

Of What Value is Wisdom? By Paul R. Blake

Wisdom is an elusive concept, especially for those who believe themselves to be wise. Solomon desperately desired to be wise in order to better serve God as king over Israel. Instead of praying for wealth, power, or any other thing folks commonly wish for, Solomon pleaded for a heart of wisdom. God granted Solomon's prayer and more. He went on to become the most famous king in history due to his great wisdom and insight. In one of his books of wisdom, Proverbs, Solomon spends several chapters admonishing the young to seek after wisdom, calling it the principle thing."

James tells us that we can obtain wisdom if pray for it. He writes in 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him." He continues by telling us to ask in faith, lest we fall short of receiving the answer to our prayers.

Of what value is wisdom to me? Ask rather, of what value is life without it? Imagine no wisdom of God in unfolding His scheme of redemption. We would be lost still. Imagine no wisdom to guide the home. Our families would be intolerable. Imagine no wisdom to guide a nation. That nation would fall. A world without wisdom is a world on a collision course with chaos and destruction.

Judge Not By Rick Duggin

How often do you hear someone trying to salvage an unscriptural position by quoting Matthew 7:1, "Judge not, that ye be not judged"? If nominal Bible students know any passage, it is this one. This verse, like all other scripture, is true, but it is much misunderstood. Many assume all judgment must be left with God... under no circumstances may a man judge anyone for anything. What is wrong with this usual view of the passage?

1) It is a self-defeating position. One who judges another as wrong because he judges another, does exactly what he condemns. He is like the man who argues that it is wrong to argue.

2) It would negate our judgment by God. If the first part of Matthew 7:1 is absolute (under no circumstances may we judge), why is the second part not absolute (we will never be judged)?

3) It contradicts other passages. "Judge not according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24). Never assume a position in one passage that contradicts another.

4) It would prevent us from following the example of Christ and His apostles. Matthew 6:2-18 teaches us to judge others.

5) It contradicts the context. Carefully read verses 5, 6, 15-20 to see if we can obey these things without forming judgments.

6) It would permit and encourage excesses in evil and false doctrine. We could not correct our children, our friends, our society, or our brethren for any kind of sin. 1Corinthians 5 shows what Paul thought of this view. How do you judge it?

Action Is Needed

A little girl told her father that her brothers had set traps to catch birds. He asked her what she did about it. She replied, "I prayed that the traps might not catch the birds." "Anything else?" her father asked. "Yes," she said, "I prayed that God would keep the birds out of the traps." "And what else?" said father. "Then I went and kicked the traps all to pieces." That little girl was bright enough to understand that life needed action as well as prayers.

He Lives Today

Jesus had no servants, yet they called Him Master. Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. Had no army, yet kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.

Christianity

By Basil D. Shilling

To some people, Christianity is little more than ritualism, pageantry, pomp, and ceremony. Such was the attitude of the Pharisees concerning the religion established by the law of Moses. For them, ritualism, ceremony, pageantry and show were everything; character and conduct were nothing.

Christianity is not pageantry, pomp, ritualism and ceremony. You may be sure that the people who parade their Christianity (?) by pageantry and pomp, and by wearing the gorgeous robes and sparkling jewelry have failed completely to understand what Christianity is.

Christianity is right living in the various relationships of life.

In the home, Christianity is love, kindness, and the training of children in the way they should go.

In business, Christianity is diligence, honesty and fairness.

In society, Christianity is courtesy and helpfulness.

In the church, Christianity is faithfulness, humility, love, soberness, righteousness and godliness.

Toward God Christianity is reverence and obedience.

Toward the poor, Christianity is helpfulness.

Concerning self, Christianity is glorifying God with the body and spirit.

A Moments Wisdom

Whatever makes men good Christians, also makes them good citizens.

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen. Not only because I see it, but because I see everything by it.

The measure of a Christian is not in the height of his grasp but in the depth of his love.

True happiness is not found in any other reward than that of being united with God.

There is no emptiness of soul ever for those whose life is devoted to God.

A true love of God must begin with a delight in his holiness.

The road to hell is paved with good intentions; the road to heaven is paved with good deeds.

Without God our week would be: Sinday, Mournday, Tearsday, Wasteday, Thirstday, Fightday, Shatterday.

It's one thing to believe in God, it's another thing to believe God.

Don't expect a thousand-dollar answer to a ten-cent prayer.

The Power of prayer is not in the one who prays but in the one who hears it.