

THE WISDOM OF GOD

In today's society, mankind is exalting the intellect and is demanding higher and higher levels in the educational arena as a requirement for the labor force. Our poor children are deprived of the joys of childhood - they have no time! They are given more and more homework and projects by a system that demands what was formerly university level scholastic achievement now to be attained by the end of the secondary level; and former secondary level achievement to be completed at the primary stage. Masters and Doctorates are now a requirement if you are to "say something" in the workplace!

Yet, with all the higher level educational achievements, our children are developing without any sense of initiative or problem-solving skills - not to mention, absolutely no human relation skills or respect! Just do a customer service survey in any sector, or ask any employer to honestly relate the horror stories that they have with their employees! Mind you, there are some excellent, well rounded individuals but these are like flawless diamonds - precious and rare!

Why is all this happening? The wisdom of God has been removed from society! Prayer, scripture, discipline and guidance have all been removed as the building blocks of society and in their place the wisdom of man has set in via video games, television, computer, and other electronic methods of the "learning experience". How many children sit and listen on evenings to grandparents tell of the struggles they had to overcome, spend time figuring out how to make a kite fly or make a truck out of tin cans and a few pieces of wood? As simple as such things as these are, they taught children skills, not only in problem solving but patience and how to accept guidance from those in authority and, having passed through that stage, could now advise them. Should there be a natural disaster, how many households could still function without electricity or gas? Would parents be able to provide a meal using only resources available like a saucepan and a few sticks, leaves and a couple of "big rocks"? While we have advanced in knowledge, we have left wisdom behind.

You may be asking "What has all this to do with the wisdom of God?" Well the Bible tells us to honor our parents and respect them, it tells parents to protect, train, correct, educate and provide for our children. Children today show a remarkable disrespect for parents and parents have left their children to be trained by the television, movie and music industries. (2 Timothy 3:2, 2 Corinthians 12:14, Ephesians 6:1) The Bible contains the wisdom of God, not only in the training of children, but in every aspect of mankind's life.

In reading the Book of Proverbs, Chapter 2 is outstanding. It gives us a vital key to successful living and Proverbs 3:19-20 (AMP) tells us ***“The Lord by skillful and godly Wisdom has founded the earth; by understanding He has established the heavens. 20 By His knowledge the deeps were broken up, and the skies distill the dew.”*** Wisdom is God's infinite knowledge and skill by which everything (including the human race) has been created and is maintained and sustained. All the knowledge in the universe has been and is generated and maintained by

Wisdom. Genesis 1:1 tells us that in the beginning God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) created the heavens and the earth then John 1:1-3 goes on to say that nothing came into being except through the Word of God, and then in verse 14 that Word became flesh and lived among us. As we go back to verse 9 we read that this Word that became flesh is also the ***“true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man”***.

Now, it seems to me that if God's wisdom formed and runs the universe, and if His Word and Spirit are responsible for creation, then all man has to do to be successful in whatever field of endeavor he is in is to tap into God! We cannot do so unless we have the Spirit of God in us and the Spirit of God comes only through the experiential knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh, as our Lord and Savior.

One of America's outstanding inventors, George Washington Carver (1864 - 1943) was a great scientist, educator and humanitarian, and is a role model for us today. In spite of being born into slavery and separated from his mother at a tender age, he grew up with a love of nature and was a Christian from the age of eight. His persistence, determination, and the value of imagination and inspiration is an example for us in all aspects of our lives.

It is told that Dr. Carver, (who developed over 300 uses for the peanut) in telling the story behind it said that he asked the Great Creator, ***“Dear Mr. Creator, please tell me what the universe was made for.”*** The Great Creator answered, ***“You want to know too much for that little mind of yours. Ask for something more your size.”*** Then he asked, ***“Dear Mr. Creator, tell me what man was made for.”*** Again the Great Creator replied, ***“Little man you still are asking too much. Cut down the extent of your request and improve the intent.”*** So then he asked, ***“Please Mr. Creator, will you tell me why the peanut was made?”***

He is also quoted as saying ***“I never have to grope for methods. The method is revealed at the moment I am inspired to create something new. . . Without God to draw aside the curtain I would be helpless.”***

Creativity in man is the display of the nature of the Creator. There will be no invention without the Spirit of God. The devil can only copy, and those without

the living Spirit of Almighty God within them can only copy or rearrange things as far as their intellect will take them. If you take a survey of all the great inventors you will see that they had a foundation of Christianity and a belief in the Creator.

To every Christian I say, seek out the best education there is to be found in your field, develop the talents God has placed inside you, but always, at every step allow the Spirit of God to lead you into all truth.

I close with another quote from George Washington Carver "**God is going to reveal to us things He never revealed before if we put our hands in His. No books ever go into my laboratory. The thing I am to do and the way of doing it are revealed to me.**"

1 Corinthians 2:6-16 (The Message) 6-10 *We, of course, have plenty of wisdom to pass on to you once you get your feet on firm spiritual ground, but it's not popular wisdom, the fashionable wisdom of high-priced experts that will be out-of-date in a year or so. God's wisdom is something mysterious that goes deep into the interior of his purposes. You don't find it lying around on the surface. It's not the latest message, but more like the oldest --what God determined as the way to bring out his best in us, long before we ever arrived on the scene. The experts of our day haven't a clue about what this eternal plan is. If they had, they wouldn't have killed the Master of the God-designed life on a cross. That's why we have this Scripture text:*

No one's ever seen or heard anything like this,

Never so much as imagined anything quite like it --

What God has arranged for those who love him.

But you've seen and heard it because God by his Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you.

10-13The Spirit, not content to flit around on the surface, dives into the depths of God, and brings out what God planned all along. Who ever knows what you're thinking and planning except you yourself? The same with God --except that he not only knows what he's thinking, but he lets us in on it. God offers a full report on the gifts of life and salvation that he is giving us. We don't have to rely on the world's guesses and opinions. We didn't learn this by reading books or going to school; we learned it from God, who taught us person-to-person through Jesus, and we're passing it on to you in the same firsthand, personal way.

14-16The unspiritual self, just as it is by nature, can't receive the gifts of God's Spirit. There's no capacity for them. They seem like so much silliness. Spirit can be known only by spirit --God's Spirit and our spirits in open communion.

Spiritually alive, we have access to everything God's Spirit is doing, and can't be judged by unspiritual critics. Isaiah's question, "Is there anyone around who knows God's Spirit, anyone who knows what he is doing?" has been answered: Christ knows, and we have Christ's Spirit.