

Lessons For The Church

Lessons For You!

Reference: **James 1:5-8**

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III. THE CONFIDENCE OF REQUEST – vs. 5-8

A. God's Assistance In Our Need

1. The word "if" really means "since."
 - a. Since there will come a time when you do not have the wisdom.
 - b. Since there will come a time when wisdom leaves you.
 - c. To James and to Jews, wisdom was much more than knowledge and intelligence.
 - i. Judaism emphasized that "the fear of the Lord" was the starting point of wisdom (**Prov. 1:7**).
 - ii. James will later contrast divine wisdom with earthly wisdom (**James 3:13-18**).

2. We need to ask God for wisdom.

Reference: **James 1:5** (AMP)

- a. God's wisdom is practical.
- b. God's wisdom is divine.
- c. God's wisdom is Christ-like.

References: **1 Corinthians 1:24; 2:1-7**

B. Our Responsibility with God's Generosity

1. We must believe God when He gives us the wisdom we asked for!
2. We must be careful that we do not doubt. To doubt means to hesitate, withdraw, or vacillate.

C. The Danger of Doubt

1. They are destructive.
2. They have a negative effect on us horizontally.
3. They have a negative effect on us vertically.
4. We lack focus.
5. We become unstable like a staggering drunk.
6. God's wisdom is of no profit to someone who doubts.

KEY THOUGHT:

God will respond to our need for wisdom in the face of trials.
Our danger is that we will not receive His wisdom with the faith it deserves.