

WISDOM

Wisdom is the Principal Thing; Therefore Get Wisdom *Pro 4:7*

(Parua Bay CF - 17/12/95 - EKB)

1. Once I heard a preacher say, "The main thing in the Christian life is to keep the main thing, the main thing!" Well God's Word says, "Wisdom is the principal or main thing."
2. The Bible defines wisdom in many places, and says that wisdom is **knowing** and **keeping the commands of God**, to glorify Him and give us His life and blessing.
Deut 4:4-6, Pro 4:1-9, Pro 2:1-6, Mat 7:24,25.
3. *Jam 3:13-17* tells us that there are two kinds of wisdom.

Firstly there is the wisdom that comes from God which is: **pure**, clean, genuine, true, *Jam 3:17*, **peaceable**, harmonious, restful, **gentle**, kind, tender, gracious, **willing to yield**, does not force its way, **full of mercy and good fruits of mercy** - compassion, **without partiality**, does not have favourites, treats everyone the same way, **without hypocrisy**, does not put on an act, but is real and genuine.

These are the seven pillars of wisdom, *Pro 9:1*. Proverbs chapters 1-9 follow the theme of wisdom. Chapter 8 describes "wisdom" as a Person, Christ Himself, especially *v 12-36*.

Secondly there is the "wisdom" that comes from below, *Jam 3:14-16*.

4. Now if **Jesus said wisdom is hearing and keeping His words or commands**, *Mat 7:24*, so that we build our lives on the Everlasting Rock, Christ, what are some of His commands?

Expressions of God's wisdom.

1. **Jesus said**, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength," *Mk 12:30*. This is the first commandment. We love God when we put Him first, please Him, obey Him, do His will and serve Him. It is giving God our attention, affection, time and praise, to always seek to please Him, *2Cor 5:9, Jn 14:15, Jn 15:14, Mat 6:33*.
2. **Jesus said**, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," *Mk 12:31*. This is the second commandment. We love our neighbour when we feed him, give him drink, clothe him, give him shelter for the night, visit him in prison and visit him when he is sick, lonely and bereaved. *Jn 13:34,35, Jn 15:12,17, 1Jn 4:7-12, Mat 25:35,36*.
3. **Jesus said**, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," *Mk 16:15*, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses to Me.... unto the end of the earth," *Ac 1:8*. Freely and openly, with boldness, tell other people the good news of God's Salvation, through Jesus Christ, from day to day. *Ps 96:2, Mat 28:18-20, Mat 5:16, Pro 11:30, 2Cor 5:18, Phile 6*.
4. **Jesus said**, "When you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your sins. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your sins," *Mk 11:25,26*. Always release others from your judgment, forgive and release them, and keep praying for the blessings of God to be upon them, *Mat 5:44*, Give the hurting situation over to God to sort out. If we do not forgive others, then we are not forgiven, and our sin is still upon us. As we cannot go to heaven with our sins it is very important to forgive others and be forgiven ourselves, *Mat 6:14,15, Mat 18:21-35*.

5. **Jesus said**, “Men and women always ought to pray and not lose heart.” Jesus told the story of the unjust judge who was persuaded to act on behalf of the widow by her persistent asking, and reminds us that God will rapidly hear our cry and answer it, because He loves us, and wants us to come to Him and ask for our needs to be met, *Lk 18:1-8, Lk 11:1-13, Pray, pray, pray, night and day, Ps 55:17,18.*
6. **Jesus said**, “Judge not that you be not judged, for with what judgment you judge, you will be judged.” Refuse to condemn others, criticise and despise them, *Mat 7:1-5.* To do so is to act in pride and invite God’s judgment. Jesus told the story of the religious Pharisee who boasted of his own false righteousness, and despised the humble, repentant tax collector. It was the tax collector that God received, *Lk 18:9-14.*
7. **Jesus said**, “Repent or you will all likewise perish,” *Lk 13:3,5.* It is necessary that we turn away from everything that is not pleasing to God and do what is right. Do not leave something in your life you know is wrong. Get rid of it. *Eph 4:25, eg lying, Mk 1:15, Jn 8:11, Mat 18:3, Mat 9:13, Rev 3:19,20.*
8. **Jesus said**, “Believe the Gospel,” *Mk 1:15.* He said, “Have faith in God. Whoever shall say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and cast into the sea,’ and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things he says will come to pass, he shall have whatever he says. Therefore whatever you desire, when you pray, believe that you receive them and you will have them,” *Mk 11:22,23,24, Heb 11:6, Mat 17:20, Mat 21:22, Jn 11:40, Lk 8:50.* Get rid of unbelief and claim God’s promises, *2Pet 1:4.*
9. **Jesus said**, “Follow Me.” *Mat 8:22, Mat 9:9, Mat 16:24.* As Jesus called these people to, turn aside from following self and the ways of this world, we are to follow Him today. He is the Way, *Jn 14:6.*
10. **Jesus said**. “Do not swear at all but let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’, ‘No’. For whatever is more than these is from the evil one,” *Mat 5:34-37(NKJV)* Also Jesus told us that it is not what goes into the mouth as food that defiles us, but what comes out in our words that defiles us. *Mat 15:11,18, Mat 12:37, Eph 4:25,29, 1Cor 10:31.*
11. **Jesus said**, “Rejoice and be exceeding glad, when men revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you, falsely, for My sake, for great is your reward in heaven,” *Mat 5:11,12.* In fact He said, “Leap for joy,” *Lk 6:23.* Sometimes suffering and persecution result from serving Jesus, and He gives us grace to rejoice in Him through it all. *Jam 1:2, 1Pet 4:13,14, Ac 5:41, Neh 8:10.*
12. **Jesus said**, “Watch therefore for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming,” *Mat 24:42.* Keep busy serving Jesus until He comes, *Mat 24:44-51, Mat 25:13, Mk 13:32-37.*
13. **Jesus said**, “Take eat; this is My Body which is broken for you This cup is the New Covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.” *Jn 6:53-57, Mat 26:26-29, 1Cor 11:24-26.*
14. **Jesus said**, “Receive the Holy Spirit,” *Jn 20:22,* “Ask and you will receive For everyone that asks receives and if you being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those ask Him, *Lk 11:9-13, Lk 24:49, Ac 1:4,5, Jn 7:37-39.*
15. **Jesus said**, “Give and it shall be given unto you,” *Lk 6:38.* “Freely you have received, freely give,” *Mat 10:8.* Give love, time, joy, peace, money, clothes, truth, light, comfort, food and compassion.
16. **Jesus said**, “I will give you rest,” *Mat 11:28.* Rest in Him. Give Him your labour and heavy burdens, and receive His rest and peace, *Phil 4:6,7, Heb 4:3,9, Eph 2:14.*
17. **Jesus said**, “You have heard it said, ‘You shall not commit adultery’, but I say unto you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart,” *Mat 5:27,28, Jn 8:11.* Keep morally pure in thought and deed, *1Thes 4:3.*