

James 3:17

Life in Wisdom's House 8: Reasonable

An irrational generation ...

I. Our Reasonable Faith

- A. God Calls Us to Reason
- B. The Spirit Makes Us Sensible
- C. Jesus Sets the Example
- D. The Word is Our Guide

II. Our Reasonableness

- A. Disposition
- B. Perception
- C. Reception
- D. Persuasion

... vs. the wisdom of God.

Children, Listen ...

1. Do the things of God make sense to unbelievers?
2. How do people come to know God's way of salvation?
3. Where can we find good direction for the way we live our life?

Be Reasonable

Though the world might like to characterize us as such, and though some so-called Christians may fit the billing, believers are not, after all, kooks! In fact, we are, by grace, the most reasonable creatures – or at least we should be. While the word James uses to describe one of the components of “wisdom from above” is rare and difficult to translate with precision it speaks to the rational nature of true belief and indicates receptiveness and obedience to what the Lord decrees. While some unbelievers can be reasonable people, pure wisdom from above brings a higher meaning to the concept. It first has to do with embracing and submitting to God's “reasonable” plan of salvation as He has spelled it out for us in the Gospel. Inseparably attached to that is having the “mind of Christ” by following His example and incorporating the teaching of the Word into every area of life. Finally, it has to do with our disposition, that is, that we are reasonably minded people willing to engage others calmly and clearly while receiving from others godly instruction, critique and even rebuke when need be. Are you a reasonable Christian? If so, you clearly have some wisdom from above.