

God Is Wise

Daniel 2:20-22 (New King James Version)

²⁰ Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever,
For **wisdom and might are His.** ²¹ And He changes the times and the seasons;
He removes kings and raises up kings; He **gives wisdom to the wise** and knowledge to those
who have understanding. ²² He reveals deep and secret things;
He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him.

1 Corinthians 1:22-24 (New King James Version)

²² For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to
the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but **to those who are called, both
Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

Introduction

We are back on track with our motto: know your God. Today we are going to think about one of God’s attributes: wisdom. God is wise. Anyone who believes in God would readily acknowledge that God indeed is wise. They also would testify that divine wisdom is far beyond our understanding, far better, far deeper, and far greater than all human wisdom combined. So, this morning, I invite you to join me in listening to God’s Word and what it says about God’s wisdom.

Content

Before I dig deeper, let me tell you **what I mean by ‘wisdom.’** ‘Wisdom’ means ‘being wise.’ The meaning of ‘wise’ is *discreet, learned, prudent, and experienced.*

It will help us more if we know **what wisdom means in Hebrew**—the original language in which the Old Testament is written. Wisdom: חכמה (hah-k-mah) (235 times in the Bible). Wise: חכם (hah-k-ahm) (22 times in the Bible). The root meaning of ‘hah-k-mah’ is ‘to know.’ *To judge, to govern; free from defect by the exercise of skill. To restrain from acting in an evil manner* (Brown-Driver-Briggs, p. 614). Unlike its human counterpart, God’s wisdom is never evil or wicked. Keep them in mind. Now, here’s the first point I am going to make:

God Alone Is Wise.

The Scripture repeatedly declares that *God alone is wise*. Not only God is wise, but He **alone** is wise. No one else. God **alone** is wise. Infinitely wise. Unsearchably wise. Unfathomably wise. No one can measure His wisdom. No one is a match to Him in wisdom, either. God Himself is wisdom. Here are a couple of references in the Bible. 1 Timothy 1:17: *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to **God who alone is wise**, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.* Here's another one. *To **God our Savior, who alone is wise**, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen* (Jude 1:25).

In the Book of Job, especially chapters 38 and 39, God extensively testifies about His own wisdom and might. If you want to know more about how wise and mighty God is, study those chapters. For instance, God's wisdom is in the skies (Job 38:36). By it He numbers the clouds (Job 38:37). Wisdom is with Him and in Him (Job 12:13) and His wisdom is not to be found by the most persevering human search (Job 28:12, 20). Even the 'google search' or all search engines combined can't fathom God's wisdom. Paul the apostle joins the crowd of witnesses and declares, *Oh, the depth of the riches **both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!** How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!* (Romans 11:33). God alone understands wisdom (Job 28:23), gives it (Proverbs 2:6), and shows its secrets (Job 11:6).

Wisdom and Might in Tandem

It is noteworthy that God's wisdom and might go hand in hand. Professor J. I. Packer writes: *"Wisdom without power would be pathetic, a broken reed; power without wisdom would be merely frightening; but in God boundless wisdom and endless power are united, and this makes him utterly worthy of our fullest trust"* (Knowing God, J. I. Packer, p. 91). Indeed, Prophet Daniel testifies that *wisdom and might are His* (Daniel 2:20). God is *'wise in heart and mighty in strength'* (Job 9:4). In His infinite wisdom and might, God created all things in the universe, Psalmist declares (Psalm 104:24). In His wisdom, He founded the earth (Proverbs 3:19) and made all things (Jeremiah 10:12, 51:12). No one is as wise as God is.

Christ is the wisdom of God, the power of God.

Such a wise and mighty God has done many wonderful and righteous things for us and still does. Creation is one. Sustaining all creation with His own word is another. Our own body is another wonder and miracle of God. The list goes on. Out of all, though, the greatest wonder of His wisdom and might is Christ Himself. It is a mystery. Christ was with God and was God. He became man. He entered human flesh named Jesus. He lived as man for thirty years and died on the cross for salvation of humanity from their sin. Once and for all. Do you understand this mystery?

To help you out, I need to take you back to Genesis. Chapter 1: *Creation of the universe and everything in it*. Chapter 2: *Creation of Man and Woman*. Chapter 3: *The Fall of Man*. Adam and Eve fell for the temptation by the serpent. Sin and death came into the world. They were kicked out of Eden. Chapter 4: *Cain and Abel*. Adam's first two sons. Cain murdered Abel his younger brother---the first murder in history. Chapter 5: *Descendants of Adam*. 10 generations altogether. From Adam to Noah. Chapter 6: *The Corruption of Mankind*. Chapters 7 & 8: *The Flood*. Chapter 9: *Covenant of the Rainbow*.

After the Fall of Man, we must realize how quickly humanity became corrupt in sin. Listen to some part of Chapter 6. This refers to the tenth generation after Adam. Verse 5 through 8. ⁵ *Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually.* ⁶ ***So the Lord was sorry that He had made mankind on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.*** ⁷ *Then the Lord said, "I will wipe out mankind whom I have created from the face of the land; mankind, and animals as well, and crawling things, and the birds of the sky. For I am sorry that I have made them."* ⁸ *But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord* (Genesis 6:5-8).

Let me remind you again. From Adam to Noah. 10 generations (One source:1656 years <https://teacherscollegesj.org/what-is-the-timeline-between-adam-and-noah>) During that time, in the eyes of the Lord, things got so bad that the wickedness of man filled the entire earth. The Lord saw that every intent of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. He was twice sorry that He had made mankind on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. He wanted a new beginning.

He said to Himself, *"I will wipe out mankind whom I have created from the face of the land; mankind, and animals as well, and crawling things, and the birds of the sky. For I am sorry that I have made them"* (Genesis 6:7). So, He sent the Great Flood onto the earth. All living thing perished except Noah, his family, and all the animals in the Ark. God did start anew with Noah's family with the Rainbow Covenant. He gave Himself and the humanity a second chance. But did humanity learn a lesson from the Great Flood and behave well afterward? Not really. God tried again later. This time with Israel. With the Ten Commandments. Well, how did it go this time? Did it go well? Not really. Déjà vu all over again. People broke God's heart over and over again through their sins.

So, God finally came up with another plan---Christ. This time, instead of wiping out people and creation, He decided to wipe out sin once and for all. Not from the earth but from the hearts of people. Not by wiping people off from the surface of the earth but by paying off the wages of their sin through the sacrifice of Christ and set them free from their iniquities. The solution was Christ. God incarnate. God's remedy for sin was the cross. Christ crucified was God's brilliant move to save humanity once and for all and bring them to God. That Christ, crucified and resurrected, was the culmination of the wisdom of God and the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:24 says so: *but to those who are called, both Jews and*

Greeks, **Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God**. Christ became for us wisdom from God, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption (1 Corinthians 1:30).

The Wisdom of God vs. the Wisdom of the World

Was Christ accepted well by the world as God intended Him to be? Not really. Rather, He was rejected by them, both by Jews and Gentiles. By God's own people, He was betrayed, ridiculed, mocked, and humiliated. He was striped to bear the sin of His own people. They demanded Christ to come down from the cross. *Show us your power, they jeered at Him, then we will believe.* However, Christ had to stay on the cross to complete God's will. Three days later, by God's own power, He rose from the dead. Even His resurrection wasn't good enough for them. They called it a lie. To the Jews who looked for signs, Christ crucified was a stumbling block.

Not much different reception by the Gentiles and the rest of the world. Gentiles were looking for wisdom. Christ crucified was a foolishness to their taste. *God dying on the cross?! For sinners?! Nonsense. How can God die? Insane!* They too were blind to God's wonderous sign right in front of their eyes. In a nutshell, the world with its wisdom rejected Christ. The world without faith in Christ failed to recognize what God was doing in His infinite wisdom and might. To the world Christ was the foolishness of God. However, to Christians, Christ was the wisdom and the power of God. Listen to God's Word again. ¹⁸ *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God* (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Conclusion

Such wisdom of God was revealed by Christ to the Church, us. We have a mission: **to proclaim God's wisdom and power in Christ to the world**. It is our duty to proclaim Christ crucified to the world and even to the powers in the principalities and powers in the heavenly places (Ephesians 3:10). We owe the world Christ's message of salvation and hope.

Remember: our faith is not in the wisdom of men nor in the wisdom of the world. We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, live out the wisdom of God, and share the hidden wisdom of God with the world (1 Corinthians 2:5, 7). May the Lord open our mouth to speak the mystery of God by proclaiming the message of Christ crucified and resurrected. Those who believe will be saved. Those who reject will perish. Amen.