

“Who Is A Wise Man?”

James 3:13

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One who lives a good life. (James 3:13)

- It is wise to be good; it is foolish to be evil.
- Genuine wisdom is always accompanied with meekness.
(NOTE 1 Cor. 3:18-19).

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One who respects God. Psalms 14:1

- Denial of God. 2 Pet. 2:1; cf. Mt. 10:33

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One who fears God. Prov. 9:10; Eccl. 12:13

- Respects His wisdom. Jer. 10:23; cf. Gentiles, Rom. 1:22ff
- Respects His power. Eph. 3:20ff; 1 Cor. 1:25
- Respects His goodness. James 1:17

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One who respects his parents. Prov. 13:1; 15:5

- Children are to honor parents. Eph. 6:2; cf. Ex. 20:12
- Involves care in old age. 1 Tim. 5:4

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One who listens to counsel. Prov. 12:15

- Fool will not listen. cf. 2 Thess. 3:2

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One who refrains his lips. Prov. 10:19; 17:28;
29:11; James 1:19; Mt. 12:34-37; 1 Pet. 3:10

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The Old Testament addressed this subject many times.

1. *“The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver” (Prov. 10:20).*
2. David prayed, *“Set a watch, O Jehovah, before my mouth; Keep the door of my lips” (Ps. 141:3).*
3. *“Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles” (Prov. 21:23).*
4. *“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in network of silver” (Prov. 25:11).*

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5. *“He that guardeth his mouth keepeth his life; but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction” (Prov. 13:3).*
6. *“Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him” (Prov. 29:20).*
7. Let us especially be slow to speak when we are angry.
 - a. *“A soft answer turneth away wrath; but a grievous word stirreth up anger” (Prov. 15:1).*
 - b. *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue” (Prov. 18:21).*

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One who wins souls. Prov. 11:30; Dan. 12:3

- Working with valuable material. Mt. 16:26
- Wisdom in defeating Satan. Eph. 6:12
 - Sin is deceitful. Heb. 3:13
- Wisdom in saving our own souls. Ezek 3:18ff
- Greatest joy. James 5:19ff; 1 Thess. 2:19

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One who hears and obeys the Lord. Mt. 7:24-27

- Submission to authority. Mt. 21:23-27; cf. Heb. 1:1; Mt. 17:5
- Obedience necessary. Rom. 6:16-18; 2 Thess. 1:9
 - One who hears and does not obey is deceiving himself. James 1:22-25
- Even until the end. Rev. 2:10

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One who is prepared NOW. Mt. 7:24-27

- The lowly ants prepare for the future. Prov. 30:25
- Wise man anticipates the storm and builds upon the rock. Mt. 7:24-27
- Jesus taught the wisdom of preparing.
 - Rich fool. Luke 12:13-21
 - Ten virgins. Mt. 25:1-13
 - Unjust steward. Luke 16:1-8

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One who becomes a Christian and is faithful until the end.

- Lives the good life.
 - Respects God.
 - Respects parents.
 - Refrains his lips.
 - Wins souls.
 - Obeys the Lord.
 - Is prepared.
- World looks upon this as foolish. 1 Cor. 4:10