

How To Live Wisely – James 3:13-18  
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**Introduction**

1. In the book of Proverbs, we are encouraged to seek after wisdom (Proverbs 3:13-18; 4:7-9). Likewise in the New Testament we are exhorted to walk in wisdom (Ephesians 5:15-17).
2. But in James 3:13-18, we learn that there is more than one kind of wisdom. In this lesson we will look at the two different kinds of wisdom: “Heavenly Wisdom Vs. Earthly Wisdom”

**I. Contrast In Origins (James 3:15,17a)**

- a. Earthly Wisdom Is From Below Not Above
  - i. Wisdom according to the world’s standards is earthly, natural and demonic
- b. Heavenly Wisdom Is From Above
  - i. It comes from God and through prayer to God

**II. Contrast In Operations (James 3:13-14,17)**

- a. Earthly Wisdom
  - i. Envy (14a) or bitter jealousy
  - ii. Strife (14b) or selfish ambition
  - iii. Boasting (14c) or arrogant or prideful
  - iv. Deceit (14d) lie against the truth
- b. Heavenly Wisdom
  - i. Meekness (13) or gentleness
  - ii. Purity (17a)
  - iii. Peace (17b)
  - iv. Gentle (17c)
  - v. Reasonable (17d) or compliant
  - vi. Mercy (17e) To be full means to be controlled by
  - vii. Good Fruits (17f) Faithfulness = Being Fruitful
  - viii. Unwavering (17g) or decisive
  - ix. Without Hypocrisy (17h) or sincere

**III. Contrast In Outcomes (James 3:16,18)**

- a. Earthly Wisdom
  - i. Produces Trouble (v16) – envy, strife, confusion and evil works
- b. Heavenly Wisdom
  - i. Produces Blessings (v18)- James uses the word fruit.
  - ii. Our lives are always reaping and sowing. If we sow worldly wisdom we reap confusion and every evil deed. If we sow Heavenly wisdom we reap blessings and good fruits from God with righteousness