James, the Proverbs of the New Testament

Week 4

**Introduction**

* Review
  + Verbal Linking
  + Wrestling
* Wisdom’s Press
  + *17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.*
* Psalm 51 – The Repentance of David

*13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. 14 Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

* Daniel 1 – The Favor of Daniel

*17 As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. 18 At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. 20 And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.*

* Romans 8 – The Victory of Paul

*31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

* Luke 4 – The Temptation of Jesus

*13 And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. 14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.*

Study – James 3:1-18

*Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.****2****For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.****3****If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well.****4****Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.****5****So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.*

1. The struggle of responsibility - Teachers and stumbling
2. The struggle of self-control - Control of the body -> Control of the tongue

*How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!****6****And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.****7****For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind,****8****but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.****9****With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.****10****From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.****11****Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?****12****Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.*

1. The struggle of the tongue - The tongue explored
   1. Forest fire
   2. Taming of beasts
   3. Deadliest of vipers
   4. Double tongue
   5. Springs of water
   6. Types of trees

Pilgrim’s Progress – Talkative

*Matt 12:35-37 35 The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. 36 I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, 37 for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”*

***13****Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.****14****But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.****15****This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.****16****For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.****17****But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.****18****And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

1. The struggle of meekness - Wisdom shown in meek works
2. The reward of righteousness