



WISDOM FOR OUR TRIALS

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

James 1:7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

SAME EVENTS | ISSUES:

TEMPTATIONS $\leftrightarrow$ TRIALS $\leftrightarrow$ TESTS

James 1:4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting **nothing** (λειπόμενοι).

James 1:5 If any of you **lack** (λείπεται) wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1. Wisdom: **We need it!**

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Wisdom:

- **Light for the journey**
- **& We need light to see**
- **God's wisdom is the light!**

(NOT tidbits, trivia, little pieces of information)

Knowledge: Accumulation of facts / ideas / truths

Understanding: Association of facts / ideas / truths

Wisdom: Application of facts / ideas / truths

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1. Wisdom: We need it!

2. Wisdom: God has it!

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**Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise:
But a companion of fools shall be destroyed.**

**Proverbs 15:31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life
Abideth among the wise.**

**Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
knowledge: But fools despise wisdom and instruction.**

**Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom: And the knowledge of the holy is understanding.**

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, **Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding.**

Psalms 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: A good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His praise endureth for ever.

Ezra 7:25 And thou, Ezra, **after the wisdom of thy God, that is in thine hand**, set magistrates and judges, which may judge all the people that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy God; and teach ye them that know them not.

Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a **lamp** unto my feet, And a **light** unto my path.

Psalm 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth **light**; It giveth understanding unto the simple.

Proverbs 6:23 For the commandment is a **lamp**; and the law is **light**; And reproofs of instruction are **the way of life**:

Where do we get wisdom from?

➤ **From God**

➤ **In answer to prayer**

➤ **Out of the Word**

➤ **Among God's people**

ALL OF US ARE WISER THAN ANY ONE OF US!

- **Through** life's lessons (or someone else's life lessons!)
- **For** the decisions / the day → not for life...the stock market...career advice...
- **Beginning & ending** with a relationship with God
- **About** doing right / good / the truth

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2. Wisdom: **God has it!**

3. Wisdom: **We must ask for it!**

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Matthew 7:7 **Ask**, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you:

Matthew 7:8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Proverbs 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: And with all thy getting get understanding.

Proverbs 4:8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: She shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

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1. Wisdom: **We need it!**
2. Wisdom: **God has it!**
3. Wisdom: **We must ask for it!**
4. Wisdom: **God will give it!**

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Why does God give?

- **God is the giving God!**
- **God gives to all → deserving & undeserving (= all of us in reality!)**
- **Liberally – generously & simply**
- **Upbraideth not – no fear of rebuke / sneering / rejection**
- **And He will give it – the giving God will give it!**

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with the wind and tossed.**

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ways.**

5. Wisdom: God won't always give it – if we don't really want it!

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Thoughts:

- This is not a prayer promise
- This is not really / primarily about the act of praying
- This is about wisdom
- God's wisdom
- Do you really want it?
- Are you willing to follow it?
- Or do you just want the **appearance** of asking for wisdom?

I prayed about it!

I want wisdom – just not **that** wisdom

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5. Wisdom: God won't always give it – if we don't really want it!

