

God's Wisdom

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The reason Jesus was made to be our sin was so that, as our substitute, all the claims of justice might be satisfied. For, not only was He made to be our sin, but He also had to suffer the penalty of death for having become OUR SIN.

Lately it seems as though I have been drawn by God to find out more about His wisdom.

As the years go by, I cannot help but think about the things that used to seem so important, but now (as the old gospel song says) "grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace".

Like so many of us, there are many things I would have done differently. It seems that some of our most valuable lessons are learned when we look back over the things we have done. Unfortunately, most of us only have enough wisdom to understand an event through HINDSIGHT.

But I now know God's wisdom is available to understand the course of action a person should take beforehand, that will give him the FORESIGHT to know how a situation will turn out. I not only want you to know how important I esteem wisdom to be but I want you to know how readily available and accessible she is to the children of God.

After years of ministry, I can say without any hesitation, had I been given a second chance to do it all over again, I would have sought God's wisdom diligently for every aspect of living and life. In fact, let's take it further. Considering what I now know, not only would I have sought God's wisdom in every situation but I would have given the GIFT OF WISDOM the respect and position it deserved as one of the foremost operations of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer and would have saved myself a lot of heartaches and failures by finding out all I could about receiving and exalting wisdom to the head of every crisis.

So, the most precious gift I could possibly give you this Christmas season to help insure the most prosperous and happy New Year you could ever have would be to help you understand how to operate in one of the most productive and precious gifts of all ... GOD'S WISDOM.

First of all, please believe me when I say there has never been a time when you and I have ever gone down in a flailing array of defeat, that WISDOM did not raise her red flags and try to stop us. Nor have we ever made a bad business decision that WISDOM did not make herself available to help us. Nor have we ever been pressured into making a wrong decision that WISDOM did not stand by, ready to avail herself at any given moment.

Proverbs 8:1-5 says: "*Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice? She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man. O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.*"

It never ceases to amaze me, the willingness of God to help His children. Yet it seems so easy to lose

sight of this, especially when you see so many people who are either confused or defeated.

Verse four is actually saying wisdom has a voice that literally calls to the sons of men. The term "sons of men" means every new generation being born to man.

Now, it stands to reason if wisdom has a voice (and we know she does) and if wisdom is calling to you and I (and we know she is), then, without a shadow of a doubt, wisdom is attempting to be heard in the life of every believer.

So, the question is, "Why are not more people hearing?"

In the early days of my ministry, the issue to be settled was whether or not God's wisdom was really available to be heard in every situation. Most of the people I was around in those early days seemed to be living proof that her voice was not being heard. Yet the Word of God gave every indication that she was speaking.

Thank God for the principles of meditation, for it was meditation of His Word that finally opened the door and settled the issue once and for all. Yes, a thousand times yes, HIS WISDOM IS AVAILABLE IN EVERY SITUATION!

So, what I am going to do is give you the revelation or should I say the key that opened the door of faith and gave me access to one of the most exciting and fulfilling of all gifts ... the gift of wisdom.

First of all, you and I have been given the legal right to enter into God's presence to obtain wisdom. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we actually have the right to receive God's counsel for those impossible situations that seem to have no answer. But the thing that is so incredible is the degree to which this wisdom has been made available to you and I.

Now, when it comes to redemption, most of us understand righteousness. As II Corinthians 5:21 says: "*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*"

As faith people we know much about the great substitution and identification teachings which have helped us to understand who we are in Christ Jesus. The reason Jesus was made to be our sin was so that, as our substitute, all the claims of justice might be satisfied. For, not only was He made to be our sin, but He also had to suffer the penalty of death for having become OUR SIN.

So now you and I are free, because everything we had coming was carried out in Him. Not only are we free, but we also have received His standing of righteousness.

We have literally received the sinless, spotless, standing of the Lamb of God "who knew no sin" and have emerged in the presence of God as a NEW CREATION as though our sin had never existed. What would you say if I were to tell you God's wisdom has been made just as available and just as accessible as His RIGHTEOUSNESS?

This is why I Corinthians 1:30 says: "*But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:*"

When this really begins to take hold is when we realize that, just as sure as we are saved and righteous and on our way to heaven, the same Jesus who was made unto us righteousness, was also made unto us WISDOM, and what gives our righteousness the power to take us all the way to heaven is the strength it receives from the sinless, righteous life and standing of Jesus.

Wisdom is the ability to properly apply knowledge in the right place at the right time. In the same way Jesus was made righteousness to us, He was also made wisdom. He is the source of wisdom's power and counsel. Let me tell you why. For every substitution, there is an identification.

He was made sin ... I was made righteousness.

He was made poor ... I was made rich.

He was made sick ... I was made whole.

But when it comes to wisdom, what was it that Jesus became in my stead...or, as my substitute, that gives me this incredible access to the WISDOM OF GOD?

Isaiah 53:7 says: "*He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her hearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.*"

It is interesting to find our answer in one of the most prophetic chapters on substitution and identification in the entire Word of God, Isaiah fifty-three.

You see, when Jesus stood before Herod and Pilate in the greatest trial of all times, He stood dumb as is a sheep before the shearers as He was being TRIED IN MY PLACE as my substitute. **Though He had never committed an offense, broken any laws, nor had any guile ever been found in His mouth, yet He was being accused, tried, and condemned in MY place for MY sins.**

The reason Jesus never opened His mouth in His own defense is so you and I can now open our mouths and give the wisdom in our own defense that He would not give. In other words, every time Satan puts us on trial and tries to judge and condemn us for something Jesus has already been judged and condemned for, you and I have the right to open our mouths and give the wisdom and defense Jesus would not give.

So let's talk about how much of this wisdom is available to you and I or to what degree we can expect it to work in our lives.

Let's just say Satan is bringing an indictment against your finances and is attempting to lay the same poverty upon you that he already laid upon Jesus when He was judged in your place. Now, because as your substitute Jesus received your failure, you in turn can identify with His WISDOM and receive His success.

What makes this so incredible is the degree to which this success has been made available. Contained within Jesus is the answer to every question or situation you and I could ever think of. In fact, there is no mystery that He does not understand nor is there any knowledge He does not possess. There is no problem He cannot solve and the word "impossible" is a delight unto Him.

Yet when our miserable failures, our wrong decisions, and our poverty was laid upon Him, He refused to open His own mouth to use any of these things in His own defense because, if He had defended Himself, then Satan could not have judged Him. But, because He did not defend Himself, then Satan was able to judge Him.

The key is Jesus accepted the judgment you and I had coming and, in so doing, everything He is, His wisdom, His knowledge, His insight has been made available to you and I. I Corinthians 2:30 says, "*But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God IS MADE UNTO US WISDOM*".

And now, all this wisdom and knowledge, everything that Jesus is, has been made available for the everyday affairs of life, our business decisions, and the proper application of knowledge.

HERE ARE SOME KEYS FOR YOU. No matter what you are facing or the kinds of decisions that must be made, always remember Jesus already bore the failure for each of those decisions and crises. Wisdom is crying out to be heard. Each time we face a new crisis or desperately need counsel to make a new decision, WE MUST SETTLE IT WITHIN OUR HEARTS THAT THE ANSWERS WE NEED ARE CONTINUALLY BEING MINISTERED TO US.

First of all, whenever I find myself face to face with a situation calling for wisdom, I begin to confess His Word by saying, "Jesus, I know you have already borne my failure in this situation therefore I receive your wisdom and thank God that you have been made unto me WISDOM and I will take the right course of action and I will make the right decision."

Secondly, I then pray in tongues. The supernatural language acts as a bucket to dip into the wellsprings of life and helps to draw that wisdom out. I never face a problem or crisis in the NATURAL. I like to face it in the SPIRIT and I Corinthians 14:2 says that a man who prays in tongues is IN THE SPIRIT: "*For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men but unto God; for no man understandeth him; howbeit ... IN THE SPIRIT he speaketh mysteries.*"

Thirdly, I listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. This is vital and is not as difficult as some may think. The main thing, as we have already covered, is to know that HE IS speaking or as Proverbs 8:1 says: "*Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?*"

The best thing a person could possibly do to prepare his or her ground to receive the wisdom of God is to steal away to a quiet place. No matter how bad the crisis, how great the pressure, or how important the decision may be, do not allow yourself to be pressured into a premature decision. Instead, steal away and minister to your spirit by following the three steps listed above and then by reading the whole book of Proverbs. There are only thirty-one chapters but the investment that these chapters will make in your life will be phenomenal.

In fact, in the days or weeks leading up to major decisions, business deals, or just looking for a better way of doing things, it would not hurt to read the whole book of proverbs every day for at least two weeks prior to making the final decision. You will be amazed and exceedingly blessed at the results.