

PRAY FOR WISDOM

(Jas 1:5) “**But** (de) [continuative de] **if** (1cc) [true] **any of you lack** (leipo/ p.p.ind.3ps) **wisdom** (Sophia), **let him ask** (aiteo/ p.a.impv.3ps) **of God, who gives** (didomi/ p.a.ptc abl.s.m) **to all generously** (haplos) **and** (adjunctive kai of ptc) **without reproach** (me/oneidizo/ p.a.ptc.abl.s.m), **and it will be given** (didomi/ f.p.ind.3ps) **him.**”

The need to pray for wisdom was the result of struggling with the application of faith in the midst of the test of Undeserved Suffering (U/S) (Jas.1:2-4).

This lesson will study five aspects of Praying for Wisdom, taken from the context of James 1:5-8.

1. **These believers were struggling with the faith cycle while under Undeserved Suffering (U/S).**

Their belief system (Divine Viewpoint) was not producing the “perfect, complete, lacking in nothing;” and as result they were unable to “Count it all joy.”

The key word is **LACK** (leipo); it was used also in (Jas.1:4) “**lacking in nothing.**” It is important that they acknowledge that they lacked the wisdom to successfully complete the faith cycle. They need the wisdom of God to address the break-down of the Faith Cycle and to apply it. So that it doesn’t keep happening in the Christian Way of Life (CWL).

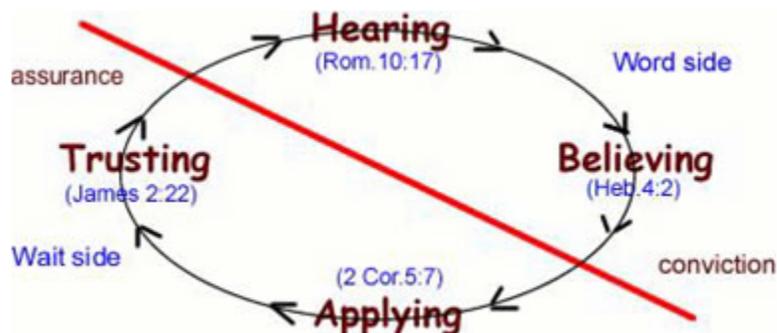
So, James instructs them to Pray for Wisdom regarding this doctrinal break-down of the faith cycle. “But if any of you lack wisdom (and you do).”

2. **James commanded them to “ask (aiteo/ p.a.impv.3ps) of God for wisdom” while in their struggle with Undeserved Suffering (U/S).**

These believes are promised that God will respond by “giving to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” (Jas.1:5b) [unconditionally, based upon His grace].

WARNING: Be careful not to equate the accumulation of knowledge of Bible Doctrine with the wisdom of God (1 Cor.8:1).

3. **Wisdom of God (Sophia) is the practical application of Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) cycling through the faith cycle (Proverbs 1-8) [Study on divine wisdom].**



4. Let me illustrate a prayer for God’s Wisdom and how Divine Wisdom works in our Christian Walk.

Taken from (1 Kings 3:1-28) [Note that Solomon had recently become king].

(1 Kings.3:5-10) **Solomon’s prayer** (1 Kings.3:9)

“Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

(1 Kings.3:11-15) **Solomon’s prayer answered** (1 Kings.3:12)

“I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

(1 Kings.3:23-27) **Solomon’s divine wisdom tested**

“Then the king said, “The one says, ‘This is my son that is alive, and your son is dead’; while the other says, ‘Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.’” So, the king said, “Bring me a sword,” and they brought a sword before the king. The king said, “Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one, and half to the other.” But the woman whose son was alive said to the king - because compassion for her son burned within her - “Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly, do not kill him!” The other said, “It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it.” Then the king responded: “Give the first woman the living boy; do not kill him. She is his mother.”

(1 Kings.3:28) **Solomon’s divine wisdom acknowledged by others**

“All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered; and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him, to execute justice”.

(Ps.51:6) “Behold, **you desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom (inner dialogue of spirit).**”

(Eccl.2:21) “**When there is a man who has labored with wisdom, knowledge and skill, then he gives it to one who has not labored with them.** This too is vanity and a great evil.”

5. “But (de) let him ask (aiteo/ p.a.impv.3ps) in faith.” (James.1:6a)

This introduces the second imperative command in (James.1:5-8).

- **All prayer** is addressed to Father (Matt.6:19) in the name of Jesus Christ (John 14:13-14)
- **All prayer** is done in power the of The Holy Spirit (Rom.8:26-27; Eph.6:18). This is made possible by confession of known personal sins (1 John 1:9; Ps.66:18)
- **All prayer** must be asked according to the Will of God (1 John 5:14-15).

(Heb.4:15-16) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted I all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”