

TITLE: James (Lesson 19)

TEXT: James 3:13-18

INTRO: "What's the relationship between wisdom and behavior? The answer is simple: *Everything*. You see, wisdom is not just the accumulation of knowledge; it's accumulating knowledge for a purpose. And in the spiritual realm, the purpose is obedience."
Dr. Robert Jeffress

- I. (vs. 13) "Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge among you?"
 - A. Desire? (James 3:1; Gen. 3:6)
 - B. Motivation?
 - C. "a good conversation" (Matt. 7:15-20)

1. Our works reveal our attitudes and motives.

NOTE: **meekness**: mildness of disposition, gentleness of spirit, meekness

- II. (vs. 14-16) Earthly Wisdom
 - A. (vs. 14-15) What it looks like.

- 1. *bitter envying* could be a misguided zeal laced with jealousy and anger cultivating a critical spirit towards someone.
- 2. *strife* is selfish ambition, a partisan and fractious spirit (Phil. 2:3)
- 3. *glory not* means do not boast. Arrogance and pride is selfishness.
- 4. *lie not against the truth* means don't deny the truth.

NOTE: Denying the truth is a chief characteristic of the devil. (John 8:44)

- 5. *earthly* means it's not from God but worldly in nature.
- 6. *sensual (Psuchikos)* means natural and unspiritual. It refers to the physical part of man with its lusts, cravings, and evil desires.
- 7. *devilish* refers to the source of this false wisdom.

NOTE: The Devil uses the same tactics he did in Genesis 3:1-6 today. (Eph. 2:1-3)

- B. (vs. 16) What the results are.

- 1. *confusion* means there is disorder and disturbance.

NOTE: I Cor. 14:33, 40 The same word is translated **tumults** in 2 Cor. 12:20

- 2. *every evil work* refers to the fact that it is not only wicked but produces that which is worthless in the eyes of God.

- III. (vs. 17-18) Heavenly Wisdom
 - A. (vs. 17) What it looks like.

- 1. *pure* refers to moral and spiritual integrity.
- 2. *peaceable* means peace loving or peace promoting.
- 3. *gentle* is considerate, not seeking its own way.
- 4. *easy to be intreated* means reasonable, willing to listen and obey.
- 5. *full of mercy and good fruits* is showing concern and forgiveness.
- 6. *without partiality...hypocrisy* is faithful toward man and God.

- B. (vs. 18) What the results are.

- 1. *righteousness and peace*

NOTE: "Righteousness flourishes in a climate of spiritual peace." J.M. (Matt. 5:5-9)