

WISDOM THE ARCHITECT

Oxford Dictionary: *Wisdom is the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgement”*

HUMAN WISDOM vs GOD’S WISDOM

Human Wisdom = partial truths, incidental to our existence, only there to serve us

God’s Wisdom = full truth, foundational to our existence & there to serve God

Wisdom is the first thing God created.

Proverbs 8:22-30 (NLT) “The LORD formed me from the beginning, before he created anything else. ²³ I was appointed in ages past, at the very first, before the earth began. ²⁴ I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs bubbled forth their waters. ²⁵ Before the mountains were formed, before the hills, I was born - ²⁶ before he had made the earth and fields and the first handfuls of soil. ²⁷ I was there when he established the heavens, when he drew the horizon on the oceans. ²⁸ I was there when he set the clouds above, when he established springs deep in the earth. ²⁹ I was there when he set the limits of the seas, so they would not spread beyond their boundaries. And when he marked off the earth’s

foundations,³⁰ I was the architect at his side. I was his constant delight, rejoicing always in his presence.

Wisdom has a voice. It calls, shouts, talks, leads, instructs and teaches.

James 1:5 (NLT) If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

Posture 1 - DESIRE

The biggest hurdle is not intelligence or ability. It is to desire wisdom.

Proverbs 4:7 (NLT) Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment.

Once you desire wisdom, you gain it, which desires more wisdom – a continual and growing process!

- **Do you desire wisdom?**
- **Do you want wisdom?**

We need to first desire wisdom before we can get anywhere with wisdom.

“Don't Gain The World & Lose Your Soul, Wisdom Is Better Than Silver Or Gold.” - Bob Marley

Proverbs 8:17 (NLT) “I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me.”

Posture 2 - LISTEN

When our desire are in the wrong place, it can stop us from truly listening and understanding.

Jesus had 2 pre-requisites that he would give the crowd before he was to teach them something or point something out.

Matthew 15:10 (NLT) Then Jesus called to the crowd to come and hear. “Listen,” he said, “and try to understand.

Jesus wants our mind to be attentive to what we need to hear.

If we do not listen and try to understand, we may miss the life we were meant to live.

Proverbs 8:1-4 (NLT) Listen as Wisdom calls out! Hear as understanding raises her voice! ² On the hilltop along the road, she takes her stand at the crossroads. ³ By the gates at the entrance to the town, on the road leading in, she cries aloud, ⁴ “I call to you, to all of you! I raise my voice to all people.

We need to listen to understand and to interpret what wisdom places before us.

Proverbs 20:5 (NLT) *Though good advice lies deep within the heart, a person with understanding will draw it out.*

There is no person who is born a fool, only those who do not take the time to listen to wisdom.

“Any fool can know. The point is to understand.”
- **Albert Einstein**

Posture 3 – FOLLOW

When our desire, we prepare our hearts, when we listen, we prepare our minds. When we follow, we put these two things together.

Following = Humility

James 4:6 (NLT) *And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

Romans 12:16 (NLT) *Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!*

Proverbs 11:2 (NLT) *Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.*

When we follow wisdom when we:

- **Meet her friends**

Proverbs 8:7; 12 (NLT) ⁷ *for I speak the truth and detest every kind of deception.* ¹² *“I, Wisdom, live together with good judgment. I know where to discover knowledge and discernment.*

- **She teaches us**

Proverbs 8:10-11 (NLT) *Choose my instruction rather than silver, and knowledge rather than pure gold.* ¹¹ *For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can compare with it.*

- **She keeps us safe**

Proverbs 2:11-12 (NLT) Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe. ¹² Wisdom will save you from evil people, from those whose words are twisted.

Wisdom allows us to see what is coming our way before it is right in front of us.

Conclusion

To walk with wisdom by our side, we need to:

- Prepare our hearts by desiring wisdom
- Prepare our minds by listening to wisdom
- See clearly and follow the path laid out by wisdom

The greatest wisdom according to Paul

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NLT) The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

¹⁹ As the Scriptures say, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent.” ²⁰ So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world’s brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. ²¹ Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. ²² It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. ²³ So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense. ²⁴ But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.

All true wisdom leads to the very person of Jesus Christ.