you from problems (Pro 2:11) Understanding keeps you from the rod. (Pro 10:13)

You will not need punishment if you have understanding. Understanding gives you an excellent spirit. (Pro 17:27)

## **Obedience – Get obedience by loving God and decide to obey.**

Deu 4:5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

Deu 4:6 Keep therefore and do *them*; **for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations**, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation *is* a wise and understanding people.

Pro 6:32 *But* whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding; *he that* doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

A man of understanding will not be in direct disobedience...A man of understanding also realizes there is a consequence. (He has prudence.)

## **Dilligence – Go to the ant, consider her ways. (Pro 6:6)**

Dilligence is actually part of understanding. A person who understands will not be slothful. (Pr. 24:30)

Pro 12:24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

## **Righteousness – We can be made righteous by Christ; then, follow him.** Rom 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Pro 8:8 All the words of my mouth *are* in righteousness; *there is* nothing froward or perverse in them.

Pro 4:11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

Pro 2:7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

Ps 11:7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 18:24 Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanliness of my hands in his eyesight.

## **Humility – Decide to humble yourself.**

Mat 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall **humble** himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

2Ch 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Ps 10:17 LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

Pro 16:19 Better *it is to be* of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Isa 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

A. Humility allows you to hear reproof!!! The fool does not abide where he will hear reproof.

(Pro 15:31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.)

Pro 15:32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Pro 17:10 A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

Pro 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

B. Reproof in itself does not always give wisdom, because the fool does not let even his father instruct him.

Pro 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

Pro 15:12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

## **Love – Meditate on what God has done for you. The love of Christ contrains us to live for him. (2Co 5:14)**

Love is directly related to obedience. We will not obey God unless we love him. We show Christ that we love him by obeying him.

(John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.) A wise man obeys the two MOST IMPORTANT commandments!

A. If we are going to love God and others, we must guard what goes into our heart!!!

Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life. (This is what a wise man does with all diligence, above all else)

B. What we love shows how much wisdom we have. We can love the world, or love God...

Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

C. We can love ourselves, or see others' needs and love them – Pro 22:9 He that hath a **bountiful eye** shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor. John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. Gal 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

D. A wise man will love wisdom, love the Bible, and meditate on it. The wisdom to obey is related to loving the right things!!

Ps 119:97 O how love I thy law! *it is* my meditation all the day.

## **Integrity – Become just, desire to be innocent.**

Pro 20:7 The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.

Pro 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Pro 19:1 Better is the poor that walketh in his **integrity**, than *he that is* perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

**Pro 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.**

**Pro 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!**