



September 19, 2021

“But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.”

James 3:17

I. Wisdom Wars of the World

- A. The serpent in the garden (Gen. 3:1-6)
- B. The “wise men” of Egypt and Babylon
- C. The “magicians” of Acts
- D. The “gnostic” deception in the New Testament
- E. Examples of modern wisdom wars

II. Wisdom Ways of God (Seven Signs) (James 3:17)

- A. “Testing the spirits” and “Judging the fruit” (I John 4:1-6; Matt. 7:13-23)
- B. The seven signs of “wisdom from above”
 - 1. “Pure” = hagnos = Free from evil intent + aligned morally with God’s word, way, and will.
 - 2. “Peace-loving” = eirenikos = to bind together or to seek reconciliation between people and God
 - 3. “Considerate” = epiekes = gracious and gentle in justice – desiring to help
 - 4. “Submissive” = eupeithes = willing to listen and teachable – open to truth
 - 5. “Full of mercy and good fruit” = elos agathos = compassionate service resulting in good works
 - 6. “Impartial” = adiakritos = serving all without favoritism or elitism
 - 7. “Sincere” = anypokritos – honest and real without any hypocrisy.
- C. A “time is coming” when people will have “itching ears” (2 Tim. 4:3,4)