# “Wisdom of God”

The theme of all our readings today is ***“Wisdom of God.” S***cripture says, theFear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Wisdom is like the treasure that lead us to understand the fear of God. When we search for understanding, we will cry out for wisdom which is beyond the capacity of our intellect. We do not have to look too far to understand the wisdom of God. All we have to do is look at His creation and we will be in awe of the power of God and beyond the shadow of doubt, we will have a glimpse of God’s wisdom. We need to ask the wisdom of God to be with us always.

God wants to touch our hearts and invite us to make amends for our sins so we can seek His friendship. God in His wisdom knows us more than we know ourselves and He wants the best for us. It is through wisdom that comes from above that we will seek wisdom, desire humility, and not glory for ourselves. Then we will be gentle and full of mercy in our relationship with one another. Wisdom gives us the understanding not to do anything for vainglory, but to use our words only to express our thoughts, to love what is true and avoid what is false.

Today in our first reading, the Church invites us to see God’s creation as nothing more than good things He has created for our convenience. By praying for prudence, we will begin to search for wisdom and she will teach us that created things such as riches and material wealth are nothing compared to wisdom which leads us to know the will of God. It is through God’s wisdom that we shall have the knowledge to know His will. So, we should see material things as undesirable as compared to the wisdom of God. We should desire God’s wisdom more than any riches or the finest gold on earth.

We are told to desire wisdom above our health and beauty and we should choose her rather than natural light which turns into darkness. We are told if we choose her, we would prefer her to sleep because we will not be able to take our eyes away from her. However, we are reminded that all created good things came to us through her. The key to keeping her, is to make her our first priority. How do we gain this wisdom? We gain it through the word of God. It is grace we receive from His word.

In our second reading from the letter to the Hebrews, we heard that the word of God is living and not a relic from the past. We hear the word of and all her wisdom from God every time we celebrate Mass. To those who go home and read their Bible, they also keep it alive in them always. Through His word, God constantly invites us to strengthen our faith by acquiring His wisdom from His word, which enables us to persevere in our love for Him. His wisdom also challenges us to grow in holiness, to be uncompromising in detaching ourselves from sin.

Often, the wisdom of God makes us uncomfortable. With our earthly wisdom, we cannot understand why we have to love our enemies and pray for them. We cannot understand why we have to turn the other cheek and possibly become door mats used for whipping of dirt. We cannot understand why we have to return good for evil. However, heavenly wisdom tells us to do all this things with humility. To let God be God. He is the only one who can perfectly judge us humans with all our shortcomings.

For example, we heard that this weekend, we might be subjected to attacks by some members of our society who have some beef with the Church. Our first instinct as humans is to call all to arms so we can meet force with force. But our God told us not to be afraid and that whatever happens to us, will be turned into greater good because He is on our side. He told us not to take up arms but to conquer evil with good.

Jesus understand our weaknesses. He had to deal with His apostles who did not fully get it until they received the Holy Spirit. We have received the Holy Spirit and we get it. The challenge of the wisdom that comes from the word of God is not meant to frighten us. Rather it is meant to equip us with the grace that comes from God so that in the end, when we give an account of our lives, we will be counted among those who are victorious in the race for our eternal life.

In our Gospel reading, we are invited to see how deliberating the wisdom of the world is when we do not keep our focus on what matters most. The story of the rich man gives us a picture of how the love of money, material, things and wealth can blind us to reject what money could never buy. It they keep us from getting more grace in our lives. The rich man had the grace of prudence, however, he forgot that God has unending amount of grace that He wants to shower on us.

We just have to remember the amount of graces from the Holy Spirit that Moses received. God distributed some of Moses’ gift on 72 of the elders and Moses still had enough to do all he needed to do so, he could do the will of God. The rich man was holding on tightly to the gift that did not belong to him. He was supposed to use the riches God gave him to bless those whom God wanted him to bless. He was supposed to give them away. Jesus was only reminding him of what he should have done in the first place. The man lacked the wisdom of God to know this. It is a teachable moment for us too to keep the main thing the main thing.

Jesus single out wealth as the stumbling block for the rich man to get to heaven. Wealth by itself is not the problem; attachment to it is. Jesus saw that in him. The man could not accept the challenge of detachment even with the help of God. However, it is to only wealth that can be an obstacle for us to gain heaven, it may be other stuff in our lives. Even being poor does not mean we do not have attachment. A poor person who lacks wisdom from God may be greedy or avaricious. His or her life may be directed toward getting to the point of wealth possessed by others who he/she envies.

At Mass we celebrate the greatest detachment of all. We relive with Jesus voluntarily laying down His life for our redemption. From Him we can draw from the wisdom of God the strength we need to remove any obstacles that might be hindering us from getting to heaven. With God all things are possible.

As we come to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, let us remember to ask Him for more wisdom so we can be wise as a serpent and gentle as a dove.