



(SLIDE #1) THE INCREDIBLE WISDOM OF GOD!

Introduction:

- A. God Is SO Perfect And Holy!

- B. His Wisdom Is Unfathomable In Many Ways!
 - 1. Rom. 11:33 “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!”
 - 2. Is. 55:9 “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”
 - 3. Job’s statements about God’s wisdom:
 - a. Job 12:13 “With Him *are* wisdom and strength, He has counsel and understanding.”
 - b. Job 12:16 “With Him *are* strength and prudence. The deceived and the deceiver *are* His.”

- C. And Yet, In Many Ways We See Evidences Of His Wisdom And Should Be SO Impressed!

I. (Slide #2) God’s Wisdom Vividly And Subtly Seen In Creation!

- A. The Creation Vividly Shows His Wisdom!
 - 1. Ps. 104:24 “O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions--”
 - 2. Ps. 147:5 “Great *is* our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding *is* infinite.”
 - 3. Pr. 3:19,20 “The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens; ²⁰By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew.”
 - 4. Jer. 10:12 “He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion.”

5. Examples:
 - a. Ps. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.”
 1. David talks about the universe and wisdom of God that it reveals!
 2. The sun -- 93,000,000 miles from the Earth -- in the EXACT place for life to exist on the Earth!
 - a. If 43,000,000 miles away, life could not exist!
 - b. If 143,000,000 miles away, life could not exist!
 - c. It is in the perfect place for life to survive and thrive on the Earth!
 3. The moon -- 238,857 miles from the Earth -- in the EXACT place to clean the shores but not to inundate the Earth!
 - b. In Lystra, Paul taught the idolaters about the TRUE God! “Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.” Ac. 14:17
 1. The rain cycle literally preserves vegetation and life!
 2. The seasons in their yearly consistency enable life to exist and thrive!
 - c. Our human bodies.
- B. And Yet, With What I CAN See And Comprehend, I Feel SO Inadequate And SO unaware!
1. For we have some knowledge of the magnificence and intricacies of the Creation; however, we have only touched the “hem of the garment” of all the wisdom of God that is microscopic and invisible, imperceptible, and undetectable with our eyes!
 2. When I look at the magnificence and intricacy of the Creation, I feel SO much like Job!
 - a. When Job challenged God, God put him in his place and challenged him!
 1. Job. 38:1-5 “Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: ²‘Who *is* this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? ³Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me. ⁴‘Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?’”
 2. Job 38:18 “Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you know all this.”
 3. Job 40:1,2 “Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said: ²‘Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.’”

- b. Job's pitiful and humble response: "Then Job answered the LORD and said: ⁴Behold, I am vile; What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. ⁵Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further."
 - c. God's continued questioning!
 - 1. God's challenge: "Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: ⁷Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me:" 40:6,7
 - 2. Explain the behemoth (Perhaps a dinosaur) -- 40:15-24
 - 3. Explain the Leviathan (Perhaps a dragon) -- 41:1-34
 - d. Job's ashamed reply: "Therefore I abhor *myself*, And repent in dust and ashes." Job 42:6
- D. In The Words Of The Hymn "Farther Along" That Says "Farther Along We'll Know All About It; Farther Along We'll Understand Why" and "We'll Understand It All By And By" I Don't Think We Will Have A CLUE In This Life Of The Incredible Wisdom Of God That Is Indelibly Stamped IN Everything In Creation Until We Are In Eternity And The Godhead Explain It To Us (If They Chose To Reveal It To Us)!!!!
- E. The Hymn "There Is A God; He Is Alive!" Emphasizes God's Incredible Wisdom In The Creation!

II. (Slide #3) God's Wisdom Seen In Baptism!

- A. Jesus Commanded Sinners To Be Baptized In Order To Be Saved By The Blood Of Jesus Christ!
 - 1. Mk. 16:16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."
 - 2. The Apostles taught that same truth:
 - a. "Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins;'" Ac. 2:38
 - b. Paul taught it:
 - 1. "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Rom. 6:3,4
 - 2. Paul taught the Jailor at Philippi about Christ and baptism! Ac. 16:30-33
 - 3. Paul taught the Corinthians; they were baptized. Ac. 18:1-8
 - 4. He baptized the 12 men at Ephesus. Ac. 19:1-7

3. That's what Ananias had previously taught Saul of Tarsus who became the Apostle Paul! After having been blinded and chastised by Jesus, Saul was sent into the city of Damascus; there he would be told what to do! Ac. 9:3-16 Ac. 22:3-11; Ananias came and told Saul how to be saved "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Ac. 22:16
- B. Why Did God Choose Baptism As The Means And Time When Sinners Contact The Saving Blood Of Jesus?
1. It is SO EASY for sinners to do -- 67% of this Earth on which we live is covered by water; man cannot exist without it! And it is in that readily available element that sinners are called to be baptized!
 2. It is SO SYMBOLIC -- the Messiah and Savior Jesus was murdered on a Cross, He was buried, and He arose as THE Lord and Savior! And in a symbolic picture, sinners are called to die to sin by the Blood of Christ and after baptism to arise to walk in newness of life!
 - a. Rom. 6:3,4 "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."
 - b. And just like the eunuch, they proceed in "newness of life!" When he came up out of the water, "he went on his way rejoicing! Ac. 8:39 They are raised to LIVE for Christ!

III. (Slide #4) God's Wisdom Seen In The Church!

- A. (Slide #5) Family!
1. Christians become family with other Christians!
 - a. I Jn. 3:1 "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!"
 - b. Having been baptized, Gal. 3:27, they continue to live in faith as God's children! "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus." Gal. 3:26
 - c. Now "We're Part Of The Family That's Been Born Again!"
 - d. WHAT love; WHAT encouragement; WHAT support!
 2. Sadly some (not most) who become Christians are ridiculed by their physical families; some are even alienated by their physical families.
 3. When that occurs, they have a spiritually family who puts their arms of love around them and help them be loved and encouraged.

B. (Slide #6) Church Organization!

1. Christ -- THE One And Only Head of the Church!
 - a. Col. 1:18 “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”
 1. He is THE head!
 2. He gets ALL the glory and praise!
 - b. He has ALL authority!
 1. Mt. 28:18 “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”
 2. No man has ANY authority to make rules for the Church; Christ is THE head!

2. Elders oversee the local congregation!
 - a. There were always a PLURALITY of elders!
 1. Tit. 1:5 “For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you.”
 2. Phil. 1:1 “Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:”
 3. Why a plurality?
 - a. One man cannot dictate his own desires upon the whole congregation!
 - b. They have unique skills and insights that help the eldership make wise decisions!
 - b. They have to meet the Lord’s qualifications. I Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-11
 - c. In reality, even if a congregation had to go underground because of persecution, their elders could still have oversight, could shepherd, and could encourage the members!

3. Every congregation is completely autonomous!
 - a. There is NO earthly headquarters.
 - b. No universal, national, or state authority is over a congregation.
 - c. Its loyalty is to Christ alone as their head!
 - d. How does this show the wisdom of God?
 1. If one congregation strays from God, others do not have to be influenced!
 2. If almost every congregation stayed from God, it does not mean that we have to do so!
 3. This keeps numerous congregations from being led away by some earthly leaders or organization.
 3. The elders know the people in that congregation; they can love, support, and shepherd them!

4. Ministers or evangelists preach the Word of God!
 - a. They are under the authority and oversight of the elders!
 - b. They are NOT the pastors; the elders are the shepherds and overseers!
Ac. 20:28
 - c. At the same time, the preachers do have authority to preach the Word authoritatively! II Tim. 4:2
 - d. God's wisdom seen in Church organization:
 1. Thus, preachers do not have total control and authority over a congregation!
 2. There is a system of checks and balances in the Church:
 - a. If the preacher oversteps his authority or teaches error, the elders have the authority to correct him.
 - b. If the elders overstep their authority or teach error, the preacher has the authority to reprove and rebuke such actions.
II Tim. 4:2

IV. (Slide #7) God's Wisdom Seen In Taking The Lord's Supper Every Sunday!

- A. Many Church Take Communion Once A Month, Twice A Year, Etc.

- B. First Century Christians Took The Lord's Supper In Worship Every Sunday.
 1. You see this in Troas. Ac. 20:7

 2. You see this in the church at Corinth; I Cor. 16:1,2; 11:17-34

- C. Why Did Christ Establish The Church Where Communion Is Taken Every Sunday?
 1. It is a constant reminder of the Lord's sacrifice that enables us to be Christians.

 2. It is a memorial that keeps us humble!

 3. It is a privilege to recharge our spiritual batteries.

 4. It is a time of examination to see how we are doing spiritually.

- D. Christians Can Participate In This And Every Other Command Of Worship No Matter Where They Are -- At Home, Traveling, Or On The Other Side Of The World!

V. (Slide #8) God's Wisdom Seen In The Home!

- A. You See God's Wisdom In Providing Companionship For Human Beings.
 - 1. Gen. 2:18 "And the LORD God said, '*It is* not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.'"
 - 2. Gen. 2:23, 24 "And Adam said: '*This is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.'²⁴Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

- B. You See God's Wisdom In Providing A Place Of Security For Children To Be Brought Into The World!

- C. You See God's Wisdom In Providing Guidance For Children -- They Are Not To Be Left Along To Figure It Out For Themselves.
 - 1. Eph. 6:4 "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."
 - 2. I Thess. 2:11 "as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father *does* his own children,"

- D. You See God's Wisdom As Children Can Reciprocate The Love Of Their Parents -- They Can Assist And Support Aged And Declining Parents!
 - 1. As parents age, their children realize all the sacrifices that have been made by their parents throughout their lives!
 - 2. The children in turn do all they can to make their parent's lives as peaceful as possible!

Conclusion:

- A. NEVER Let Arrogance Cause You To Miss Or Ignore God's Wisdom!
 - 1. Arrogant People May Not See God's Wisdom!
 - 2. I Cor. 1:26-29 "For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*.²⁷But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;²⁸and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,²⁹that no flesh should glory in His presence."

- B. But OH That Wisdom Is All Around Us!
1. Stop, Look, Observe, Consider, And Contemplate!
 2. Be AMAZED AND IN AWE!
 3. Glorify God for all of His wisdom!
 4. Realize that in His wisdom, you have life and the privilege this morning to come to Him!