

**Title:** The fruits of wisdom  
**Pastor:** Theo van Houten  
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## The wise or the foolish

**Matthew 25:1-2** <sup>1</sup> "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

**Matthew 7:24-27** <sup>24</sup> "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

## Demonic or Godly wisdom?

**James 3:14-17** <sup>14</sup> "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

## Jealousy is a key

**Proverbs 27:4** Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy

## We are chosen by God

**John 15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should *abide*, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

## Jesus had to increase and John had to decrease

**Matthew 11:2-6** <sup>2</sup> Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

## Cain and Abel

**Genesis 4:3-5** <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup> and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.

**Genesis 4:6-7** <sup>6</sup> The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? <sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

## Joseph and his brothers

**Genesis 37:11** and his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind...

## David and Saul

**1 Samuel 18:8-12** <sup>8</sup> And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him. He said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands, and what more can he have but the kingdom?" <sup>9</sup> And Saul eyed David from that day on. <sup>10</sup> The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand. <sup>11</sup> And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David evaded him twice. <sup>12</sup> Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was with him but had departed from Saul.

## Moses and Korah rebellion

**Psalm 106:16-18** <sup>16</sup> when men in the camp were jealous of Moses and Aaron, the holy one of the LORD, <sup>17</sup> the earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiram. <sup>18</sup> Fire also broke out in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.

## Jesus and the Priests

**Mark 15:10, 13-14** <sup>10</sup> for he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. <sup>13</sup> and they cried out again, "Crucify him." <sup>14</sup> And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him."

## Fruit of the Spirit

**Galatians 5:24-26** <sup>24</sup> and those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

## Love is not envious

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7** <sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

## Simon the sorcerer

**Acts 8:20-23** But Peter replied, “May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God’s gift can be bought! <sup>21</sup> You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. <sup>22</sup> Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, <sup>23</sup> for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin.”

## We are being built up

**1 Peter 2:1-5** <sup>1</sup> so put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. <sup>2</sup> Like new-born infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—<sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

## We are being built up

**1 Peter 2:11-14** <sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honourable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. <sup>13</sup> Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it is to the emperor as supreme, <sup>and</sup> <sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do well.

**1 Peter 2:15-18** <sup>15</sup> for this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. <sup>16</sup> Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. <sup>17</sup> Honour everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor. <sup>18</sup> Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

## How to overcome jealousy

1. Pride – humble ourselves
2. False humility – accept who we are in Christ
3. The lie of displacement – trust God
4. Shield of Honour – avoid those who dishonours
5. Give Honour – Learn to honour others
6. The root of fear – Perfect love...
7. Proclaim the Name of Jesus.

## Wisdom from above

**James 3:17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.