

Sermon Study Guide

Sunday, April 26, 2020

Desiring the Kingdom: Wisdom From God

1 Kings 3

Key verse: "And all Israel heard of the judgement that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice." 1 Kings 3:28 (ESV). Key idea: God has offered His wisdom to us as well! In Jesus all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden. Jesus is the Wisdom of God personified!

Read through 1 Kings 3. We also recommend watching Pastor Nick's sermon again on the White Fields website, YouTube channel, or Facebook page. Pause the video, reflect on, and discuss areas that challenge you or speak to you in a significant way.

There are three key elements in these passages: We see: 1) A Divided Heart, 2) A Noble Request, 3) The Response of God

- 1. In I Kings 3:1-4 we read that Solomon's heart was divided between his love for God and his fleshly desires. Read this passage aloud and discuss his successes and failures. We all have been guilty of having divided hearts. Pastor Nick discussed ways we could overcome this issue. Discuss these ideas and other ways to combat a divided heart.
 - 2. Pastor Nick talked about the "crouching" sins lurking in our lives. He gave the example of the two lion cubs, where the one who is fed becomes dominant. What can we do to assure that we are more intent on feeding the spirit and not the flesh?
- 3. When Solomon was given the opportunity to receive any gift he asked for by God, he chose to ask for wisdom. Was this the best choice? Read Psalm 27:4 and compare David's request to Solomon's. Since we have been given this same offer (Read Matthew 7:7, and John 15:7; 1 John 5:14 aloud), what requests have you made known to God?
 - 4. In the first chapter of the Gospel of John, the writer refers to Jesus as the Word the Logos the wisdom behind the universe. Jesus is the Wisdom of God made manifest. Consider and discuss the implications of this statement.
- 5. Read Proverbs 8:24-36 and answer this question: If we seek God's Wisdom, what should we anticipate being the response of God?

Pray that God's Wisdom will become apparent to all during this pandemic. Continue to pray for our church, our pastors, and our growth in faith.