

PRESCRIBED WISDOM

THE WAY WE SHOULD GO

*"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom:
and with all thy getting get understanding."*

~ Proverbs 4:7

1. What We Lack

- a. When we have inner man problems (mind not body), people seek therapy.
- b. Much of what the world calls therapy is spiritual instruction (how or what to think)
- c. What should I do? How do I succeed? How do I know? How to suffer my past, myself?
- d. There is no medical prescription that can solve sin, foolishness, vanity, ignorance.
- e. Money, celebrity, power, pleasure, endless scrolling does not solve spiritual despair.
- f. The Bible gives a prescription for what we lack: "get wisdom" Prov 4:5, 7, Col 1:9

2. What is Wisdom

- a. Wisdom ~*def.* Making right choices; right discernment of best means and a worthy end.
- b. Wisdom gives you perspective, priority, purpose, pursuits, paths, peace, and relief.
- c. When the religious seek a sign, most often what they need is wisdom.
- d. When the world pursues success, most often what it is seeking is wisdom.
- e. When hurt people do not have a physical problem, what can help is spiritual wisdom.
- f. Wisdom must be taken with humility, else you get → Prov 9:7-10, 15:33
- g. The instruction must be believed, received, and practiced to benefit the hearer.
- h. "I'll try anything" isn't wisdom and doesn't work w/spiritual problems which require faith

3. Wisdom of the World

- a. The world knows wisdom is good and serves up its own variety without God - Rom 1:21
- b. The present wisdom of the world worships Science, Self, and Success - Eph 2:1-3
- c. God destroys the wisdom of this world - 1 Cor 1:19-20, 2:1,4,6,14, 3:19-20
- d. Without God the wisdom of this world can't begin to see - 1 Cor 2:5-6
- e. The god of this world can blind people to the truth of the Saviour → 2 Cor 4:3-10

4. Wisdom of God

- a. What we preach today is the mystery of Christ as the wisdom of God - Eph 3:9-11
- b. There is power in the wisdom of God, there is power in the gospel - 1 Cor 2:5
- c. The world and many Christians think this preaching is foolishness - 1 Cor 1:18
- d. The wisdom of God is found in Christ Jesus - 1 Cor 1:22-25, Col 2:3
- e. Wise in the flesh often means not wise in the things of God - 1 Cor 1:26-30
- f. Christian: "I have Christ already", but have you learned this? Eph 3:17-19, 4:20-24
- g. Christ not only teaches to die to self, but he does it for us through the cross. Gal 2:20
- h. Christ not only teaches a changed life, he does it for us by his life - Rom 6:4-12
- i. How can we take God's grand purpose and bring it down to our level? In Jesus Christ.
- j. How can we partake of the peace, joy, love of the Holy God? Through Jesus Christ.
- k. How do we renew minds, strengthen spirits, walk worthy, suffer? By Christ in us.
- l. What is the way we should go? The prescription is the cross of Christ.