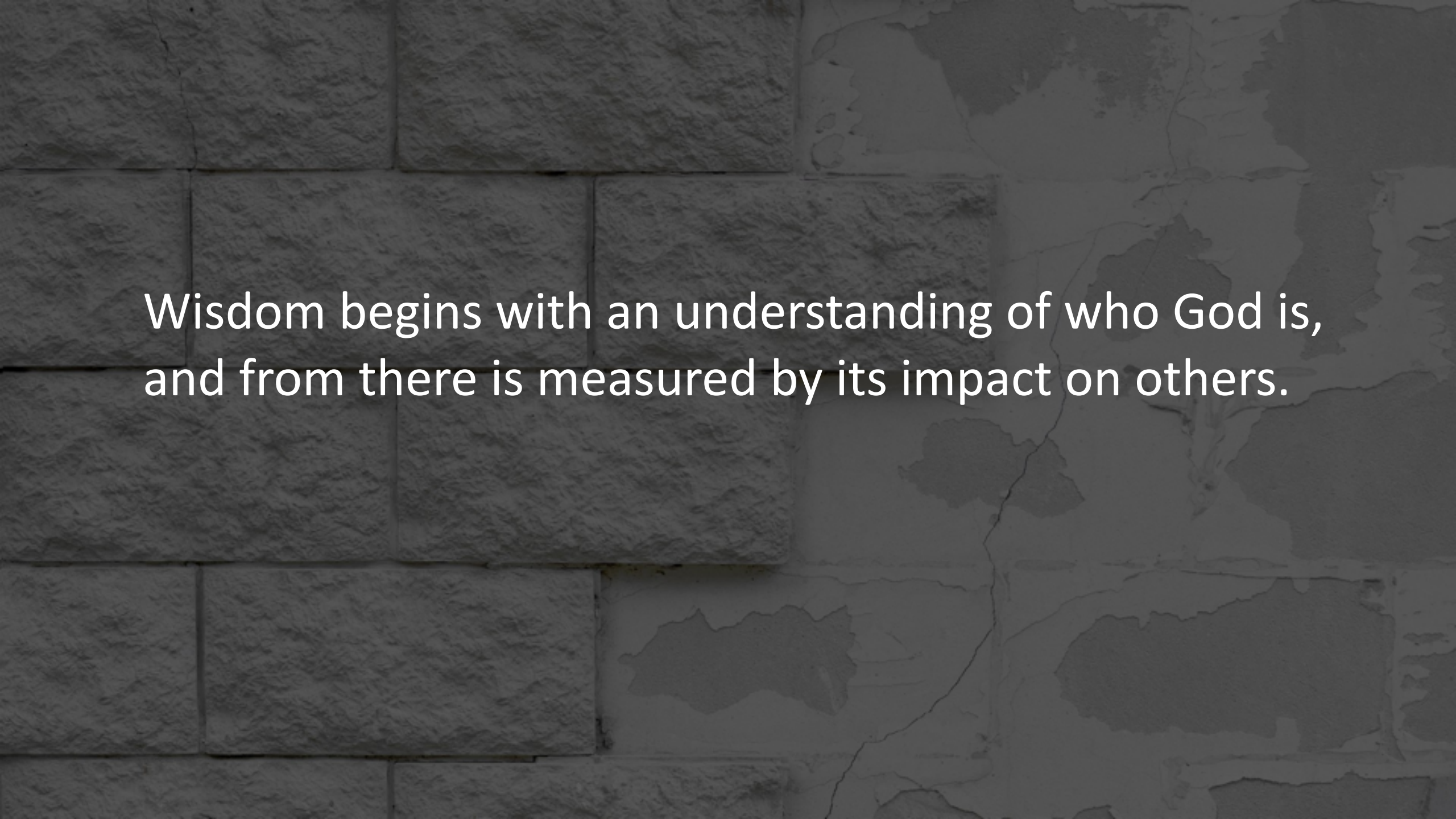


The Book of James

The
Wisdom
of Heaven

James 3:13-18



The background is a dark, monochromatic composition. The left side features a wall of rectangular stone blocks with a rough, textured surface. The right side shows a surface where a layer of paper or plaster is peeling away, revealing a darker, uneven layer underneath. The overall lighting is dim, creating a somber and contemplative atmosphere.

Wisdom begins with an understanding of who God is,
and from there is measured by its impact on others.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

- James 3

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. **15** Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. **16** For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.



17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

My son, if you accept my words
and store up my commands within you,
² turning your ear to wisdom
and applying your heart to understanding—
³ indeed, if you call out for insight
and cry aloud for understanding,
⁴ and if you look for it as for silver
and search for it as for hidden treasure,
⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.

- Proverbs 2

Proverbs 2 Continued:

⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 9:10:

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

James' checklist for Wisdom from Heaven:

Pure – is it tainted with self interest?

Peace-loving – does it share the goal for which Christ died?

Considerate – is it looking out for the needs of others?

Submissive – will it put others above itself?

Merciful – does it overlook offenses?

Fruitful – does it produce a visible good?

Impartial – is it not swayed by favors or gain?

Sincere – is it prompted by love and not for show?

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.





Wisdom begins with an understanding of who God is,
and from there is measured by its impact on others.

It is because of him [God] that you are in **Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God**—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

1 Corinthians 1:30

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, **by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.**

Colossians 1:19-20