

The Spirit of Wisdom

Sermon Title: **The Spirit of Wisdom**

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Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the Word!

And we are going to be talking about something today that is not needed more in your life and is for sure needed more in the life of your children and grandchildren, so be sure to listen attentively to what the Lord has to say on this day. You turn to your bibles to the book of Deuteronomy, Chapter 34. I have a lot to cover, so I am going to kind of move fast here.

Deuteronomy chapter 34 and I will start reading at verse seven. The word of the Lord says, "And Moses was 120 years old when he died, his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses. And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land, And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses showed in the sight of all Israel."

And there in that passage of scripture, the bible says that Moses in his later years laid his hand upon his servant Joshua and anointed him with the spirit of wisdom and he was full of the spirit of wisdom. And I speak to you today from the subject of the spirit of wisdom. And we live in a day now when the young generation; the common sense is no longer very common. It is a rare thing to find and in this day and time, if someone tells you, a young person that you say to him, "Man, you are fool!" or "You are crazy!" It is a complement in today's vernacular. But this message is a cry for wisdom to return unto this generation and unto this land. And I asked my oldest child Joshua to sit up here today because most of the wisdom that we get in life should be passed down initially from our parents and he has the same name as the biblical character we just read about. And I want him to sit here and represent a new generation that will operate in Godly wisdom for the Kingdom of God. The bible did not say that Moses gave Joshua great military might. The bible did not say that he gave him a lot of wealth and riches like a lot of the kings lived. Did not say that he put a fancy robe on him like the one I have on today, did not say that he presented him with a royal scepter. He did not even say that he gave him his powerful rod that he did mean of the miracles with. What the bible says that he put his hands on him and he gave him the spirit of wisdom and with this wisdom and the power of God, Joshua and the Israelites went and conquer the entire promise land.

Wisdom, wisdom, wisdom. And I looked up many definitions of wisdom and I could not find one that I felt like was complete enough, so I came up with the shortest definition I could to encompass the full meaning that I wanted to talk about wisdom

today and I had to really think about it deeply. So, if you have pen and paper, I want you to write it down. And the way I would like to define wisdom this day is wisdom is the ability to use knowledge, experience, counsel and spiritual insight to make the best decisions and take the best actions in life situations which lead to success in this life and the after life. I would repeat that, I would define wisdom today as “the ability to use knowledge, experience, counsel and spiritual insight to make the best decisions and take the best actions in life situations which lead to success in this life and the after life”. How many of you know your children and your grandchildren need wisdom? How many of you know we need wisdom? And I have to say in life and the after life, because some people have wisdom in some things of this world. They might have some money wisdom and accumulate billions of dollars but they lose their very own soul and when they expire from this life, they cannot a dime with them. So it has to be for this life and the after life to count it as true wisdom. And schooling cannot teach children wisdom. There are many PhD’s who are not wise. They have knowledge but not wisdom.

Knowledge does not equal wisdom. Knowledge can tell you how many bones there are in the body and the names of each one, the organs and the normal blood pressure, range for a systolic and diastolic reading. But it takes wisdom for you to live healthy and preserve your body. Knowledge can tell you the different heart chambers and how the blood flows through each one and how the valves close behind it but it takes wisdom to give words of comfort to a broken heart. Knowledge can tell you how to trade stocks in the stock market but it takes some wisdom to keep you from putting all the eggs in one basket and not to take too much risk at any one time. Knowledge can tell you the divorce rate and the statistics and what the major causes of divorce are. But it takes wisdom to be able to navigate a disagreement with a spouse without getting angry and causing a fight. You can even have knowledge of the bible and live a defeated life, but it takes wisdom to understand the tricks of the enemy and how do couple works with faith and to operate them both in love, it takes wisdom.

And my father taught all of his sons that wisdom in one area and foolishness in another will eventually cause problems in both. He taught us about health and he said, “Men spend all of their health trying to get money and then they have to spend all of their money trying to regain their health.” He taught us about fame and told us that there is no amount of public success that can compensate for failure at home. He taught us about friends and said that birds of a feather flock together and they go to the same destination and you cannot fly with eagles if you hang around with turkeys. He taught us about marriage and told us to never go to bed angry at each other. He taught us about priorities and told us to always keep God first, family second and business third. And the year before my father transcended this world, he took all of us to a retreat and one by one, he had a blessing ceremony and he laid hands on each one of the sons and he spoke prophetically and anointed us with the spirit of wisdom and he spoke into our lives and anointed us and blessed

us before he left this earth. He was a man of a great wisdom. It is no accident that he has four sons and the ministry. He and my mother raised us in a home of wisdom. The father was the biggest factor in the behavior of the sons in the bible. Like father like son. Jesus was perfect because his daddy was perfect. If you look at Jesus' siblings, they were not perfect. They had sin because their daddy had sins.

In the book of Kings II, Chapter 15, you read there, he talks about king after king and it chronicles their life and what they did and what happen to them. And in each cases said that whether they were good or evil, it says, they follow the ways of their fathers. And even of the man that is in jail, the number one common denominator they have found is the hatred of their father. If your father was not there for you growing up, then spending time with your heavenly father can make up for the absence of a physical father. And God will speak to you. He will impart wisdom for your life even when your physical father was not there. He will never be an absentee father unto you. And if anything, we live his presence and we act as his children onto him but he always wants to spend quality time with us. That is what he desires. And you have to be careful who stands in the role of your father even your spiritual father and in churches where the pastor gets a divorce. Divorce increases throughout the entire congregation, it runs rampant.

In churches where the pastor is on the down low, an undercurrent of homosexuality spreads in the church, so you have to be careful on who is in fathership roles your life. You must not have or give wisdom in an area in order to transfer it properly to another. You cannot teach your children how to invest in the stock market if you never bought a stock. You have to know some things in order to teach some things. And you may ask how do you transfer the spirit of wisdom and we have talked about the laying on of hands and the chief way is by example. When we were in school, elementary school and middle school, our teachers would often ask my mother. They would plead with her and say, "Your children are so mannerable. Mrs. Bronner, why do you not write a book and just explain the process that you used raising these children?" It took a little while to get that book done, about 30 years or something. She told them back then that, "My husband and I simply lived the way that we want our children to behave. And they see the example and follow it." So, I will tell you to be the best example of what you are telling them to do.

Another way that you can transfer the spirit of wisdom: when I learn something in life, I write it in a life journal and I put it on the appropriate category. So, if I learn something in health, I go to my health category and write a lesson that I have learned. If I have learned something in business that day, I come home that evening and while it is fresh on my mind and I write it in my life journal in that area. If I learn a spiritual principle, I come home and write it in a life journal. And as my children ages and as they leave the house, I would hand them a journal that I have kept throughout my life learning wisdom from the circumstances of life.

Another thing is to pray with your children. It is not a wonder that children do not know how to pray nowadays, nobody has taught them how to pray. They have not heard mommy and daddy pray. They see mommy and daddy jump in the bed and mommy and daddy has not been praying with them. So, pray with your children and it will teach them how to pray. When they get in trouble some situations in life, they will remember the lessons of how to get help from their Heavenly Father.

Another thing you should do is train them in your trait. The Jews have a statement that says something like "if you do not train a child in a trait, then you train them to steal." So, in the old days, even last names were based upon the trait that the parent was in. So, blacksmith or Smith, they were actually blacksmith or smith craftsmen in a different area, so farmers were farmers. They train the children in the area, wisdom, wisdom, the spirit of wisdom. And you all have heard the news recently the big R&B singers. One was recently in the news, were physically abusing his girlfriend and one of the things that he said when they went back and looked to this situation. They found an interview couple of years ago; they said this young man who was 19 years old that beat his well-known girlfriend. They went back and looked to the interview and he said he saw his step father beating his mother in the midst of discussion. And he learned, nobody told him this is how you handle a woman. But he learned from the spirit of foolishness how to relate to a female. So, parents we have to be so careful on what our children witness us doing insane. And if you do not have wisdom in an area and you want your children to have wisdom in, then you need to get hooked up with a master or get them hooked up with a master in that area.

Proverbs 24:6 says, "For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety." And I am a pretty good table tennis player for anybody that plays, women they know it. And whenever I am gone vacation, in the last three trips, I am pretty much go to a resort and I would beat everybody at the resort. But yesterday, I had some visitors over and I played with that guy and this guy, he beat the breaks off of me. And I asked him, "How did you get so good, as this game is the worst that I ever been beaten?" I could hardly even score a point on the guy. And he said, "Basically, whatever sport I seek out to play, I find a master in it and I train under them in the beginning and I learn the absolute, best way to do it. And he master at table tennis. He has mastered billiards. He mastered basketball. He mastered tennis. And he goes training, he found out who was the best in the city and he goes and gets mentorship with them. And then he spends four hours everyday practicing what they teach them. He says the only problem with it is he mastered these things in college but he did not finish college because of that. So, he can play all of these things and he did not use full wisdom with the application of it.

A few weeks back, the last time I was in the barber shop. I was sitting there getting my haircut and I was over hearing an older gentleman talk about just some financial things and he was talking about the country and the way we got into the shape that we are in and just some different principles of life and he was talking about some wisdom of things and I never got his name. I did not know what he did but I just stopped him on his way out of the door. I said, "Sir, if you do not mind me asking, I just listened to you and I heard some wisdom. I do not know you, but I just want to ask you, let us say for instance, if you had million dollar cash and it was liquid, what would you do with it right now in this market?" And he stopped and said, "First of all, I do have over million dollars liquid." And I did not know this guy but the wisdom that he said; it was no accident that he had that over million dollars. So, I could hear it in his voice and he did not have on his fancy clothes. I did not see his car or anything but I could hear the wisdom in his voice. I was not surprised when he told me that he did have.

The other way to impart the spirit of wisdom to your children is to talk to them and explain their reasons behind making life choices. Your talk should also line up with your own actions or you inadvertently teach your children how to practice hypocrisy. Parents nowadays do not do like the old days and talk about sex with their children. Most children learn about sex from their friends or an illicit source. This is one of the most sacred acts that bind one and woman together and young people do not usually even learn about it from a source of wisdom. And as my children mature, I will be the one to teach them about sex and reproduction. I will share the wisdom of God's word on the matter with them and the natural wisdom and consequences involved with it. I was talking with a friend recently and I he was telling me about his marriage and some things that he was about to do. And I told him, it was unwise to do what he was about to do and he listened to me and it saved him and his wife a lot of turmoil. Who are hanging around and how much wisdom do they have? Look at the fruit of their lives in every area of health, relationship, children, finances, spiritual life and see how they are doing themselves. And I do not trust people to impart wisdom into my life who are not operating wisdom in their lives in that area. I got this principle from my father when people would give him advice on how to raise his children, he would say, "Let me see your children." And he would observe to see how they turned out before he would incorporate that into his household.

Solomon, he did not just become the wisest man on earth because God asked what he wanted but Solomon was trained from a little child to seek wisdom. And Proverbs Chapter 4 says, "Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee:

love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown.”

It is no accident that Solomon asked for wisdom when God asked him “What is the one thing that I can give you?” He had been taught wisdom all of his day from little, growing up by his father. And even in this fourth chapter of Proverbs, you can hear it. And they are the story that my brother Dale use to tell of an old wise men and a young quipper-snapper, this young man was tired of this old man being right all the time and he found him one day in the market place and said, “I am going to embarrass this old man and show him that he could be wrong.” And he came up to the wise old man and said, “Old man, I got a bird behind my back and you tell me with your wisdom, let me see how wise you are. Is this bird dead or alive?” The old man looked at him in wisdom, studied the situation and told him, “Young man, if I tell you that this bird is dead, you will open your hands and release the bird and let him fly away. But if I tell you that the bird is alive, you will crush him in your hands and you will say, ‘no, he is dead’. So, I will leave you and tell you, young man that the decision is in your own hands.”

And I will leave you today to say that to be wise or foolish and to have your children to grow up wise or foolish, life or death, the decision, the choice is in your hands. Thank you today for joining Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the word!