



The Fruit of Wisdom

James 3:13-18



*Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you?
Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.*

*But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts,
glory not, and lie not against the truth.*

This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

*But the wisdom that is from above is first pure,
then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated,
full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.*

And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

James 3:13-18

What is Wisdom?



Wisdom is living life from God's perspective.

Wisdom is the skill of applying knowledge to life.

“Wisdom, among other things, is the ability to devise perfect ends and to achieve those ends by the most perfect means.”

A.W. Tozer

Wisdom is knowing and fearing God so that we build our lives on Him and His Word.

“Wisdom is the power to see, and the inclination to choose, the best and highest goal, together with the surest means of attaining it.”

J.I. Packer

The Value of Wisdom



Wisdom is the principal thing;
therefore get wisdom: and with all thy
getting get understanding.

Proverbs 4:7

For wisdom is better than rubies;
and all the things that may be desired
are not to be compared to it.

Proverbs 8:11

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also
wisdom, and instruction, and
understanding.

Proverbs 23:23

“Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge among you?”

How can I tell if I am wise ...

Academic Credentials

Personal Experiences

Position and Title


Wealth or Power

Are these things the
measure of wisdom?



“Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom”

How can I tell if I am wise ...



Manner of Life
Examine your actions ...

Meekness of Wisdom
Examine your attitude ...

God asks us to examine
the fruit of our lives to
reveal our level of wisdom.

What is the “good conversation of his works?”



(43) For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

(44) For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

(45) A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Luke 6:43-45

What is “meekness of wisdom?”



(46) And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

(47) Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like:

(48) He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.

(49) But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. Luke 6:46-49

What is “meekness of wisdom?”

Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. - Proverbs 9:8

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise. - Proverbs 12:15

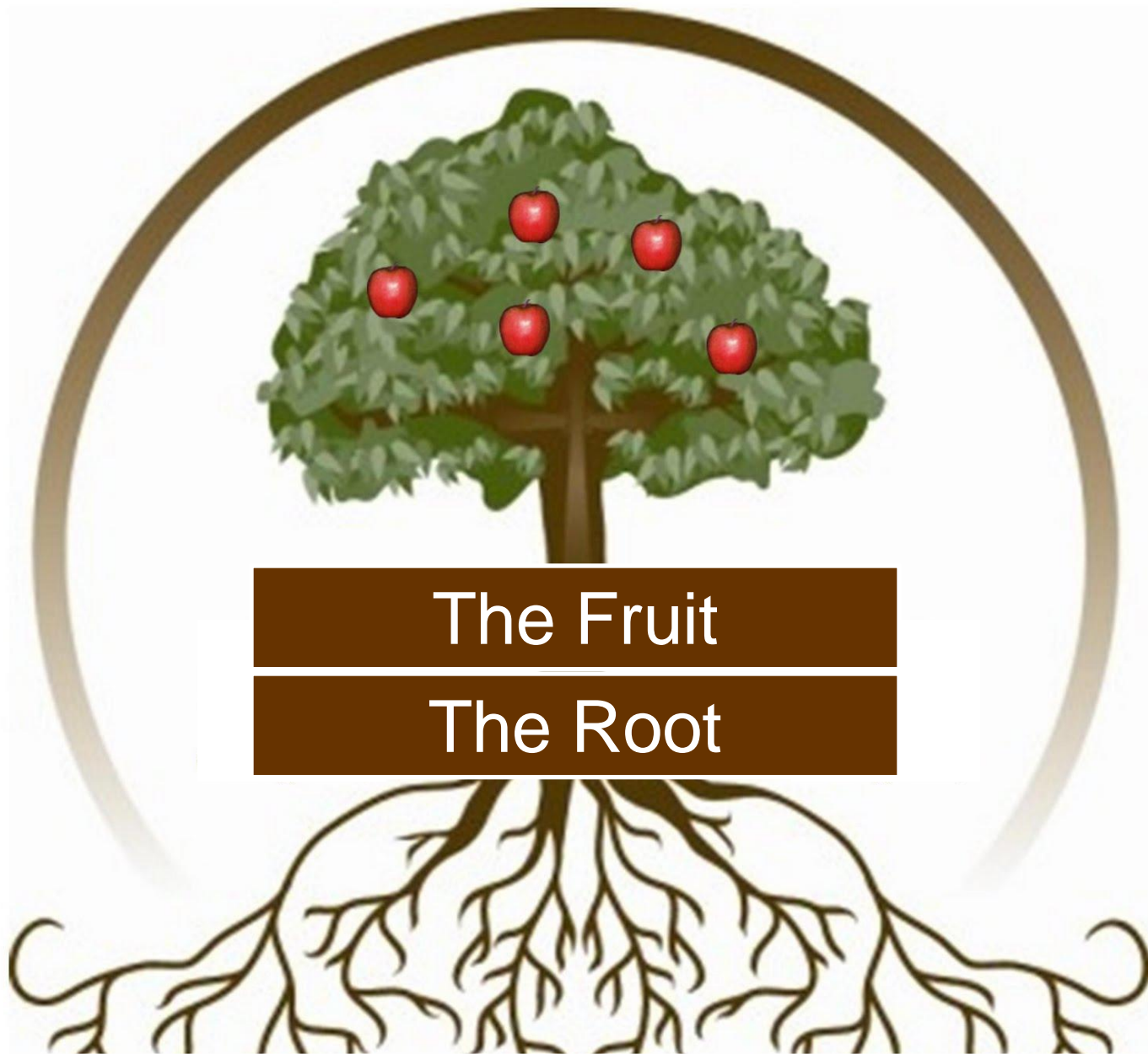
...We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. – I Cor. 8:1-2





Manner of Life
The Fruit ...

Meekness of Wisdom
The Root ...



The Fruit

The Root

The Tree of Worldly Wisdom

“But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts,”

What is the root of worldly wisdom ...

Bitter envying (Spoiled, Intense Zeal)

Strife (Jockeying to Advance Oneself)

The result of a spoiled, intense zeal for oneself and the desire to advance one's own interests is the heart of the problem. Being driven by the selfish desires that rule the heart of man is a true sign of worldly wisdom.

The wisdom of the ungodly will be rooted in the desires of their heart? Examine your heart desires?

- What do you really love/hate?
- What makes you happy/angry?
- What do you feel you must have?



“glory not, and lie not against the truth.”

What is the root of worldly wisdom ...

Glory Not (Do Not Boast)

Lie Not (Do Not Deceive Yourself)

The result of a spoiled, intense zeal for oneself and the desire to advance one's own interests is the heart of the problem. In arrogance, a man will justify and excuse his behavior by believing and practicing lies to get his desires. (Prov. 26:13-16)

What kind of lies will a person believe and practice?

- My desires (needs) are legitimate?
- My needs deserve to be fulfilled.
- My “heart” knows what's right.



“This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.”

What is the source of worldly wisdom ...

Earthly (Driven by the Values of the World)

Sensual (Driven by the Senses)

Devilish (Driven by the Devil or Demons)

The source of worldly wisdom is the values of the world, the fleshly desires of man, and the design of the devil. Worldly wisdom is not guided by the revealed truth of God because worldly wisdom makes man the central figure of truth. When a man is guided by worldly wisdom, he will think and act in a manner that he feels is best in order to get what he really desires.



“For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.”

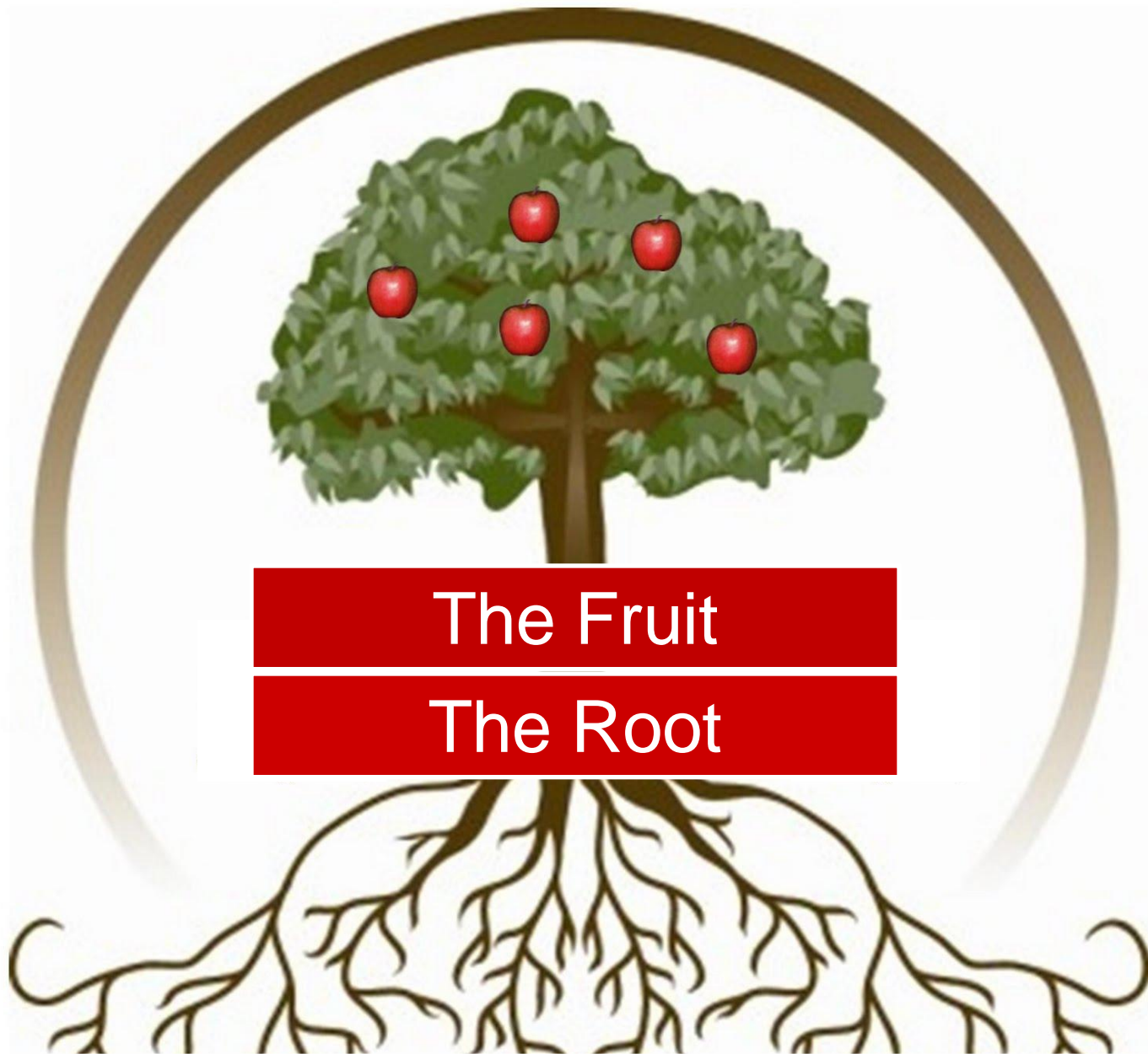
What is the fruit of worldly wisdom ...

Confusion (Instability, Disorder, Doublemindedness)

Every Evil Work (Vile, Worthlessness)

When the wisdom of the world rules the day, there will be confusion, chaos, discord, and disorder. Because of the various desires that can rule a man's heart, anyone who is not basing their life on the wisdom of God will be captive to their ever-changing desires.





The Fruit

The Root

The Tree of Godly Wisdom

“But the wisdom that is from above”

What is the source of Godly wisdom ...



In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead.

Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.

Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?

“But the wisdom that is from above”

What is the source of Godly wisdom ...




And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honor, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:

Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

2 Chronicles 1:7-12

“First pure,”

What is the root of Godly wisdom ...




Pure (Free from Contamination or Defilement)
Godly wisdom always has pure motives. The word pure has the same idea as holy or set apart. Godly wisdom is free from bitter jealousy, free from selfish ambition, free from arrogant self-promotion.

I John 3:3 teaches that this purity is what characterized the life of Christ and should characterize the life of the believers. *“And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”*

“Then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated,”

”

What is the fruit of Godly wisdom ...




Peaceable (Peace Loving, Peace Promoting, A Peacemaker) Godly wisdom pursues peace, not at the expense of purity, but as a result of a purity.

Gentle (Equitable, Seemly, Fitting, Fair, Moderate, Forbearing, Courteous, Considerate) Godly wisdom is always humbly patient in dealing with others.

Reasonable (Willing to Yield, Not Stubborn, Teachable) Godly wisdom is always willing to listen and understand rather than just be understood.

“Full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

What is the fruit of Godly wisdom ...




Full of Mercy (Kindness Toward the Hurting) Godly wisdom is deals appropriately with those who have been wronged (Compassion) and those who have done wrong (Forgiveness).

Good Fruits (Good Manifestations of Faith) Godly wisdom manifests itself in valuable and meaningful ways.

Impartiality (Consistent) Godly wisdom does not deal with one person or situation one way and another person or situation another way.

Sincere (Genuine) Godly wisdom is not phony.

Who is the fullness of Godly wisdom ...



Christ embodies the wisdom of God, so another way to examine whether or not your life is lived based on Godly wisdom is to compare your life to Christ. *“When a person claims true wisdom and has pure motives and behavior that reveals a love for making peace, a humble, patient, non-retaliatory spirit, a sweet reasonableness, a willingness to yield in obedience, a habit of merciful compassionate acts toward others, a variety of righteous deeds that minister spiritual good and benefit to others, an undivided commitment to God's truth without partiality toward anyone, and all of this is sincere and genuine, James says that person shows that they have the true wisdom.”*

“And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.”

What is the fruit of Godly wisdom ...

Wisdom = Righteousness

Righteousness is a right standing before God. A person who walks in Godly wisdom will be living a life that pleases God.

Godly wisdom reproduces itself in the lives of others. As we strive to live Godly lives based in Godly wisdom, we will be sowing the seeds of peace in our lives and relationships.



What if I lack Godly wisdom ...

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.

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.


For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
James 1:5-8

**By faith, ask God for His
wisdom to live life.**



What if I lack a right relationship with God?



For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that
not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Admit your sin.

Believe in Jesus.

Call out to Him for salvation.