

# James 3:13-18

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Paul DeHart  
Arbor Church

# Review

- Consider Trials a Joy – endured they bring perfection/completion (1:1-4)
- If you lack wisdom ask God in Faith (1:5-8)
- Glory in Humility (1:9-11)
- Persevere Trials/Temptation, cultivating implanted Word into Fruit (1:12-18)
- Grow in Word by *doing* it, marked by (1:19-27):
  - Care Others (2:1-13) – Not faith + negative action
    - Faith & Works (2:14-26) – Not faith & no action
  - Controlled Tongue (3:1-12)
  - Life of Holiness (3:13-5:6)

# Application

- The Tongue & Word are very important in Scripture
  - We should take seriously the Word of God & the power of our own Words.
- The Danger of Hypocrisy
  - We can appear to be controlling our tongue, but it can really be a lie covering up our heart.
- The Source / Root – our Hearts; need a Heart transplant & who can do that?
  - “receive the Word implanted which is able to save your souls” (1:26)
  - If anyone lacks wisdom: ask in Faith of God who gives generously (1:5-6)
- Next Time: James 3:13-18

# James 3:13 – Who is Wise?

- “Who among you is wise and understanding?”
  - How would society around us answer this?
- How does James answer this (13b)?
  - What is the significance of “show”?
  - Show what?
  - Show how?
  - What is the significance of gentleness / meekness?
- Godly Wisdom Demonstrated:
  - Living for God in a wholesome and attractive manner with gentleness & humility.

# James 3:14-16 – Earthly Wisdom

- We saw a sign of Godly Wisdom, now what are the warning signs (v. 14)?
  - Where is the problem?
  - What is the natural way we would handle the tendencies James lists as warning signs?
- What kind of wisdom is this?
  - Not from Heaven/God, but Earthly/Natural/Demonic
- Why?
  - self centered behaviors lead to broken relationships & show brokenness with God

# James 3:15-17 – Godly Wisdom

- What Identifies Godly Wisdom?
  - Source?
  - Quality?
  - Deeds / Visible demonstration?
    - Peaceable, Gentle, Reasonable (relational in the world or church; opposite of the disorder & meanness of earthly wisdom)
    - Full of Mercy & Good Fruits (the action or deeds; visible working of Wisdom)
    - Unwavering, without Hypocrisy (Consistent & True to Source)

# James 3:18 – The Fruit

- Review:
  - Receive God's implanted Word, which is able to save (1:21), and He brings us forth by the Word of Truth to be a kind of Firstfruits (1:18)
- What could the Seed be here?
- Who Sows the Seed?
- How should it be Sown?

# Summary

- God's work in our Hearts should be seen in our life
  - 1:26 – in our care for others, in our tongue, and in our purity from the world
  - Ch. 2 & 3:1-12 showed our selfishness & meanness
  - 3:13-18 shows what kind of wisdom that means we are living by
  - 1:4 says ask for Wisdom and God will give it
  - 1:18 shows purpose for Wisdom – to bear fruit; live for God (leads back to 1:26)
  - 1:21 shows how God gives Wisdom – His Word into our hearts which is able to save

# Application

- Evaluate our Hearts:
  - Who are we living for?
  - What is the source of our Truth?
  - Are our Hearts Pure?
- Evaluate our Actions:
  - Are we focused on ourselves or others?
  - Are we demonstrating God's work in our life?
  - Are our Actions Consistent?
- Ask God for Wisdom
  - In Faith (Believing God)
  - Receive His Word – This is where God Speaks to us!
  - Cultivate Wisdom & Kill Weeds!