

# Wisdom

Skill (in war or conflict) Discipline (in administration) Shrewdness (in financial affairs) Prudence (in religious affairs) Ethical (religion and faith)

| Empiri    | cal vs Spiritual Wisdom              |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Category  | Worldly                              |
| Empirical | Material world of physical creation, |
| Wicdom    | hady and man's institutions          |

Wisdombody and man's institutionsSpiritualSpiritual world of the Lord, His

Wisdom angels, and the demonic

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## Wisdom and Insight

Understanding how things work (insight) so well that you make masterful decisions (wisdom)

# Proverbs 1:7

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.





Wisdom is fashioned in the furnace of the fear of the Lord

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#### Job 28:28

And he said to man, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding.'" Fear of the Lord Respect who God Is: creator, ruler, Father

**Trust** what God does: when life goes dark with confusion, pain, loss, or suffering

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Fear of the Lord

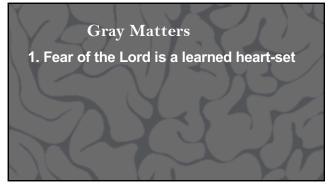
"the convergence of awe, reverence, adoration, honor, worship, confidence, thankfulness, love, and, yes, fear." -Robert B. Strimple

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*Psalm 34:11* Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Luke 2:52

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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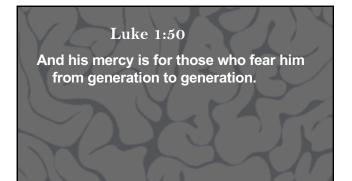
### Isaiah 11:1-4

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

## Isaiah 11:1-4

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, 4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth...

16



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### Fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord is not something that comes naturally but that must be learned. The fear of the Lord is the real nature of the religion, the way of life, of God. -John W. Ritenbaugh **Gray Matters** 

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Fear of the Lord is a learned heart-set
Forgiveness allows for (re)learning

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#### Psalm 130:3-4

3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?4 But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. **Gray Matters** 

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### **Gray Matters**

- 1. Fear of the Lord is a learned heart-set
- 2. Forgiveness allows for (re)learning
- 3. Mine or Divine

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## What's the difference?

How do we know the difference between empirical wisdom and spiritual wisdom?

#### James 3

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.



15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

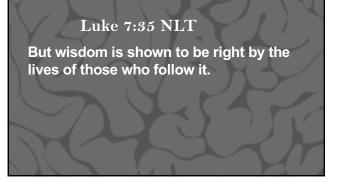
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#### James 3

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

| Spiritual vs WorldlyWisdom |               |               |  |  |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| Category                   | Spiritual     | Worldly       |  |  |
| Importance                 | Humble        | Proud         |  |  |
| Ambition                   | Kingdom       | Selfish       |  |  |
| Relationships              | Peace         | Strife        |  |  |
| Fruit                      | Righteousness | Disorder and  |  |  |
|                            | and Peace     | Vile Practice |  |  |

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# **Gray Matters**

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