

The man who finds wisdom, and gains knowledge and understanding, is a blessed man indeed! May God grant you wisdom in abundance, and help you to develop all the more this priceless gift, as you look to Him for guidance in your life, knowing that we can receive this invaluable gift by petitioning God [Jas 1:4-5](#). Please proceed to tract entitled: 'Supernatural Gifts Of The Holy Spirit.'

Scriptural References:

Job 12:13-25
Job 37:5
Psalm 32:9
Psalm 49:3,20
Psalm 104:24
Psalm 111:10
Psalm 119:32,34,66,73,100
Psalm 119:104,130,144,169
Psalm 147:5
Proverbs 1:2,6-8
Proverbs 2:1-3,6,10-12,16
Proverbs 3:1,5,13,15,19,21
Proverbs 4:1,5-7,11
Proverbs 5:1
Proverbs 7:4
Proverbs 8:1,11-14
Proverbs 9:1,10-13
Proverbs 10:14,23,31
Proverbs 11:2,9
Proverbs 12:1
Proverbs 13:10,16
Proverbs 14:6-8,18,29,33
Proverbs 15:2,7,14,21,32-33
Proverbs 16:16
Proverbs 17:16,24,27
Proverbs 18:2,4,15
Proverbs 19:2,8,11
Proverbs 20:15
Proverbs 21:11,30
Proverbs 23:23
Proverbs 24:3,7
Proverbs 24:14
Proverbs 28:26
Proverbs 29:3,15,18
Proverbs 30:3
Proverbs 31:26
Isaiah 11:9
Isaiah 29:14
Isaiah 40:28
Isaiah 44:24-26
Jeremiah 10:12
Matthew 11:25
Romans 11:33
1 Corinthians 1:19-20
1 Corinthians 3:19
1 Corinthians 12:8
Ephesians 1:7-8
James 1:5
James 3:13-18
1 John 5:20

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Wisdom, Knowledge And Understanding



What does the Bible teach us about wisdom? What kinds of wisdom are there? Would you like to delve deeper into the great spiritual truths revealed in God's word and find out what the Bible says about wisdom, knowledge and understanding?

What is the definition of 'wisdom'? The God-given ability to judge or discern correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding; learning and experience acquired over a period of time; ability to see beneath the surface of things.

There are **two kinds of wisdom** described in the Bible:

Heavenly wisdom or godly wisdom - True wisdom which is a "tree of life" comes from God. It is described in the Bible as being from heaven and is pure; peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and compassion, and produces good works, impartial, sincere and without hypocrisy. We demonstrate our wisdom by how we live; by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom Jas 3:13,17-18.

Earthly wisdom or worldly wisdom - Is unspiritual and demonic. It is described as being selfish, without order, and full of every kind of evil works. It harbors bitter envy and selfish ambition in the heart Jas 3:14-16.

We must seek after God's wisdom. We must reject false wisdom that is earthly, sensual and devilish 2 Cor 1:12; Col 2:23. Human "wisdom" is incomparable to God's wisdom. They are incompatible with each other. God will destroy the wisdom of the so-called "wise" 1 Cor 1:18-25.

A. W. Tozer and J. I. Packer have defined wisdom as follows:

"In the Holy Scriptures wisdom, when used of God and good men, always carries a strong moral connotation. It is conceived as being pure, loving, and good... Wisdom, among other things, is the ability to devise perfect ends and to achieve those ends by the most perfect means. It sees the end from the beginning, so there can be no need to guess or conjecture. Wisdom sees everything in focus, each in proper relation to all, and is thus able to work toward predestined goals with flawless precision."¹⁷

"Wisdom is the power to see, and the inclination to choose, the best and highest goal, together with the surest means of attaining it. Wisdom is, in fact, the practical side of moral goodness. As such, it is found in its fullness only in God. He alone is naturally and entirely and invariable wise."¹⁸

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT WISDOM: Firstly, God is omniscient (all-knowing). He is all-wise, infinitely wise Job 9:1-4; 36:5; 12:13; Is 40:28; Ro 11:33. God's wisdom is vastly superior to human wisdom Job 28:12-28; Ps 147:5; Is 55:8-9; Jer 51:15-17. God alone is wise Ro 16:25-27; 1 Cor 2:7, 13; 1 Ti 1:17; Jude 1:25. God is the source of wisdom Pr 2:6-7; Da 2:20; Jas 1:5. We receive wisdom by petitioning God Jas 1:5.

The Bible, especially the Book of Proverbs is filled with information about the benefits and rewards of acquiring wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Let's have a look at a few:

1) Wisdom is a priceless gift of God - Wisdom is more valuable than rubies Job 28:12-19; Pr 3:13-15; 8:11. Wisdom and knowledge is much better than gold and silver Pr 16:16. Nothing compares with wisdom. Since wisdom is of highest value and importance, acquiring it should be number one priority Pr 4:7.

2) The Lord gives wisdom, knowledge and joy, to the one who is pleasing in His sight - Ecc 2:26.

3) The fear of the Lord (respect, reverence) is the pre-requisite to acquiring wisdom The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom Job 28:28; Ps 111:10; Pr 8:13-14; 9:10; 15:33. Fear of the Lord is a fountain of life. It saves one's life Pr 14:27.

4) A wise person fears the Lord and avoids evil - Pr 14:16.

5) Wisdom is to obey God's Word and rightly apply it to any situation - Dt 4:5-6; 11:22; 26:16; Ps 19:7; 119:98-100, 104

6) Wisdom is the ability to see matters as the Lord sees them, in order to judge them correctly - 1 Sam 16:7; Pr 24:23; Is 55:8-9; Jn 5:30; 7:24; 8:15-16.

7) Wisdom is one of the most vital qualities in life - Pr 4:7; Ecc 7:12, 19; 9:16, 18; Is 33:6.

8) Wisdom brings success and victory - Pr 2:10-12; 3:21-23; 4:5-6; Mt 10:16.

9) Wisdom preserves and prolongs life - Scriptures encourage us to get wisdom as it provides safety and keeps one from evil - Pr 3:2, 21-26; 4:5-6; 9:11; 13:3; Eph 5:15-16.

10) Wisdom guides and protects the godly at all times - Pr 4:6; 6:22.

11) Wisdom leads one on the right path - Pr 2:9-11.

12) Wisdom is described as a "tree of life" - Pr 3:18; 8:19; 12:28.

13) Wisdom provides continual refreshment - The phrase "pour out my spirit" describes wisdom as being like a fountain. It provides continual refreshment Pr 1:23; 16:22.

14) The mouth of the righteous is compared to a well of life - It is a fountain of life-giving wisdom. It saves from death Pr 10:11; 13:14.

15) Wise people talk sense - Pr 10:13. A wise man's mouth is guided by his heart, and instruction is promoted by his lips Pr 16:23.

16) The words of the wise promote healing - They speak calming, encouraging and rejuvenating words, which are a source of life Pr 12:18; 18:4. The righteous man speaks wisdom Ps 37:30.

17) The ability to control the tongue is evidence of wisdom - The ability to control the tongue is one of the clearest marks of wisdom Pr 13:3.

18) Wisdom adds beauty and honor to one's life - Pr 1:8-9; 3:35; 6:20-35. An honorable reputation is gained by those who are wise Pr 3:35.

19) Wisdom brings peace - Pr 3:1-2, 17.

20) Happy is the person who finds wisdom - Wisdom guarantees a pleasant and happy life Pr 3:13, 17-18, 22. A wise son also brings happiness to his father Pr 15:20.

21) Wisdom ensures proper conduct - Pr 5:1-23.

22) Wisdom brings long life, wealth and honor - Pr 3:16. Wealth is a blessing and crown for the wise Pr 14:24. To love wisdom is to prosper; to hate wisdom is to "love death" Pr 8:36.

23) Wisdom brings rewards - The one who has wisdom will be rewarded Pr 9:12. Examples of wisdom's rewards are found in Pr 2:1-22; 3:16-18; 4:22; 8:35; 14:14.

24) Words of wisdom are appreciated by those who are wise - The wiser a person is, the more he appreciates words of wisdom Pr 8:9. The wise will respect you if you correct them Pr 9:8. Fools despise wisdom and instruction Pr 1:7. Absence of wisdom is reflected in the foolish person's words and actions Pr 14:33.

25) Wisdom will save from evil enticements - Wisdom will save from the enticements of men and adulteresses who engage in perverse ways, and use dishonest and perverse speech Pr 2:10-19.

26) The wise love to learn - Pr 15:14.

27) Wise people delight in wisdom - Pr 10:23.

28) The wise heed advice - Pr 12:15.

29) Wise people act wisely - Pr 15:21; 17:24.

30) A companion of wise people becomes wise - Pr 13:20.

31) Winning souls is wise - Those who lead people on the path of wisdom and righteousness are wise Pr 11:30.

32) Sowing and reaping principle also applies to words of wisdom - Sowing words of wisdom means reaping a harvest from those words Pr 12:14.

33) "Wisdom is better than strength" - Ecc 9:16. But a wise person has great power Pr 21:22; 24:5. He is strengthened by his wisdom Ecc 7:19.

34) "Wisdom is better than weapons of war" - It is better to have wisdom than weapons of war Ecc 9:18.

35) Wisdom is sweet to your soul - There is a future for those who have wisdom, a never vanishing hope Pr 24:14.

36) We are encouraged to get wisdom - Pr 4:5.

37) The price of a "virtuous woman" is "far above rubies" - Pr 31:10.

KNOWLEDGE:

1) The Lord gives knowledge and understanding - Pr 2:6.

2) The fear of the Lord is the pre-requisite to acquiring knowledge - Pr 1:7.

3) The Book of Proverbs increases the knowledge of the wise - Pr 1:5.

4) Wise men store up knowledge - Pr 10:14.

5) Knowledge is a blessing for the prudent - Pr 14:18.

6) The wise praise knowledge - Pr 15:2.

7) The wise spread knowledge - Pr 15:7.

8) A person with discernment seeks knowledge - Pr 15:14.

9) Those with discernment acquire knowledge - Pr 18:15.

10) A man of knowledge increases strength - Pr 24:5.

UNDERSTANDING:

1) God's understanding is infinite - Ps 147:5.

2) Those who obey God's commandments have good understanding - Ps 111:10.

3) Understanding comes from God - Pr 2:6.

4) Happy is the person who gets understanding - Pr 3:13.

5) Understanding is a fountain of life to those who have it - Pr 16:22.

6) A patient man has great understanding - Pr 14:29.

7) One who cherishes understanding prospers - Pr 19:8.

8) A person with understanding walks uprightly - Pr 15:21.

9) A wise, mature person has understanding - Pr 16:21.