



God's Resources for Life and Healing

Part 8G: Wisdom

In our last issue we looked at some of the types of wisdom that God makes available to us. This included the bountiful wisdom He gives in His Word for living a successful and prosperous life as well as individual wisdom for our own specific circumstances when we ask for it. We also pointed out His gifts of various forms of skills and enhanced understanding that He imparts to chosen people to fulfill special purposes.

Along this line God gave Daniel, Shadrack, Meshach, and Abednego "knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom," far surpassing that of Nebuchadnezzar's magicians. In addition, Daniel received a special anointing of God's wisdom to be able to solve difficult problems and to interpret dreams and visions (Dan. 1:17, 20; 5:12).

Daniel is also a great example of God giving supernatural revelation of things that are hidden from mankind in general. God revealed to Daniel what was in the mind of Nebuchadnezzar and gave him revelation of future events (Dan. 2:20-30; 5:11-28). This is another part of God's wisdom that He may choose to reveal to man. To God, of course, nothing is hidden. All things are open and laid bare before Him (Heb. 4:13). Even the darkness is light to Him (Psalm 139:12).

This aspect of God's wisdom and revelation is potentially available to all of us *when our spirits are fully aligned with His*, for His Spirit is a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Eph. 1:15-19). He is also a God who bids us to call unto Him and He will show us great and mighty things that we do not know (Jer. 33:3).

While He never dispenses His wisdom indiscriminately, He will often reveal to chosen individuals hidden knowledge in the form of prophetic insights for a particular person or group of people, as He frequently did in Scripture (2 Sam. 12:1-16; Isa. 7:3-9; Acts 21:11). Unfortunately, just as the Pharisees put on a false religious front in order to appear to be something that they really weren't in their hearts (Mat. 15:8-9; 23:13-28), so misguided prophets also abound. Many of them seem sincere but are being deceived by a false holy spirit (Mat. 7:22-23; 24:24) or the imaginations of their own minds (Jer. 23:16). Even those prophets who are genuinely called by God and gifted by the true Holy Spirit are susceptible to misspeaking from time to time what they perceive to be a word from the Lord.

For this reason, words of prophecy spoken through a human agent need to be carefully weighed as to whether they are truly in alignment with God's character and His Word. There must be no conflict with these at all. Examining whether the person speaking the prophetic words has any vested interest in the response he wants from the words spoken, is trying to please the desires of his audience (2 Tim. 4:3), or has any latent or unhealthy desires to be recognized as a "spiritual giant" is also wise.

The unseen dynamics of the evil spiritual realm are another type of wisdom that God sometimes reveals to those ministering deliverance to people in spiritual bondage. Those working in this field do well to cultivate their union with God's Spirit so that they can receive this kind of divine input. It is especially crucial when dealing with deep and extensive spiritual bondage, such as is found in ritual abuse survivors. God is strongly invested in destroying the works of the devil (Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8) and in setting free those who are held captive by Satan and his associates (Isa. 61:1). Therefore, I believe that He is very willing to help His servants who are dedicated to being instruments in His hand for Him to use in this endeavor.