OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS' SCHOOL Old Union Missionary Baptist Church 714 Old Union Church Road Bowling Green, Kentucky 42104 Thirty-Sixth Annual Session, March 26, 27, 28, 2008

WISDOM

Isaiah 50:4

By

4 ¶ The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary:

Elder H. C. Vanderpool

Ecclesiastes 3:7

Lesson: Proverbs 8:1-12

... a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

1 Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?

2 She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.

3 She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.

4 Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.

5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.

6 Hear, for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.

7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

9 They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.

10 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. -SEE:Page 3, Jer. 9:23

11For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared

12 I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

Note: In these scriptures we learn that Wisdom is Personified, "Represented with the attributes of a person." - Webster See: Ephesians 1:15-17; Colossians 1:7-10 + John 1:1-14 "The Word"

Some Definitions of Wisdom as given by Webster:

Wisdom, it seems, is from the Gothic dialect.

1. The right use or exercise of knowledge; the choice of laudable ends, and of the best means to accomplish them. This is wisdom in act, effect or practice. If wisdom is to be considered as faculty of the mind, it is the faculty of discerning or judging what is most just, proper and useful, and if it is to be considered as an acquirement, it is the knowledge and use of what is best, most just, most proper, most conducive to prosperity or happiness.

Wisdom is the first sense, or practical wisdom, is nearly synonymous with discretion. It differs somewhat from prudence, in this respect; prudence is the exercise of sound judgment in avoiding evils; wisdom is the exercise of sound judgment either in avoiding evils or attempting good.

Prudence then is a species, of which wisdom is the genus.

Wisdom gained by experience, is of inestimable value. --- Scott

It is hoped that our rulers will act with dignity and wisdom; that they will yield every thing to reason, and refuse every thing to force. --- Ames

The words "wise" and "wisdom" are found several hundred times in the Scriptures.

BIBLICAL LESSONS TAUGHT ON THE SUBJECT OF WISDOM

In Scripture, WISDOM means: Human learning, knowledge, erudition, (er-yoo-dish-en) learning acquired by reading and study. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - Il Timothy 3:15

1. God gave Joseph WISDOM.

"And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him, And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and WISDOM in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house." - Acts 7:9-10

2. Moses was learned in all the WISDOM of the Egyptians.

"In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months:

And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.

And Moses was learned in all the WISDOM of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds." - Acts 7:20-22 See: Hebrews 11:23-29

3. Wisdom: Quickness of intellect; readiness of apprehension; dexterity in execution; as the WISDOM of Bez-a-leel and A-ho-li-ab: Exodus 31:1-6

CHAPTER 31

Bezaleel and Aholiab are called and qualified for the work of the tabernacle. 12 Of the sabbath. 18 Moses receiveth the two tables.

AND the Lord spake unto Mo'ses, saying,

2 See, I have called by name Be-zal'e-el the son of O'ri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Ju'-dah:

3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass.

5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

6 And I, behold, I have given with him A-ho'li-ab, the son of A-his'a-mach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;

WASHINGTON — The massive U.S. Embassy under construction in Baghdad could cost \$144 million more than projected and will open months behind schedule because of poor planning, shoddy workmanship, internal disputes and last-minute changes sought by State Department officials, according to U.S. officials

4. Natural instinct and sagacity: "Quality of having discernment and judgment; shrewdness."
For some home work study the 38th and 39th Chapters of Job.

5. In Scriptural Theology, WISDOM is true religion; godliness; piety; the knowledge and fear of God, and sincere and uniform obedience to his commands. This is the Wisdom which is from above. - Psalm 90 and Job 38. SEE: James 1:5

5. The fear "reverence" of God is the beginning of knowledge.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise Wisdom and Understanding. Proverbs 1:7 - Emphasis - HCV

"Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of: my mouth."

Proverbs 4:5

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." - Proverbs 4:7

God's Work to be Done Correctly Through the Spirit of Wisdom:

God speaking to Moses:

"And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office." - Exodus 28:1-3

Wisdom will reflect in your life and work:

Moses speaking to Israel:

"Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me,

that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."" - Deuteronomy 4:5-6

DON'T GLORY IN WISDOM; GOD TELLS US SO!

Jeremiah 9:23-24

"23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:

24 But let him that glorieth

glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise loving-kindness, judgment, and right-eousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD."

COMMENTARY:

NOTE: This space may be used by you to record thoughts, notes, etc.

Noah Webster's dictionaries.

The responsibility to establish a standard of reference which will enable students to study the history and literature of our founding period in its original context is critical today. We need the "primary" Biblical, Christian and Constitutional meanings of words. Noah Webster spent a lifetime endeavoring to liberate America from European ties of "folly, corruption and tyranny." He sought to build an educational system in the school, the church and the home embodying "a love of virtue, patriotism and religion." In the Preface to his History of the United States he wrote:

"Republican government loses half its value, where the moral and social duties are imperfectly understood, or negligently practiced. To exterminate our popular vices is a work of far more importance to the character and happiness of our citizens, than any other improvements in our system of education." 1807

"For a number of years just past I have been more and more impressed with the importance of regulating my conduct by the precepts of Christianity. Of the being and attributes of God I have never entertained a doubt, and my studies as well as frequent contemplations on the works of nature have led my mind to most sublime views of His character and perfections. . . .

"Still I had doubts respecting some of the doctrines of the Christian faith, such as regeneration, election, salvation by free grace, the atonement, and the divinity of Christ; these doubts served as an apology for my forebearing to make a profession of religion; for though I could

Noah Webster's Confession of Jesus Christ as Saviour

never read or hear that solemn declaration of our Savior, 'Whosoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess before my Father who is in heaven,' without some compunction and alarm; yet I endeavored to justify my neglect by a persuasion that I could not conscientiously assent to the usual confession required in Calvinistic churches as the condition of admission to their communion. That is, in plain terms, I sheltered myself as well as I could from the attacks of conscience for neglect of duty under a species of scepticism, and endeavored to satisfy my mind that a profession of religion is not absolutely necessary to salvation. In this state of mind I placed great reliance on good works or the performance of moral duties as the means of salvation, although I cannot affirm that I wholly abandoned all dependence on the merits of a Redeemer. You may easily suppose that in this state of distraction and indecision of opinions I neglected many duties of piety.

"About a year ago an unusual revival of religion took place in New Haven, and frequent conferences of private meetings for religious purposes were held by pious and well disposed persons in the Congregational societies. I felt some opposition to these meetings, being apprehensive that they would, by affecting the passions too strongly, introduce an enthusiasm or fanaticism which might be considered as real religion. I expressed these fears to some friends and particularly to my family, inculcating on them the importance of a rational religion and the danger of being misled by the passions.

"My wife, however, was friendly to these meetings and she was joined by two eldest daughters who were among the first subjects of serious impressions. I did not forbid but rather discouraged their attendance on conferences. . . .

"These impressions I attempted to remove by reasoning with myself and endeavoring to quiet my mind by a persuasion that my opposition to my family and the awakening was not a real opposition to rational religion but to

Noah Webster Accepts Salvation by Redemption enthusiasm or false religion. I continued some weeks in this situation, utterly unable to quiet my own mind and without resorting to the only source of peace and consolation. The impressions,

however, grew stronger till at length I could not pursue my studies without frequent interruptions. My mind was suddenly arrested, without any previous circumstance of the time to draw it to this subject and, as it were, fastened to the awakening and upon my own conduct. I closed my books, yielded to the influence which could not be resisted or mistaken, and was led by a spontaneous impulse to repentence, prayer, and entire submission and surrender of myself to my Maker and Redeemer. My submission appeared to be cheerful, and was soon followed by that peace of mind which the world can neither give nor take away," - Noah Webster