

## Finding Peace in the Midst of a Chaotic, Disordered World

James 3:13-18

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Who is wise and understanding among you? (V. 13 is the answer)

Meekness - *a humble view of self and compassionate view of others, arising from an exalted view of God's love.* -Stephen Yuille

The Differences in the Two Kinds of Wisdom:

### **Differ in their Origin**

Wisdom from Below :: V. 14 - This wisdom bears two unmistakable characteristics - it is self-ambitious, and it has bitter jealousy.

Wisdom from Above - This wisdom comes from God :: Vv. 1:5, 17

### **Differ in Nature**

Wisdom from Below - Earthly, Unspiritual, Demonic :: V. 15

When we are living with selfish ambition. When we are living life with our own wants and preferences at #1. When getting the upper-hand is my goal, that is demonic.

Wisdom from Above :: V. 17 - Jesus is the personification of wisdom

## **Differ in Fruit**

Wisdom from Below :: V. 16 - Disorder and every vile practice

James 4:1-2

Wisdom from Above :: V. 18 - And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Stephen Yuille - *All of life is seed. As we sow, so we reap.* Wisdom from below always results in relational chaos, turmoil, disorder, and confusion.

Since disorder and vile practices have their origin in selfish ambition and jealousy, the only answer is the transforming path of the Gospel.

Jesus is wisdom personified, and the only thing that will transform me into the likeness of Jesus is the Gospel.