

4. The U.I. vs. P.I.

U.I.- Unuseful Information P.I.-Practical Information=Wisdom from God
There is a big difference between INTELLIGENCE and WISDOM.

There is a lot of way to get information in the world. Especially with the Information Superhighway, literally the sky is limit when it comes to getting information for something you need. Not all the information is useful & practical in our day to day living. Such as, how a chunk of sand become a silicon and it becomes a microchip. Then they stick it on a plastic board which becomes a computer mother board. How about this, think about how the computer works with nothing but numbers between 0 and 1. Any order you input into your computer, will be converted into these two numbers and calculated and translated into computer language. So did it help you make your life easier?

But P.I. is using that computer in our lives for the glory of God. See the difference?

The verse 5-8 can be divided in two section:

First in v5, we find that wisdom comes from God. Second in v6-8, we find the consequence of doubting God's intention for giving us His wisdom.

A. WISDOM FROM GOD

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom (Greek - Sophia), let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach (In NLT: "He will not resent your asking."), and it will be given to him.

1) The definition of Wisdom

The wisdom we talk about here is "**Sound Judgement about the practical things of daily life, in all aspect of Christian living**". God is the source of wisdom as of power, and wisdom is given to men through the fear of the Lord.

Ps 110:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

Job 28:28 And to man He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, And to depart from evil is understanding.'

The wisdom God gives is not necessarily information on how to get out of trouble but rather insight on how to learn from one's difficulties. It is not more information about how to avoid times of testing but instead a new perspective on trials. The wisdom of God begins with a genuine reverence for the Almighty and a steadfast confidence that God controls all circumstances, guiding them to His good purposes.

The Book of Proverbs is full of wisdom from the man who was the wisest in human history. It talks about everyday conduct in business, family and social relations, and elementary morality.

Wisdom is bound up with doing the will of God.

Deut 4:6-7 Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

Apostle Paul called Jesus "the Wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:24 & 30), and said that in Him all the treasures of wisdom are hidden (Col 2:3).

1 Cor 1:24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God--and righteousness and sanctification and redemption--

Col 2:3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

2) How do we get God's wisdom

The theme of James is about being mature Christians as we already talked about. It is HOW-TO MANUAL. v.2-4 shows the concepts. Here in v.5-8 shows 'HOW-TO'. The end of v.4 says, "not lacking anything". In v.5, "If any of you lacks wisdom," this shows about the method of obtaining wisdom. **PRAY & READ THE WORD!!!!** Prayer and reading the Word help attain such wisdom. The majority of epistles begin and end with an exhortation of prayer.

B. IF WE DON'T

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, (1)for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and (2)tossed by the wind.

Not only wisdom for each and every situation but also the main principles behind each wisdom.

Doubting means "to be divided in one's mind" or "to debate." The term does not describe a momentary doubt but a divided allegiance, an uncertainty.

What are the main principles of God?

God loves people;

God sent His only Son to die and take away our sins with His death and resurrection;

God forgives us for our sins;

God is with us no matter what kind of tough situation comes along;

God provides all we need according to His riches in His glory;

God keeps His promises, etc.

When we doubt His wisdom and the principles behind these wisdom, we are doubting His characters.

Some Bible teachers use these verses to convince people to "CLAIM IT AND BELIEVE IT. IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT IT, BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE FAITH." In a way that is true, the most of their request are about their health and wealth, but not considering God's plan for their lives.

If we don't believe and doubt the basic principles of God's Word and His wisdom, it is easy for the enemy and his representatives to come by and put confusion in our minds.

Faith, unwavering Faith, that stands Sure and Undisturbed, in all the storms of life, is the condition of Prevailing Prayer. All things are possible to him who believes.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

James 1:7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

Those people who don't believe and doubt the basic principles of God's Word and His wisdom, because of their lack of wisdom from God, will give up or choose their own way to get their own goal instead of God's way and God's will.

James 1:8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. Double minded is literally "two souls." If one part of a person is set on God and the other is set on this world, there will be constant conflict within.

C. APPLICATIONS

The wisdom that comes from God is not to make us to know about future or easy life on earth, but it is for us to endure.

When we understand God's principles (His promises, love, mercy, and forgiveness) and His willingness to help us (not veiling us out all the time) in difficult situation, we will be able to endure trials and tests and consider it pure joy that knowing that God is with us in every step.