

## **Gaining True Wisdom Pt.2**

### **1. INDIVIDUALISM – I live for myself.**

Judges 17:6 (ESV) - In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

### **2. SECULARISM – God is not necessary.**

Romans 1:21-23 (MSG) - What happened was this: People knew God perfectly well, but when they didn't treat him like God, refusing to worship him, they trivialized themselves into silliness and confusion so that there was neither sense nor direction left in their lives. They pretended to know it all, but were illiterate regarding life. They traded the glory of God who holds the whole world in his hands for cheap figurines you can buy at any roadside stand.

### **3. RELATIVISM – There is no absolute truth.**

Ephesians 4:17-19 (NLT) - With the Lord's authority let me say this: Live no longer as the ungodly do, for they are hopelessly confused. Their closed minds are full of darkness; they are far away from the life of God because they have shut their minds and hardened their hearts against him. They don't care anymore about right and wrong, and they have given themselves over to immoral ways. Their lives are filled with all kinds of impurity and greed.

### **4. TOLERANCE – All ideas are equally right and true; politically correct.**

1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 (NLT) - God has called us to be holy, not to live impure lives. Anyone who refuses to live by these rules is not disobeying human rules but is rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Romans 12:2 (ESV) - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2 (MSG) - Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-

formed maturity in you.

## **I. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom!**

Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

Proverbs 9:10-12

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

11 For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life.

12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it.

## **II. We can learn true wisdom from those who fear the Lord!**

Proverbs 1:8-9 (ESV)

8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching,

9 for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Proverbs 1:8-9 (NLT) - My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck.

Proverbs 4:11-13 (MSG) - I'm writing out clear directions to Wisdom Way, I'm drawing a map to Righteous Road. I don't want you ending up in blind alleys, or wasting time making wrong turns. Hold tight to good advice; don't relax your grip. Guard it well—your life is at stake!

Proverbs 10:13 (ESV) - On the lips of him who has understanding, wisdom is found, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks sense.

Proverbs 10:31 (ESV) - The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut off.

Proverbs 1:10-19 shows us that you can choose who will influence your life and gives us a contrast between the godly who fear the Lord and sinners who live for themselves!

Proverbs 1:10-19 (MSG) - Dear friend, if bad companions tempt you, don't go along with them. If they say— "Let's go out and raise some hell. Let's beat up some old man, mug some old woman. Let's pick them clean and get them ready for their funerals. We'll load up on top-quality loot. We'll haul it home by the truckload. Join us for the time of your life! With us, it's share and share alike!"— Oh, friend, don't give them a second look; don't listen to them for a minute. They're racing to a very bad end, hurrying to ruin everything they lay hands on. Nobody robs a bank with everyone watching, Yet that's what these people are doing— they're doing themselves in. When you grab all you can get, that's what happens: the more you get, the less you are.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV) Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

***Challenge 1: Learn from those who fear the Lord!***

***Challenge 2: As someone who fears the Lord, you also invest yourself into someone else who needs to grow in the Lord.***

***Challenge 3: Parents, teach your children to fear the Lord!***

Everybody is influencing somebody!

Somebody is watching your life!

You are a role model to someone!