

VII. Application

1. Pursue true wisdom

Are you seeking wisdom from God's Word?

2. Examine relationships

Are you showing favoritism to others based upon what they look like, what they do, or their similarities to you?

3. Meditate on James

Is your faith evidencing itself in good works? Do you have people in your life who can help you grow in this way?

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Core Seminars—New Testament

Class 20: James:

The Wisdom of the Kingdom



Introduction

1 Corinthians 1: 18–25

I. Purpose

That Christians would apply the Gospel to their lives and thus live wisely and in the fear of the Lord.

II. Authorship & Date

III. Context & Emphasis

Romans 3:28: “For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”

James 2:24: “You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.”

Justification as a declaration vs. demonstration of righteousness

Our faith alone saves us but it is never alone. True faith is always accompanied by good works.

James	Matthew	James	Matthew	James	Matthew
1:2	5:11f.	2:10-11	5:19-22	4:9	5:4
1:4	5:48	2:13	5:7	4:11-12	7:1
1:5	7:7	3:12	7:16	4:13-14	6:34
1:17	7:11	3:18	5:9	5:2	6:19-20
1:20	5:22	4:2-3	7:7-8	5:9	5:22, 7:1
1:22-24	7:24-26	4:4	6:24	5:10	5:11-12
2:5	5:3-5	4:8	6:22	5:12	5:34-35

IV. Structure & Outline

1. Chapter 1: Intro
2. Chapter 2: Wisdom in Generosity
3. Chapters 3-4: Wisdom in Speech
4. Chapter 5: Wisdom in Use of Wealth

V. Major Themes

A. Harmony between the law and gospel

Three uses of the Law

1. First use: to restrain sin (Romans 1-2)
2. Second use: to convict of sin (Galatians 3)
3. Third use: to instruct in wisdom (James)

Relationship to Matthew 5-7

B. Faithful Submission

The wisdom of God vs. this world (James 3:13-18)

C. Practical Obedience

Be doers of God’s word (James 1: 25)

VI. Three Arenas

Generous Love (James 2:1-16)

Careful Speech (James 3:1-12; 4:1-3, 11-17)

Compassionate Wealth (James 1:9-11, 27; 4:13-17)