

Pathways To Faith

By Dr. Willie Holley

Godly Wisdom and The Virus!

I am using this article to encourage individuals to seriously consider their decision-making processes when addressing their choices relating to their survival of this pandemic. In Proverbs 3:5 we are asked to trust God and not lean on our own understanding. To do this we need to acquire knowledge that we may gain understanding. The great King Solomon is universally considered to be one of the wisest people to ever live on the earth. He demonstrated great wisdom throughout his reign as King of Israel. We notice that he was a man who constantly sought God early in his life when he needed wisdom to lead the people, however like many others he began to lean on his own understanding later in life only to conclude that his folly was all vanity. (Ecclesiastes 1:1-4) King Solomon realized that what really mattered was to fear God and keep His commandments. (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14) To do that we are admonished by King Solomon in his Proverbs to “Get wisdom! Get understanding! (Proverbs 4:5) Verse 7 of this Proverb says, “Wisdom is the principal thing: Therefore, get wisdom.” Scriptures teach us “it is better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen above silver” (Prov. 16:16). We cannot underestimate the value of the role of wisdom in our Christian walk. Proverbs 1:7 say “... Fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Wisdom is used in several contexts in Scripture. There is not a single phrase that adequately defines wisdom. However, through careful study, we can realize that Godly wisdom requires a knowledge of God’s Word and the ability to use that knowledge properly or wisely in guiding our lives. In Jewish culture, one was considered wise if they were knowledgeable and well versed in the laws of Moses. In the Gospels of the New Testament, “wisdom” is a synonym for knowledge of the laws and ways of God. When the people heard Jesus teaching in the synagogues and other places, they considered Him wise because of His vast knowledge and understanding of kingdom law. Jesus displayed superior wisdom to the earthly scholars of His day because of His intimate relationship with God the Father and the wisdom that came with that relationship. He always sought to do the will of the Father, just as Solomon admonished each of us to do as our principal duty in this life. God wants us to seek wisdom from Him. We are told that if any of us desire wisdom, we should ask of God, and He will give it to us freely without quarreling. (see James 1:5) In Paul’s first letter to the church at Corinth, he strongly warns them of the fallacy of leaning on their earthly knowledge and understanding to make their life choices. In verses 18-20 of First Corinthians, Paul shows that God Himself will destroy the wisdom of man and bring it to nothing. We see that God has made foolish the wisdom of this world. If we understand these scriptures and truly desire to please God in our Christian walk, we will seek godly wisdom to set our moral compass in this life while allowing the will of God to be the standard by which we live, work and play. Be wise in your choices. Choices made without knowledge can be deadly naturally and spiritually.

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