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INTRODUCTION

1:1 The explanation of wisdom according to the Bible:

The spirit of wisdom is a spirit produced by the Holy Spirit. According to the book of Isaiah 11, the Holy Spirit is divided into seven spirits, among which the spirit of wisdom and understanding is included. The Bible says, "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him," referring to the Holy Spirit. Within the Holy Spirit, there are additional spirits, including the spirit of wisdom and understanding, as mentioned in the passage. This is often referred to as "The Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding."

Isaiah 11:2 (KJV) states:

"And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord."

This elaborates on how wisdom, as one of the seven spirits of the Holy Spirit, is divinely bestowed for guidance and understanding.

The spirit of Wisdom is a spirit initiated by the power of the Holy Ghost. It can be defined as the spirit that gives us the ability to do what is right, just, and fair. There are other definitions of wisdom according to different revelations given to the body of Christ, but this is according to the revelation I was given, as according to King Solomon in the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 1:3-4: "For receiving instruction in doing what is right, just, and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple."

Wisdom is all about doing what is right, just, or correct within a certain place or allowed environment. It mostly refers to acting according to the Word of God and His commandments. Doing what is right and fair means following God's instruction and avoiding evil and wickedness.

Wisdom is the application of kingdom principles in our daily life. It is the spirit that gives us the ability to perform actions based on God's principles, resulting in no negative effects (fair) or positive impacts. That is the simple meaning of wisdom. Wise men adhere to this pattern. The moment you do something that is not right, you are not a friend of wisdom. The moment you act

in a manner that is unfair to an individual or a group, wisdom is far from you. The moment you judge and condemn people beyond principles or rules, wisdom is not concerned either.

Wisdom is all about making good decisions, having correct or perfect judgment, and providing fair treatment. We can see how wisdom is crucial in our lives because all situations we face daily require decision-making, good judgment, and actions concerning various aspects of life. Wisdom always manifests itself in these three main points of view, leading to many positive outcomes in our lives.

Wisdom plays a significant role in our lives. In the book of Proverbs, wisdom is illustrated as a beautiful woman who plays an essential part in our lives, to the extent that we have no excuse to reject or despise her. We are encouraged to love and, if possible, to marry her. This is how King Solomon describes wisdom in the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 4:7-9: "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. She will give you a garland to grace your head and present you with a glorious crown."

According to King Solomon in this scripture, wisdom is like a beautiful woman who will contribute to our success, glorious life, prosperity, open doors, favor, and honor, provided that you "marry" her. In other words, if you acquire wisdom in your life, success will come your way. Prosperity has no excuse not to come, and honor becomes your song. Unfortunately, in our current generation, we do not take wisdom seriously. We reject it and choose foolishness, leading to a life full of corruption, injustice, and unfairness. May the Lord grant grace to our generation, and may this book help you become one of the few wise people in the world.

In today's world, a person cannot achieve good results in almost every dimension of life if they downplay the role of wisdom. Wisdom is the catalyst for activating excellence, the appropriate application of skills and knowledge, good judgment, and decision-making.

We are living in an arrogant generation that does not take the role of wisdom seriously. We do not take the time to sit down, learn, and understand the functions of wisdom. We live in a

generation of jokers and talkers with no actions, wishers and not doers, and attendants but not participants or partakers.

“All evil activities and rebellions in the world result from a lack of wisdom, regardless of whether it involves men of God or government leaders”.

In this book, we will explore a few things concerning the spirit of wisdom that I believe will bring a mindset transformation for you and anyone who reads it. As our father Mwl. Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the first president of our nation (Tanzania), said, the biggest enemies in our lives are ignorance, disease, and poverty. However, the most dangerous enemy is ignorance and foolishness because foolishness creates a suitable environment for Satan to dwell in our lives. God always dwells in knowledge and wisdom (1 Samuel 2:3). God is the Father of Light, so the moment you gain light and understanding, Satan will flee from your life.

CHAPTER ONE: TYPES OF WISDOM

In this world, there are various kinds of wisdom, each with distinct characteristics and influences. Let's explore these types of wisdom more comprehensively:

1. Earthly Wisdom /natural wisdom or(Common Sense)

Earthly wisdom, or common sense, is natural and innate. It comes from nature and instinct. For instance, no one teaches a baby to suckle; it's an instinctive action. Similarly, we all grow up doing certain things without being explicitly taught or instructed by someone else. This is called common sense.

Our ancestors demonstrated earthly wisdom by creating bronze, iron, and wood vessels without formal education. They were known as blacksmiths or as I call them local engineers, were able to design knives, axes, and pots for various human activities. This wisdom allowed them to discover fire and understand its functions.

In our daily lives, we find individuals who, despite not attending school, but yet possess the wisdom to care for their families, provide for them, and associate with others effectively. For example, our village ancestors were wise mentors and advisors to the younger generation. A mother who did not attend school might still raise seven children, ensuring they attend school,

remain disciplined, and thrive economically. This natural wisdom enables her to achieve these results.

Earthly wisdom, often referred to as common sense, is the practical knowledge and understanding gained through everyday experiences. It involves making decisions based on practicality and the immediate environment. While earthly wisdom can be valuable, it may lack the depth and insight provided by divine wisdom.

Example: An individual using common sense to navigate daily challenges, such as managing finances or resolving conflicts, exemplifies earthly wisdom. This type of wisdom helps people make sensible decisions in their daily lives.

No one needs to instruct you when to go to the restroom, prepare a meal, or make certain decisions. These actions are governed by what we call *common sense, a form of natural wisdom or earthly intelligence. Common sense is an inherent ability that enables individuals to make practical and straightforward decisions in everyday life. It allows us to understand and act appropriately based on the situation or circumstances without requiring explicit instructions or guidance from others.

For example, common sense dictates that when you feel hungry, you decide to cook food or when nature calls, you go to the restroom(toilet). It's this natural wisdom that helps you intuitively know when and how to perform these actions, ensuring your needs are met efficiently. This type of wisdom is deeply rooted in human experience and interaction with the world, and it plays a vital role in our ability to navigate daily challenges and responsibilities.

God told Adam and eve to be fruitful and multiply but he Didi bot tell them the mechanism of having children, unfortunately they all knew it, as the bible says “ and Adam knew his wife” implies that by common sense Adam came to realize what is the mechanism of having children, God did not teach them

And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.- Genesis 4:1

There many things God cannot teach us how to obtain them but he gave us common sense (natural wisdom) that can help us to come up with a solution, God gave Adam a tree he Didn't give him a table expecting out of the tree will shall get a table.

2. Sensual Wisdom (human wisdom I)

Sensual wisdom is intellectual and acquired through learning. It is developed through scholarship and training. The Bible says, "Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in words and deeds" (Acts 7:22). Jesus Christ was found "sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions" (Luke 2:46). We acquire intellectual wisdom through education, observation, and experience.

This kind of wisdom is limited and progressive. Sometimes, sensual wisdom produces prudence—the ability to recognize something and take appropriate actions based on what is right and fair. However, it may not always be fair for both sides.

In Matthew 10:16, Jesus says, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Jesus urges his disciples to be wise like serpents, who understand strategic approaches and methodologies, yet remain harmless like doves. This prudence, or "busara" in Swahili, helps them navigate challenges without violating God's principles.

Characteristics of human wisdom/sensual wisdom

Human wisdom, also known as sensual wisdom, is based on human experiences, knowledge, and reasoning. It emphasizes practicality, logic, and empirical evidence. While intellectual wisdom can lead to advancements in science, technology, and society, it may sometimes neglect spiritual and moral considerations.

For Example: Philosophers and scientists who rely on observation and experimentation to understand the world demonstrate secular or intellectual wisdom. This type of wisdom can lead to significant discoveries and innovations but may not always consider ethical implications.

This is the kind of wisdom which enable us to form different structures, engineering design and efficient management of resources

3. Devilish Wisdom

Devilish wisdom, also known as satanic or diabolical wisdom, incorporates the practice of magic and witchcraft. This wisdom conjures charms, enchantments, and spells. Astrologers and soothsayers operate by devilish wisdom. It thrives on deceit, manipulation, and malice, leading individuals away from righteousness into a life of darkness and despair.

Characteristics of Satanic Wisdom

1. Deception: Satanic wisdom thrives on lies and deceit. It manipulates the truth to achieve selfish goals, often leading people astray and causing harm to others.
2. Manipulation: This type of wisdom uses cunning and trickery to control and influence others for personal gain. It exploits weaknesses and vulnerabilities to achieve its objectives.
3. Malice: Satanic wisdom is driven by ill will and spite. It seeks to harm others, either physically, emotionally, or spiritually, and takes pleasure in their suffering.
4. Selfishness: Unlike divine wisdom, which promotes selflessness and love, satanic wisdom is centered on self-interest. It prioritizes personal gain over the well-being of others.

Examples of Satanic Wisdom

Temptation in the Garden of Eden**: In the Bible, Satan's temptation of Eve in the Garden of Eden is a prime example of satanic wisdom. By deceiving Eve, Satan led humanity into sin and separation from God.

Consequences of Satanic Wisdom

1. Those who follow satanic wisdom often find themselves in spiritual darkness, separated from the light and love of God.
2. Satanic wisdom leads to the destruction of relationships, communities, and even nations. It sows discord and chaos, leaving a trail of devastation in its wake.
3. : According to Christian beliefs, those who embrace satanic wisdom risk eternal damnation, as they turn away from God's grace and salvation.

Understanding the nature and consequences of satanic wisdom can help individuals recognize and avoid its influence, leading them towards a path of righteousness and divine wisdom.

4. Divine Wisdom (Natural Wisdom)

Divine wisdom cannot be learned; it is imparted by God through inspiration, imitation or revelation. This type of wisdom is superior to the other three types. Divine wisdom is characterized by purity, peace, gentleness, mercy, good fruits, impartiality, and sincerity (James 3:17).

Divine wisdom is a gift from God, characterized by righteousness, truth, and love. It aligns with the principles and commandments of God, guiding individuals to make decisions that are just, fair, and beneficial. Divine wisdom leads to a life of fulfillment and spiritual growth, allowing individuals to navigate life's challenges with grace and integrity.

Example: Solomon, a biblical king, is renowned for his divine wisdom, which he received from God. His ability to judge fairly and make sound decisions is a testament to the power of divine wisdom.

Divine wisdom operates with pure motives, without scheming to hurt or cheat anyone. When Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream, he did not seek personal gain; his motives were pure. Divine wisdom is peaceable, open to negotiation and appeal, and respects other people's opinions and views. It does not place one in the seat of know-it-all arrogance.

The wisdom from above is merciful and full of good fruits, positively affecting the affairs of others. Divine wisdom is superior because it comes from above, as stated in John 3:31: "He that cometh from above is above all."

Through devilish wisdom, magicians turned their rods into serpents, but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods (Exodus 7:12). God gave Solomon wisdom that excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country and Egypt, making him renowned (1 Kings 4:29-31).

Understanding and embracing divine wisdom can lead to a fulfilling and righteous life, while recognizing the limitations and dangers of other types of wisdom.

In this book, let us dive deeper into two major types of wisdom: divine (natural) wisdom and secular/sensual wisdom. These are:

1. Divine Wisdom or Wisdom from God
2. Sensual wisdom or intellectual wisdom (human wisdom)

God designed these two types of wisdom to work in partnership, not in isolation. They depend on each other to bring about balance in the life of men, pleasing God while enjoying life in the cosmos.

Divine (Natural) Wisdom / Wisdom from God

This kind of wisdom is given by God and cannot be acquired elsewhere unless from God and his vessels. Divine wisdom is authored by God Himself and imparted to a person through the Holy Spirit. Many times, this grace of wisdom happens to an individual when he or she is saved or born again and receives the promise of the Holy Spirit. It does not matter whether the person has attended school, lives in a town or village, or possesses knowledge—this wisdom is also natural wisdom or divine gift because wisdom is a spirit, and among its products is understanding, as how apostle Paul says

1 Corinthians 2:6: "We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began."

From this, we understand that divine wisdom is from God Himself, and no one can acquire it by their own effort or diligence. Apostle Paul made it clear that divine wisdom is from God through the Holy Spirit, and it existed with God before the creation of the earth.

This kind of wisdom is called divine wisdom because it originates from God. Mostly, the partakers of this wisdom are angels, men, and women of God, or ministers sent from God (servants of God). For example, we see men sent from God like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Moses, Joshua, and many others who did not attend school as we do now but had encounters with the Holy Spirit that provided them with wisdom. In other words, this kind of wisdom is generated by the Holy Spirit. Divine wisdom is always encountered when a person is filled with the Holy Spirit, and it is pure and uncorrupted.

There are times when some individuals can have divine wisdom even if they are not working in churches, as we often expect. Men and women of God or servants of God can be found everywhere—in business, politics, government, schools, and universities. God can anoint individuals and give them divine wisdom, skills, knowledge, and understanding. This can be seen in the book of Exodus, where God himself appointed few individuals and anointed them

with the spirit of wisdom, knowledge and understanding to perform different tasks assigned to Moses

Exodus 31:1-4: "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills, to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver, and bronze.'"

From this scripture, we see that God is the initiator of wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. There were few schools at that time where the sons of Israel could learn civil engineering, as we do now. There were no universities and colleges for learning and acquiring skills. But God Himself decided to fill men with wisdom, knowledge, and skills to accomplish architectural activities. This is what we call divine wisdom. No man can generate it; it is God Himself in partnership with a willing vessel.

There are some individuals whom God has ordained with supernatural wisdom. I call them the custodians of wisdom—men like Job, David, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and King Solomon. These men were anointed by God with divine wisdom, and their impact on earth cannot be denied. We live and associate with some of them, eat with them, but they are custodians of wisdom. The moment you recognize them please associate with them

The same applies to John the Baptist and Jesus Himself. Although the scriptures do not tell us where they attended their training, I confidently say that these two did not attend school as we do now. There were no teachings to listen to or resources like Facebook, YouTube, and other internet materials. Yet, they were wise enough to confront the Pharisees. This kind of wisdom is called divine wisdom. Let us see how Apostle Luke wrote about the speeches of Jesus in Luke 2:52.

Luke 2:47: "Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding (wisdom) and his answers."

The scripture describes how Jesus Christ had divine wisdom to the extent that the Jews were surprised by his answers and teachings. They began to ask themselves where he got such wisdom because they did not see him attending school or seminars. There were no resources like

YouTube and Google. What Jesus had was divine wisdom or God's wisdom generated by the Spirit of God.

Jesus also told his disciples not to worry when they are brought to court, for the spirit of wisdom (divine wisdom) would speak on their behalf. The spirit of wisdom means the Spirit of God that generates divine wisdom to know what ought to be said at that time.

Matthew 10:19-20: "But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time, you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

Here, Jesus was reassuring his disciples that they should be at peace, for they have been given divine wisdom that will manifest itself in times of trouble. The main initiator or activator of this divine wisdom is the Holy Spirit. Simply put, this spirit of wisdom brings about different revelations across the body of Christ.

Satan once had the advantage of experience obtained from natural understanding called prudence, which was originally initiated by the Spirit of the Father because he was among the angels in the throne of the Father before his fall. After his fall, he was terminated from the kingdom of God, and the Spirit of God left him. He remained with a certain understanding based on his heavenly experience, which we call prudence. Prudence is among the products of the spirit of wisdom but may not always be divine wisdom. The best way to receive divine wisdom is to ensure a good relationship with the Holy Spirit, the initiator of the spirit of wisdom.

In Swahili, wisdom is called "hekima" and prudence is called "busara." Based on my understanding and revelations, here are the key differences between the two:

1. WISDOM vs. PRUDENCE

The concepts of wisdom and prudence have often been misunderstood or conflated, leading to a compromise in their true meanings. While some argue that the two words are synonymous, others provide varying interpretations. However, through the grace of God and diligent study, I have formed my own perspective on the distinct nature of these terms. In Swahili, wisdom is expressed as “hekima,” while prudence translates to “busara.” My understanding of these words draws from various studies and reflections, which have illuminated their differences and significance in human decision-making and life experiences.

By distinguishing between wisdom and prudence, we can better appreciate how these virtues complement each other—wisdom provides the foundation for understanding, while prudence ensures that this understanding is applied responsibly and effectively in real-life scenarios. Through this perspective, we can honor both qualities as essential elements of a well-rounded character.

The nature:

1:1 philosophically based

The Greek word for "wisdom" is “σοφία” (sophía). In ancient Greek philosophy, it carried a deep meaning, often associated with knowledge, understanding, and practical application of insights. It's the root of words like "philosophy," which means "love of wisdom" (philo = love, sophia = wisdom).

But

In Greek, the concept of "prudence" is closely associated with the word “φρόνησις (phronēsis)”. *Phronēsis* is a term deeply rooted in ancient Greek philosophy, particularly in the works of Aristotle. It refers to practical wisdom or practical intelligence—the ability to deliberate well about what is good and beneficial for living a virtuous and fulfilling life.

Aristotle saw *phronēsis* as one of the key virtues, emphasizing its role in ethical decision-making and its connection to moral character. Unlike theoretical wisdom (*sophía*), which is about understanding universal truths, *phronēsis* focuses on the practical application of knowledge in specific situations. It requires experience, sound judgment, and the ability to discern the right course of action in complex or uncertain circumstances.

1:2 Biblically based

Wisdom is a spirit and a product of the Holy Spirit. It is divinely inspired and initiated by God.

Prudence, on the other hand, is an experience obtained from natural understanding or natural intelligence. Sometimes Wisdom can be the initiator of prudence.

2. Source of Acquisition

- No one can possess wisdom without the Spirit of Wisdom (Holy Spirit). It is a divine gift.

- Any person can acquire prudence based on skills , intellectual,experience and knowledge.

Prudence is a product of information, with knowledge being its mother.

3. Manifestation and Purpose

- Wisdom manifests in righteousness, fairness, and justice. It often maintains an equal balance, favoring neither side. Wisdom is meant for the greater good and benefits everyone involved.

- Prudence can be used to achieve personal goals, even if it may cause harm to others. It does not always maintain an equal balance. For example, the serpent (Satan) used prudence to deceive Eve and violate God's principles to gain dominion, resulting in humanity's downfall. Prudence can be used for personal gain, while wisdom is meant for mutual benefit.

4. Techniques and Methodologies

- Prudence primarily produces techniques and methodologies for living in the cosmos. It is focused on earthly matters.

- Wisdom produces techniques that benefit both heaven and earth, aiming to please God while living in the cosmos and achieving dominion and success. This is why Jesus told his disciples to be wise (prudent) like serpents but humble and calm like doves. He emphasized using the serpent's techniques to gain dominion without violating God's principles and commandments.

Jesus's instructions highlight that while prudence involves understanding and strategic methods, wisdom requires adhering to God's will and obeying divine laws. Wisdom is about balancing practical knowledge with spiritual principles to achieve a harmonious and righteous life.

*Example from the Bible:

Matthew 10:16 says, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Jesus instructed his disciples to be prudent like serpents, understanding the techniques of the enemy, but to remain innocent and faithful to God's commandments. This balance ensures they gain dominion without compromising their integrity or violating God's precepts.

There are numerous examples in the Bible that illustrate the application of prudence rather than wisdom. For instance, Abraham demonstrated prudence when he traveled to Egypt and told the Egyptians that Sarah was his sister instead of his wife. This act was not driven by wisdom, which seeks balance and alignment with divine principles, but by prudence—a practical decision made to ensure his survival in a potentially dangerous situation.

Similarly, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and David also employed prudence at various points in their lives to navigate challenging circumstances and survive in a complex and often hostile world.

Prudence, in this context, refers to the exercise of careful judgment, foresight, and strategic thinking to achieve immediate goals or protect oneself from harm.

It is important to note the distinction between prudence and wisdom. While prudence involves making calculated decisions based on practical considerations, wisdom transcends immediate concerns. Wisdom harmonizes spiritual and earthly matters, reflecting a deep understanding of moral truths and a commitment to maintaining balance both in heaven and on earth.

The actions of these Biblical figures showcase how prudence can be vital for navigating the "cosmos" of human existence, yet it is fundamentally different from the overarching, eternal principles of wisdom..

In summary, wisdom is a divine gift that manifests in righteousness, fairness, and justice, while prudence is a natural understanding gained through experience and knowledge, often used for personal gain. Together, they provide a holistic approach to living a life that pleases God and achieves success both on earth and in heaven.

2:1 sensual wisdom/intellectual wisdom or human wisdom

Sensual or intellectual/human wisdom is the type of wisdom acquired over a lifetime. For believers in the body of Christ, this wisdom often emerges after salvation. It is generated through learning and listening from various resources. This wisdom is essential for handling many aspects of life that require practical, secular understanding. Even Jesus acquired this kind of wisdom during His time on earth, as noted in the Gospel of Luke:

Luke 2:52: "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

This verse indicates that Jesus advanced in wisdom beyond divine wisdom, choosing to acquire secular or human wisdom to become relevant to the world. He learned from His parents and possibly through mentorship from figures like John the Baptist and the Pharisees. Evidence of this is seen in Jesus's use of earthly parables to communicate His teachings. Speaking in heavenly parables would have been incomprehensible to His audience, so He used familiar earthly examples to convey His messages effectively.

Secular or intellectual wisdom is initiated by knowledge, which is considered its mother. Without knowledge, one likely lacks secular wisdom. This type of wisdom is acquired through teachings, seminars, mentorship, meditation, reading scriptures, and other learning activities.

Wisdom is a spirit, and secular wisdom becomes a spirit of wisdom through a systematic process. The progression begins with acquiring good or quality information, followed by gaining knowledge and understanding. Finally, the spirit of wisdom supervises the understanding obtained. Proverbs provides insight into this process:

Proverbs 9:10: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

We can summarize the steps to acquiring the spirit of wisdom as follows:

1. Information
2. Knowledge
3. Understanding
4. The Spirit of Wisdom

Acquiring information and knowledge is the individual's responsibility, but understanding and the spirit of wisdom are functions of God through the Holy Spirit. Once understanding is achieved, it attracts the spirit of wisdom, ensuring that an individual cannot be easily deceived. The spirit of wisdom generates a mindset that becomes a lifestyle, guiding thoughts, imagination, and responses within its framework. This variation in perceptions among individuals is due to their understanding (secular wisdom).

Secular wisdom is meant to function in cooperation with divine wisdom, not in isolation. When secular wisdom operates independently of divine wisdom, it can lead to personal destruction, rebellion, and sin. This is why Jesus was filled with divine wisdom before acquiring secular or human wisdom, which we call the wisdom to live in the cosmos.

One significant advantage of human wisdom in partnership with divine wisdom is that it enables a person to live anywhere in the world, provided that the climatic conditions for human survival are met. This collaborative wisdom, given by God, equips individuals with the ability to navigate and thrive in the world.

CHAPTER TWO: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WISDOM AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness is the state of doing what is right or correct, in the right place, and at the right time or season. In other words, righteousness can be seen as a part of wisdom or a product of wisdom. Wisdom encompasses qualities such as righteousness, justice, and fairness. Therefore, righteousness can be considered a sub-topic of wisdom, with wisdom being the overarching concept.

A righteous person is likely a wise person, though not every righteous individual is necessarily wise. However, a wise person is generally righteous. Being in a state of righteousness means being careful and aware of time and seasons and doing what is right and fair. King Solomon, in the book of Proverbs, indicated that a righteous man brings forth the fruit of wisdom:

Proverbs 10:31-32: "From the mouth of the righteous comes the fruit of wisdom. The lips of the righteous know what finds favor, but the mouth of the wicked only what is perverse."

Wisdom can be seen as the mother of righteousness, and the fruit of righteousness is wisdom. When a person possesses divine wisdom, they become righteous. Righteous individuals know how to find favor in the eyes of others, similar to how wise individuals gain favor.

The main difference between wisdom and righteousness is that being righteous does not guarantee being wise. A righteous person can still lack knowledge and understanding in various dimensions of life, such as economically, spiritually, and socially. For example, the parable of the ten virgins shows that all were righteous, but only five were wise, as they had oil for their lamps while the others did not (Matthew 25:2). Thus, a righteous person can suffer in life due to a lack of wisdom, whether in recognizing seasons or navigating life in the cosmos.

Wisdom is considered more valuable than anointing because anointing without wisdom is akin to witchcraft. God, the author of wisdom, never sends His servants unprepared; He anoints them with the Holy Spirit and the spirit of wisdom, which must be integrated into their ministry.

Divine wisdom brings about a comprehensive understanding of human nature, while righteousness reveals isolated truths, such as avoiding sin. Jesus made a significant point to His disciples in Luke 16:8-9:

Luke 16:8-9: "And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely. For the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light. And I say unto you, make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations."

Jesus acknowledged that although His disciples were righteous (children of light), they lacked wisdom to benefit from the world as much as the children of darkness. The unjust steward was not righteous but possessed secular wisdom, enabling him to regain profit even after being dismissed from authority.

The key difference between wisdom and righteousness is that a righteous person can still lack the knowledge and wisdom to manage various aspects of life, such as business, preaching, making a profit, building relationships, or forming a stable marriage. Without wisdom, Satan can reduce a righteous person to a middle-class existence. Therefore, Jesus encouraged His disciples to learn wisdom from the unjust steward to benefit from God's provisions.

Secular individuals, even if evil, often exhibit wisdom(intellectual wisdom)in understanding what needs to be done and where to find resources to succeed. Despite being sons of darkness, they cannot be dismissed from the truth because wisdom is the truth, and God is wisdom Himself. He cannot unjustly judge their efforts.

On the other hand, believers often rely solely on prayer and fasting for dominion in the cosmos while ignoring other essential dynamics, including learning wisdom. Non-believers apply kingdom principles while believers continue praying and fasting. This approach often gives non-believers an edge in success, even if they are not born again.

As sons of God and sons of light, we must be both righteous and wise, following the example of individuals like Joseph, Abraham, Jacob, Job, Boaz, and Daniel. Although they have passed away, they are still regarded as "the spirits of the righteous made perfect" (Hebrews 12:23). They were perfect in righteousness, wisdom, and knowledge. This is how God expects us to be, but unfortunately, we often possess an incomplete understanding. A person may be righteous but not wise, and thus may struggle to achieve success.

CHAPTER TWO: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE

Wisdom and knowledge, though closely related, are distinct in nature. Wisdom is not merely knowledge but a spirit, although knowledge can lead to sensual wisdom. When a person engages with the truth and finds quality information, it results in an understanding initiated by the spirit of God, which we call sensual or secular wisdom. The key difference between wisdom and knowledge is that wisdom is a spirit, either natural or God-given, while knowledge is acquired through information. No one is born with knowledge, as it is gained through learning, but wisdom can be inherent or bestowed by the spirit of God.

Through knowledge, we gain understanding. It is possible to have knowledge without wisdom because wisdom is a spirit that requires the presence of God to make sense of knowledge. This is why many educated individuals have vast knowledge but lack wisdom—they do not possess the fear of the Lord, who is the author of the spirit of wisdom. For instance, a doctor may continue to smoke or consume alcohol despite knowing the health risks because they lack wisdom. In essence, knowledge, in its nature, is the foundation for wisdom (secular wisdom).

In the book of Hosea, God laments about people who have rejected knowledge, leading to a lack of understanding and wisdom. He warns them that they face various problems because they lack the necessary knowledge and understanding. Consequently, they fail in multiple dimensions of life—spiritually, economically, socially, and politically—because they have rejected both knowledge and wisdom.

Hosea 4:6 states: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children."

God's message is clear: rejecting knowledge as the source of wisdom is equivalent to rejecting wisdom itself. Such rejection leads to foolishness and disqualifies one from being used by God. Knowledge is crucial, and God desires us to possess it because it works alongside the spirit of wisdom. Where there is knowledge, wisdom and understanding are nearby, provided that a person fears the Lord. This is why, in the book of Proverbs, God emphasizes the importance of knowledge.

Proverbs 4:11 says: "Do not depart from knowledge; rather, abide with it, for it is where your prosperity comes from." In other words, prosperity is unattainable without knowledge and wisdom.

In the book of Jeremiah, God expresses His desire for His people to have knowledge and understanding so they may comprehend His mysteries and treasures. It is impossible to understand the ways of God without knowledge and the spirit of wisdom. God assures us that He will provide pastors and priests to teach us the functions of wisdom and the benefits of knowledge.

Jeremiah 3:15 states: "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."

Knowledge precedes wisdom, particularly in the secular world, which is why God insists on the importance of acquiring knowledge at all costs. We live in a generation that often overlooks the significance of learning and obtaining knowledge. Let this book serve as a reminder of the value of knowledge and wisdom, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

CHAPTER THREE: THE PARTNERSHIP OF GOD AND WISDOM

God is the initiator of wisdom. We say God is the father of wisdom. God dwells in wisdom, making it inseparable from Him. This is why He grants divine wisdom to His anointed ones to carry out divine activities on earth. King Solomon received this revelation and documented it in the book of Proverbs (Proverbs 8:22-31), where he explains that wisdom existed with God from the very beginning and was His partner in the creation of the earth and its foundations. Here is what he says:

Proverbs 8:22-31 "The Lord brought me forth as the first of His works, before His deeds of old; I was formed long ages ago, at the very beginning, when the world came to be. When there were no watery depths, I was given birth, when there were no springs overflowing with water; before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth; before He made the world or its fields or any of the dust of the earth. I was there when He set the heavens in place, when He marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when He established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when He gave the sea its boundary so the overstep His command, and when He marked out the foundations of the earth. Then I was constantly at His side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in His presence, rejoicing in His whole world and delighting in mankind."

King Solomon personifies wisdom as a living spirit, describing it as a companion of God during creation. Wisdom, in this context, is more than an abstract concept; it is the spirit of God, the spirit of wisdom.

In this scripture, we see the compatibility between God and wisdom. God used wisdom to create everything on earth that we see today. The wisdom displayed in this scripture is divine wisdom. Divine wisdom existed with the Father and assisted Him in His creations. God used wisdom to create intricate creatures that continue to amaze us today. He used wisdom to design the human body systems, such as the reproductive and digestive systems. Divine wisdom was present to set the foundations of the earth and to declare its seasons.

Divine wisdom was with the Father to establish the foundation of the earth, to separate light from darkness, and to command the earth to rotate on its axis without displacing people from their positions. Essentially, King Solomon emphasizes that wisdom is the central character in the book of God's creation. As the author of creation, God chose wisdom to be the main character. This is

why wisdom makes us aware that everything on earth was created through it under God's supervision. We have no excuse to ignore wisdom; it is too integral to deny. Wisdom is the primary project in the kingdom of the Father.

In our daily lives, we must also partner with wisdom in our projects, plans, and leadership. Just as God partnered with wisdom to complete the creation of the universe, we too should seek wisdom for our endeavors. Through wisdom, we can achieve beautiful and remarkable creations that leave us in awe.

CHAPTER FOUR: THE FUNCTIONS OF WISDOM / APPLICATION OF WISDOM

There are numerous applications of wisdom within the body of Christ. Wisdom plays a crucial role in our lives, influencing many aspects. While wisdom has vast applications, I will highlight a few based on the revelations I have received.

1:1 ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERYTHING / CREATION / BUILDING / FOUNDATIONS

Wisdom is a fundamental principle necessary for the creation of all beautiful things. Even God did not ignore wisdom during His creation. He used wisdom to create the world and all its components. Engineers, too, use wisdom to design various structures, especially during the early stages of foundation building. All sciences and artistic designs are products of wisdom.

Consider these scientific questions to understand how engineers use wisdom (sensual wisdom) in designing and manufacturing products:

1. Why are car tires made of elastic material rather than iron?
2. Why must a tall building have a deep and stable foundation?
3. Why are products like vessels imported from countries such as China, India, or the USA protected with sponge-like material during transportation?
4. Why does a ship float on water despite its size, and why does it have a hollow space beneath it?
5. Why is luggage stored under a bus rather than on top when traveling?

You can ask countless scientific questions because science is a product of wisdom from God and sensual wisdom. Intellectual Wisdom is the foundation of all scientific experiments, questions, and research. This is why I define wisdom as the application of kingdom principles and natural laws in our daily lives. Wisdom is not an abstract concept; it is a practical tool, especially in establishing many things on earth, particularly scientific designs.

Many people practice wisdom in various ways. Secular (sensual wisdom) wisdom is the master of all scientific inventions. Wisdom began with God during the creation of the earth. It was through divine wisdom that Noah designed the ark during the floodwaters on Earth after humans had fallen into iniquity.

Genesis 6:14-15*^m (NIV) states: "So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high."

An ark floated on the water like a ship, but it's important to note that Noah had no prior experience in design. Noah was not an engineer but a farmer. God Himself gave Noah the wisdom to design the ark, demonstrating the power of wisdom in creation and design.

Wisdom was present before God set the heavens in place and established the clouds above. King Solomon explains this in the book of Proverbs:

Proverbs 8:27-28: "I was there when He set the heavens in place, when He marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when He established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when He gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep His command, and when He marked out the foundations of the earth."

King Solomon realized that wisdom was integral to everything God created. Nothing God did was outside the influence of wisdom, which is why everything God created is good, and He made no mistakes.

A wise person is less likely to make mistakes in establishing activities or projects, such as businesses, companies, buildings, or ministries, compared to someone deficient in wisdom. When you fail or make mistakes in life, it is often due to a lack of wisdom. Despite other factors, wisdom deficiency is a significant problem our generation faces. I beseech you, brothers and sisters, by God's mercy, to seek wisdom before starting anything because

"decisions made in ignorance will always recycle to pain and disappointment," as stated by Apostle Joshua Suleiman.

We must acknowledge that the activities of darkness are carried out with prudence (wisdom). Our Father also conducted His activities under the influence of wisdom, yet our generation often establishes projects foolishly. This lack of wisdom challenges our success, from an individual level to a national scale. By wisdom, a house is built; through understanding, it is established; and by knowledge, it is decorated, nourished, and filled with valuable treasures. Therefore, we must buy the truth and sell it not.

King Solomon speaks in the book of Proverbs:

Proverbs 24:3-4:"By wisdom, a house is built, and through understanding, it is established; through knowledge, its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."

King Solomon tells us that wisdom is required to build a house. In other words, wisdom brings productive plans, not money, as we often believe. Money is a treasure, but wisdom is the foundation. Wisdom is the principal element for establishing a house, plan, project, or marriage. It takes understanding for the house or plan to manifest, and knowledge will complete it in fullness.

The strategic way is for wisdom to generate a plan, understanding to make that plan real or tangible, and knowledge to expand and increase it so that it becomes profitable. We have refused to learn wisdom, which is why the devil deceives us and disrupts our future.

2: IN RESPONDING / REPLYING TO PUZZLES OR QUESTIONS

In our daily lives, communication is essential, and it is inevitable that we will be asked questions and will ask questions ourselves. In these situations, we often find ourselves committing errors simply by responding due to a lack of wisdom. As Apostle James said, "most conflicts and misunderstandings arise from the way we respond to questions or statements."

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ applying wisdom to respond to the Pharisees. He never faltered in his responses, maintaining peace and ensuring His protection. The Pharisees often tried to trap Jesus with their questions, but He wisely and skillfully responded to them, preventing them from causing any harm before His appointed time. In the book of Matthew, the Pharisees frequently questioned Jesus, yet His wisdom always prevailed.

For example, there was a time when the Pharisees questioned Jesus about why His disciples did not wash their hands before eating. Instead of giving a simple answer, Jesus responded with a question that confounded them, this is demonstrating the power of wisdom.

Matthew 15:1-2"Some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, 'Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat.'"

Instead of a straightforward answer, Jesus replied with a question:

Matthew 15:3-9"Jesus replied, 'And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? For God said, "Honor your father and mother" and "Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death." But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is "devoted to God," they are not to honor their father or mother with it. Thus, you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.'"

After this response, the Pharisees were silenced, shocked by His answer. Jesus did not give them a direct answer but instead asked a question that contained the answer to their inquiry.

In today's world, we encounter numerous puzzles and questions, both individually and in groups. We need wisdom to respond appropriately to avoid conflicts. Wisdom brings peace and serves as a peacemaker and unifier within the body of Christ.

2:1 REVELATION AND ANSWERING DREAMS AND PUZZLES

The spirit of revelation comes from the spirit of wisdom through God. It is through revelation that we understand the Bible, written by men of God under divine supervision and wisdom. The spirit of wisdom and the spirit of revelation work together, both initiated by God.

The spirit of revelation enabled Moses to write the book of Genesis, even though he was not yet born when God created the universe. In Genesis 1:1-3, Moses writes: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the deep." How did Moses receive this kind of revelation? It was from God. For this revelation to be relevant to Moses, he needed the spirit of wisdom to avoid compromising God's revelations with his own ideologies. This shows the powerful connection between wisdom and revelation. Without divine wisdom, one can be misled by the devil and compromise God's revelation with satanic ones.

By the spirit of revelation, Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament, under the supervision of wisdom. Similarly, in the New Testament, the Apostle Paul wrote nearly 15 books to different people within the body of Christ, guided by the spirit of God and wisdom. This

impressed the Apostle Peter, who called Paul a man of wisdom. Peter confirmed that Paul was anointed by the spirit of God and full of wisdom, to the extent that he wrote things difficult to understand by human nature.

In 2 Peter 3:15-16, Peter says, "Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction." Peter emphasizes that Paul did not rely on human wisdom to write his letters but on the spirit of revelation initiated by God's wisdom.

Every scripture we read and meditate on was brought forth by the spirit of revelation from God and written by the spirit of wisdom. For these scriptures to be relevant to human nature, divine wisdom was involved, helping us understand and receive revelations from them. The spirit of revelation enables prophets to prophesy. However, wisdom is essential to avoid corruption from the devil, who can pretend to be an angel of light. For a prophet to receive and interpret God's revelation, they must have the spirit of wisdom to avoid misinterpretations.

Divine wisdom is crucial to our understanding of revelation from God. The spirit of revelation comes to genuine prophets of God and manifests itself through divine wisdom to fulfill heavenly agendas. Even angels cannot relate to humans without the spirit of revelation and wisdom from God. For example, the prophet Isaiah received the revelation that Jesus would come to Earth and endure pain and rejection. Isaiah 53:3-4 states, "He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces, he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering."

How did Isaiah understand something that would happen 400 years later? It was the spirit of revelation from God. To ensure he did not compromise his understanding, God imparted the spirit of wisdom to him. This is how God reveals Himself to His prophets.

We also see people like Daniel and Joseph, whom God used to interpret dreams. The power of dream interpretation comes from revelation through the spirit of wisdom. In the book of Daniel, we see how Daniel was wiser than all men in Babylon during the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar. When the king had a dream, no one could interpret it except Daniel, who had the spirit of

wisdom. However, wisdom alone was not enough for Daniel to interpret the dream; he also needed the spirit of revelation from God. That is why we see Daniel praying for the spirit of revelation (Daniel 2:1-4).

The difference between Daniel and the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and astrologers was that Daniel had divine wisdom, while the others had satanic wisdom. They could not interpret the dream because they relied on human understanding and demonic approaches, which was inadequate for interpreting a dream sent from God. Only the spirit of revelation could reveal the meaning of such a dream.

Daniel 2:11 states, "What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans."

It took the spirit of revelation from God for Daniel to receive the dream and the spirit of wisdom to understand and interpret it according to God's will. This same principle applies to all ministers of God: we receive information from God through revelation and understand it through divine wisdom. Human wisdom cannot interpret revelations from God, which is where our mistakes in life come from. Spiritual matters must be interpreted and understood in the spiritual realm, not in the flesh. Human, artificial, or secular wisdom has no part in interpreting God's revelation, although it has other functions in our daily lives.

4:1 JUDGMENT AND DECISION-MAKING

The spirit of wisdom is crucial in matters of judgment because making judgments is not an easy task. Through judgment, one can influence the future of generations. A wrong decision can result in misallocating an individual's assets to another, this is demonstrating how powerful judgment is, especially within the context of God's kingdom.

In the New Testament, the Pharisees began to judge Jesus Christ concerning His ministry and miracle-working on earth. They were confused about the divine acts performed by Jesus through signs and wonders. Ultimately, their judgment was erroneous, aiming to eliminate Him from the earth. Jesus addressed this in the book of John

John 7:24: "Do not judge by appearance, but judge with right judgment."

Jesus highlighted that judgment should not be based solely on human understanding but should involve the wisdom of God. The Pharisees made a wrong judgment about Jesus because they did not incorporate the spirit of wisdom and lacked divine grace. This principle applies to our generation as well. There are times and circumstances that necessitate decisions based on judgment. Indeed,

"the decisions you make today shape your destiny. If you fail to make decisions, you will remain stagnant until the end of your days; this is the law of cause and effect."

Certain careers, such as being a lawyer or a judge, can be risky if one lacks wisdom. Imagine facing a complex case with compelling evidence on both sides, with each party claiming to be right. In such situations, the importance of wisdom in judgment becomes apparent.

The Pharisees also attempted to test Jesus on tax issues to Caesar. They flattered Him, hoping He would succumb to pride and make a wrong judgment. They said, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully. And you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances." However, Jesus, understanding their intentions, he responded with wisdom.

In Matthew 22:19-21, Jesus asked for a coin used for the tax and inquired, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" When they replied, "Caesar's," He said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

Jesus' response emphasized not compromising the things of God with earthly matters. The Jews sought relief from taxes and contributions to the nation, viewing them as unjust. By attempting to test Jesus, they hoped to escape their duties. Jesus' wise judgment clarified that they should fulfill their earthly obligations while also dedicating time for worship and sacrifices to God, without disobeying the king's commands or violating government laws.

Without wisdom, the Pharisees might have prematurely captured Jesus. Wise judgment allowed Jesus to complete His divine mission on earth safely. Wisdom protected Him from Pharisaic condemnation, highlighting its importance in judgment.

Leaders, ministers, and those responsible for making judgments and shaping the future must be wise to avoid misplacing destinies within the body of Christ.

King Solomon exemplified wise judgment in a case involving two prostitutes, each claiming to be the mother of a living child. One of the babies had died at night, leading to a dispute. The case was brought before King Solomon for judgment (1 Kings 3:16-19).

Upon hearing their stories, the spirit of wisdom enabled Solomon to make a just decision, safeguarding the child's destiny and the mother's happiness. Solomon devised a test to reveal their true feelings. He ordered the living child to be cut in half, giving each woman a part (1 Kings 3:23-27). The true mother, driven by love, pleaded to give the living baby to the other woman, while the false mother agreed to the division. Solomon then declared the true mother as the one who showed compassion, sparing the child.

This story underscores the role of wisdom in judgment. As I mentioned earlier, "Judgment is not an easy task; it determines someone's destiny."

Many people ruin their destinies due to hasty decisions. Realizing their mistakes often comes too late. But for those who have time, it's essential to think before deciding. This applies to relationships, marriage, and counseling. Many are disappointed today because of past decisions. Therefore, it's better to allow the spirit of wisdom to guide decisions because

"regrets, complaints, and blame are the consequences of wrong decisions. If you don't make wise decisions today, you will regret them tomorrow."

05: LEADERSHIP AND The NECESSITY of WISDOM

All forms of leadership on Earth require wisdom. Wisdom acts as the lubricant for any type of leadership. Without the spirit of wisdom, leadership becomes a challenging endeavor, rife with friction and conflict. Leading human beings is significantly different from leading wild animals. Humans have the capacity to reason, reject, and challenge, whereas animals do not. This makes leadership a complex task, as humans can be particularly stubborn.

Before King Solomon began his reign, he returned to Gibeon to offer sacrifices to God, seeking the spirit of wisdom. Solomon understood that leadership is an arduous task if done without the guidance of wisdom. At Gibeon, the Lord appeared to him, asking Solomon what he desired from God.

1 Kings 3:6-9 (NIV) 6 Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. 7 "Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. 8 Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. 9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

God was pleased with Solomon's prayer because he did not ask for long life, wealth, or the death of his enemies. Instead, Solomon asked for discernment in administering justice. God granted Solomon wisdom and much more than he asked for. This demonstrates that God values wisdom highly. After Solomon asked for wisdom, he was also endowed with immense riches and honor, to the extent that no one would surpass him in any generation.

“Wisdom is like a tray that carries honor, riches, and favor. When you gain wisdom, success follows.”

This is a hidden mystery that many people do not understand. The moment you acquire wisdom, you gain everything. As King Solomon said, "In all your ways get wisdom and understanding." (Proverbs 4:7). CEOs, chairpersons, kings, and princes must seek wisdom. Without wisdom, it is challenging to lead even a family, which may suffer from hunger and famine due to poor decisions. Wisdom is the ultimate decision-maker and peacemaker

King Solomon was the only king in the Old Testament who did not engage in many wars like other kings, simply because he was the embodiment of wisdom. He did not need to exert physical force to fight his enemies as other leaders do today. Solomon's wisdom ensured that his reign was peaceful.

“The numerous civil wars in our territories today result from a lack of wisdom.”

5:1 POWER DELEGATIONS in LEADERSHIP

To be an effective leader, it is essential to delegate power wisely. Delegation involves entrusting responsibilities to others and empowering them to act on your behalf. This not only lightens the leader's load but also fosters trust and development among team members. A leader who wisely delegates tasks can focus on strategic planning and decision-making, ensuring the overall success of the organization or community they lead.

Example of Moses

In the Old Testament, we see Moses was assigned the task of leading the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan, the Promised Land. However, Moses became overwhelmed by the congregation, making it difficult for him to render judgments, make decisions, and lead the people effectively. Despite being highly anointed, Moses lacked wisdom in the area of power distribution; he handled everything himself, from morning until evening. Here, we observe the distinction between wisdom and anointing: one can be anointed yet still lack wisdom, resulting in unnecessary suffering.

God, in His mercy, decided to impart a certain dimension of wisdom to Moses through his father-in-law, Jethro, concerning power distribution. God chose this indirect approach out of respect for Moses, who might have felt offended if God had directly pointed out his lack of wisdom. Instead, God used Jethro to convey this crucial lesson. Jethro visited Moses and, upon observing Moses' overwhelming workload, offered him advice.

Exodus 18:13-16 (NIV):
13 The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening.
14 When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?"
15 Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will.
16 Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's instructions."

Jethro advised Moses, emphasizing the need for delegation of power to improve efficiency and alleviate Moses' burden.

Exodus 18:18-22 (NIV):18 "You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. 19 Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to Him. 20 Teach them His decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave. 21 But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. 22 Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter because they will share it with you."

From these scriptures, we see that officials over thousands represent central government, officials over hundreds represent local government, officials over fifties represent ward government, and officials over tens represent village governments. This powerful revelation, given to Moses, continues to influence our understanding of power distribution today.

Leadership is not merely about being at the top or the sole decision-maker. True leadership involves trusting people and training them to assume responsibilities in your absence. Sometimes, it requires leaders to delegate tasks even when they are present, as part of the training process. This ensures continuity and efficiency, recognizing that no leader lives forever.

A common mistake in leadership is the belief that certain issues cannot be resolved without the leader's direct involvement, resulting in a lack of trust in others' capabilities. This problem, evident in many leaders today, was also present in Moses. When asked why he made decisions alone, Moses replied that people sought God's will through him alone. This belief was proven incorrect when the seventy elders were appointed and endowed with God's power, demonstrating that God trusts anyone who follows His will and principles.

Leadership involves selecting, trusting, and training individuals in leadership matters, as Jethro advised Moses: "Teach them His decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave." Leaders are formed, prepared, and trained; leadership is not about doing everything alone, as if one exists alone on Earth. God designed leadership to involve power distribution, a principle initiated with Moses and known only to the wise.

“Dictatorship is the first indicator of a deficit of wisdom in leadership, often accompanied by personal gain and self-centeredness. Strong, wise, and passionate leaders listen to others”.

as evidenced by Moses heeding Jethro's advice. A leader who refuses to listen to advice and relies solely on divine revelation deceives themselves, as God also speaks through others.

Consider the impracticality of a president leading the government alone, without delegation. Imagine a president of Tanzania being solely responsible for all sectors of the nation—healthcare, mining, insurance, security—without assistance in supervision, organization, and management. This scenario illustrates the inefficiency and impracticality of centralized decision-making. Effective leadership involves delegation, as exemplified by presidents and CEOs who entrust responsibilities to others, distributing duties to ensure efficiency.

In summary, wisdom equalizes, balances, and simplifies tasks, acting as a lubricant that reduces friction. This principle of power delegation, established by God, remains crucial for effective leadership today. Many presidents, CEOs, and company directors practice delegation, trusting others to share their responsibilities. This approach is the product and application of divine wisdom.

CHAPTER FIVE: THE CHARACTERISTICS of WISE PEOPLE

In life, various indicators can suggest the presence of specific conditions or attributes. For instance, when one has a malaria infection, certain symptoms can signal the illness even before a hospital diagnosis, though these indicators may not always be conclusive without further examination. Similarly, when someone is economically well-off, there are often signs that reveal their financial status, even if they try to conceal it. The same principle applies to wise individuals; there are common characteristics typically observed in them. While some traits may not be present in every individual, a genuinely wise person will exhibit at least a few of these attributes. Here, I will highlight some key characteristics of wise people. This discussion is not exhaustive; I encourage you to seek additional insights from other respected voices within the Christian community.

1: Simplicity

Wise individuals embody simplicity. They do not complicate matters; instead, they approach life with straightforwardness. Complications and over-complexity can indicate a lack of wisdom. Wise people dress simply, regardless of their economic status, and avoid unnecessary expenditures. They purchase modest clothing and wear it appropriately and respectfully.

“Simplicity is not an indicator of valuelessness; rather, it signifies humility, patience, calmness, and meekness”

. Sir Albert Einstein once stated, "The highest form of geniality is simplicity." Geniality, defined as the quality of being friendly and approachable, is often found in wise people. They engage in conversations, listen to others, and are approachable without judgment or creating barriers. If someone has many complications and sets boundaries with others, they may not belong to the category of wise individuals, though this is not an absolute rule.

In our generation, there is a tendency to live a pretentious life, projecting prosperity and financial abundance which we don't have. For example, someone with a monthly salary of Tsh 600,000 might live as if they earn Tsh 5,000,000, which is a common issue in our society.

Apostle Joshua Suleiman aptly remarked, "A fake life is a very expensive life because once you start it, you have to maintain it." Living a false life over an extended period increases one's living costs, stemming from a lack of wisdom, which is referred to as foolishness.

Wise individuals live within their means and strive to reduce their expenses, especially on non-essential items such as clothing. As Apostle Joshua Suleiman said, "If you eat tomorrow's bread today, you will be hungry tomorrow." Some things may be beyond your reach today, but you will obtain them in the future. Forcing yourself to have them now can lead to adverse consequences later. Trust the process and continue praying; wise people focus on what they can do today without overextending themselves. Train yourself to be simple and patient, as your future is bright process.

"Life becomes simple when you simplify it, but it becomes unbearably complex when you complicate it."

Simplicity is a hallmark of wisdom. Wise individuals do not complicate their lives by making extravagant purchases such as expensive iPhones, watches, or clothing. Instead, they prioritize savings and investments.

Many people lack savings accounts because they spend all their money on consumption. Common sayings like "Spend money, you won't live longer" or "Spend money because it is found" are fallacies. Following such advice leads to poverty with no escape. The Bible states, "Whoever loves pleasure will be poor; whoever loves wine and oil will not be rich" (Proverbs 21:17). Many struggle with poverty due to living beyond their financial maturity and indulging in worldly pleasures.

"Good management attracts resources, while bad management drives them away. God seeks good managers to entrust with His resources." - Dr. Miles Munroe.

The truth is that you cannot have everything in this world. Prioritize your needs; some items can be purchased today, while others will have to wait for the future. Recognize your limits and live within them.

Living a false life is like a bridge subjected to repeated tensile forces; it will eventually break. This uncomfortable truth must be accepted. One day, Bill Gates, the renowned billionaire, dined at a hotel, spending only \$50 while his daughter spent \$200. When asked why he spent so little compared to his daughter, Gates replied, "She spent money earned by her father, but I spent my own sweat and energy. I cannot forget where I came from."

The lesson here is that wealthy people do not spend money recklessly. They budget and simplify their lives by reducing costs, not because they lack money, but because they prioritize savings and investments. This mindset differentiates the wealthy from the poor. Wealthy individuals focus on saving and investing, while the poor focus on consuming and begging. If you have Tsh 10,000, spend Tsh 7,000 and save Tsh 3,000 for future investments.

If your salary is \$100 and you spend it all in one night, you will become a beggar tomorrow. Simplify your life and focus on your destiny, not just your current circumstances, even if they do not seem favorable. Your future is bright, so trust the process.

2: HUMILITY

Wise individuals are characterized by humility. Humility is a defining trait of wise people and should not be misconstrued as foolishness or stupidity. Although humble individuals may sometimes appear foolish or naïve to others, this perception is far from the truth. The Bible states that "before honor and favor comes humility" (Proverbs 15:33), indicating that attaining favor and honor requires one to adopt a state of humility, not only before God but also before others.

In the scriptures, we see numerous examples of men of God who humbled themselves and, in turn, received favor and honor from the Almighty. Notable examples include King David, Daniel, Joseph, and Moses. The Bible describes Moses as the most humble man on earth, surpassing all others who have lived or will live. Moses carried the genuine anointing from God to the extent that when he imparted it to the seventy elders, they began to prophesy. Despite possessing this immense anointing, Moses did not prophesy himself; this exemplifies true humility (Numbers 11:24).

“Humility is not a sign of inferiority, as some might think; it is a hallmark of wise individuals.”

Even Jesus, during His time on earth, embodied humility. As the Apostle Paul explains:

Philippians 2:5-11 (NIV)⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; ⁷ Rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled

Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! 9 Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 And every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Apostle Paul teaches us that humility is the most accessible path to being exalted by God. Pride, on the other hand, is a barrier, a killer, and a form of self-resistance. God exalts only the humble and despises and resists the proud. Therefore,

"the currency to purchase honor from God is humility and meekness. There is no way God will do business with a proud person. Wise individuals understand this secret."

Jesus humbled Himself to the extent of dying on the cross, he was demonstrating the function and application of wisdom. Participation in the kingdom is not achieved through power or intelligence but through the pursuit of truth and righteousness via humility and meekness. Hence, the moment one is humble, they are more likely to be elevated and receive favor from God. Apostle Peter emphasizes this point:

1 Peter 5:5-7 (NIV)*:5 In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.

We live in a generation characterized by excessive pride, a show-off lifestyle, and mob psychology. Humility is scarce, indicating a deficiency of wisdom in our time. Instead, foolishness and arrogance are often entertained. For those reading this book, may the Lord grant you the grace to change and obtain wisdom from God, understanding that humility is not inferiority but the currency to acquire favor from the Almighty.

“humility is not inferiority but the currency to acquire favor from the Almighty.”

3: VISION

A wise person must possess vision. Imagine driving a car without knowing your destination; you continue adding fuel and driving in any direction, unsure of where you are headed. Similarly, a life without vision leads you to engage in various activities and move in any direction because you lack a clear sense of purpose. Vision serves as a roadmap for your future, guiding you toward your destiny. My mentor and mindset transformer, Dr. Myles Munroe, eloquently stated in his book "Keys for Men":

"Having vision means that you can already see the end of your purpose. It means that you have faith in God and what He has told you to do, so you are continually moving toward your vision as it is moving toward you." - Dr. Myles Munroe

For a wise person, vision is an essential trait. But what exactly is vision, and how does it come about? Many people have different definitions of vision, but I consider it an image of your plans for your own future. There are long-term visions and short-term visions, influenced by situations, mysteries, and the imagination of various events, both personal and observed in others. Vision derives from the word "visualize," which means picturing something within your mind. For a wise individual, vision occurs when one thinks deeply and is overwhelmed by wisdom, allowing them to visualize their life in a greater dimension.

Having a vision instills greater confidence and focus. It sets you apart by helping you understand that each of us has a purpose in life. Vision exists to complete a specific mission, encouraging you to move forward and understand your intended way of life. In fact, vision attracts discipline.

Vision motivates you, bringing positive thoughts and ultimately leading to achievements. All you need is faith in what you see, as faith can move mountains and rivers, allowing God to hear you and believe in the vision that comes through dreams, thoughts, activities, and various sources.

Vision is intrinsically linked to your purpose. Your purpose carries your vision, and lacking vision makes it difficult to fulfill your purpose. Wise individuals know their purpose and, consequently, have vision. Vision encompasses plans, steps, and processes to fulfill your destiny – it is the roadmap toward your destiny. The Bible states that without vision, people perish:

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Without direction in life, you will go anywhere and everywhere because you do not know your limits or your destination. This aimlessness can lead to destruction. God may allow you to rest (die) if you are wasting time without making an impact on earth and not fulfilling His assigned purpose for you.

My mentor and mindset transformer, Dr. Myles Munroe, said in his book "Keys for Men":

"Men need vision even before discipline, because discipline comes from vision. Discipline comes as you plan ahead and make sacrifices to fulfill your vision. God is concerned with men who have visions from Him and who can support, sustain, and nurture their families and others as they move toward these visions in pursuit of His purpose."

Without vision, people perish. If you lack plans, direction, and goals for your future, destruction lies ahead. The Bible confirms this, and Dr. Myles Munroe emphasized that God is passionate about men of vision and always supports them. Without vision, God may only support you to the point of death.

A MAN OF VISION IS LIKE A PREGNANT WOMAN

Vision is akin to a pregnant woman. A pregnant woman takes care of herself and avoids risky behaviors to ensure the safety of both herself and her unborn child. Even if she has certain habits, she exercises self-control for the sake of her baby.

A pregnant woman refrains from activities that could harm her baby, such as playing netball, and avoids consuming harmful foods. She follows a special diet for the sake of her child. She knows when her delivery date approaches and makes necessary preparations, even if she dislikes the exercises. Her focus is on the well-being of her unborn child.

After delivery, she does not discard the baby; she cares for and nurtures the child until that baby grows. Throughout this process, she faces many temptations and challenges but remains patient until she delivers the baby safely.

Similarly, a person with vision and purpose must exhibit patience, calmness, endurance, and sacrifice. Such a person cannot engage in every activity, go everywhere, or consume everything indiscriminately. A wise individual understands this and diligently works every day to fulfill their destiny, striving to achieve the goals of their purpose.

04: DILIGENCE

A wise person is a diligent individual. There is no wise person who is lazy and irresponsible. One of the most common reasons for poverty among people is laziness. Despite other contributing factors to poverty, such as lack of knowledge, witchcraft, lack of capital, and various other reasons, laziness remains a primary and common cause of why individuals suffer from poverty. King Solomon addresses this issue in the book of Proverbs:

Proverbs 10:4-5 (NIV):4 Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth. 5 He who gathers crops in summer is a prudent son (wise son), but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son (a lazy son).

The Amplified Bible elaborates that "he who sleeps during harvest is a son who causes shame." Sleeping during the harvest signifies a lack of seriousness in seizing potential opportunities and disregarding profitable vacancies, all due to laziness. While others actively seek opportunities, some individuals remain idle, celebrating mediocrity. The Bible states that the consequence of such laziness is shame.

One of the roles of the spirit of wisdom is to empower individuals and activate a diligent heart, ensuring that whatever tasks they undertake are performed effectively and accurately, not merely in a rough or careless manner. King Solomon, as a wise man, addressed the issue of laziness multiple times in the book of Proverbs. He discussed it in (Proverbs 6:6-8, Proverbs 24:33-34, Proverbs 20:13-14, Proverbs 19:15, Proverbs 21:17-18,)and more.

Through these scriptures, King Solomon wanted everyone to understand that the root cause of poverty is the indulgence in laziness. He explained this through wisdom, taking real-life situations and comparing them with facts to illustrate how one can overcome poverty.

King Solomon highlighted the connection between foolishness and laziness, emphasizing that excessive laziness is synonymous with foolishness. He also illustrated the relationship between wisdom and diligence, as they attract each other. King Solomon, as the epitome of wise men, described the effects of laziness and excessive pleasure. He stated, "Whoever loves pleasure will be poor; whoever loves wine and olive oil will never be rich." (Proverbs 21:17-18).also he described it in proverbs 6:6_11 he says

Proverbs 6:6-11 (NIV):6 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! 7 It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, 8 Yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. 9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— 11 And poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.

King Solomon rebuked the sluggard (a lazy person), stating that they are foolish to the extent of lacking even the minimal wisdom obtained from nature. He advised learning wisdom even from insects (ants). Though he used polite language, his message was clear. King Solomon pointed out that there is a thin line between laziness and foolishness, which is why he suggested learning from the ants. King Solomon kept on emphasising more about this. he says no diligent man will remain poor

Proverbs 22:29 (KJV) says, “Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.”

This means that anyone who is diligent and guided by wisdom is uplifted by God from the company of ordinary people and placed among the great. King Solomon affirmed this through his experience and wisdom. He emphasizes that no diligent and wise person will remain poor. Solomon firmly stated that such a person will not dwell among the lowly but will sit with the great.

Laziness is a significant problem that leads to poverty, and one of its indicators is excessive sleep (idleness). King Solomon stated that a little sleep and a little slumber would bring poverty like a thief. Excessive sleep is the first sign of laziness, and one of the main products of laziness is poverty. He emphasized that if you are fond of sleeping, poverty will be your constant companion, whether you like it or not. He further stated, "Do not love sleep, or you will grow poor; stay awake, and you will have food to spare" (Proverbs 20:13-14).

Wise individuals understand the importance of hard work and saving for the future. Prosperity does not come from spending alone; it requires saving and investing. King Solomon praised and recommended the ants, which understand the concept of saving and storing for future use, despite lacking human common sense.

“What you spend is gone, what you invest remains and will bring out fruits”

Proverbs 20:4 (NIV):4 Sluggards do not plow in season; so, at harvest time, they look but find nothing.

Failure to sow in due time is another indicator of foolishness, making any expectation of a harvest unrealistic. Lazy and foolish people do not maintain a balance; they spend everything they have and fail to understand how to acquire more. This creates a cycle of poverty. The Bible states, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows" (Galatians 6:7). If you sow laziness, you will reap poverty; if you sow diligence, you will reap success. God is never mocked.

No one can succeed in life by indulging in laziness. As wise individuals, we must understand that there is no guarantee of excelling in life without laboring effectively. The saying "no pain, no gain" and "there is no sweetness without sweat" are words full of wisdom. The act of folding your hands and doing nothing, combined with excessive sleep from 10:00 PM to 10:00 AM, is a direct path to poverty.

Overcoming laziness, particularly excessive sleep (idleness), is the first step to overcoming poverty. Too much sleep is inversely proportional to success but directly proportional to laziness and poverty. We must wake up from our slumber and work hard, as life is not as easy as it seems. Nothing sustainable comes by luck; anything sustainable must undergo a process and be diligently obtained.

“If you sow laziness, you will reap poverty; if you sow diligence, you will reap success. God is never mocked”

“Nothing sustainable comes by luck; anything sustainable must undergo a process and be diligently obtained.”

The Bible says, "Those who seek diligently shall find, not those who sit and laugh" (Proverbs 8:17). An idle mind is the devil's workshop. .

“If you are not useful to yourself, Satan will use you, and if you are not in service to God, you will inevitably serve Satan.”

Be diligent in your work under God's guidance, and doors shall open for you in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

05: TIME MANAGEMENT

A wise person values and saves time. Understanding the importance of seasons and the chronology of events is crucial. A wise individual comprehends that there is a time for every action and event in the world. According to Ecclesiastes 3:1, "For everything, there is a season, and a time for every activity under the heavens." Time is the only currency used to purchase greatness. As Sunday Adelaja stated in his book "How to Become Great Through Time Conversion," "You buy greatness with the currency of time."

King Solomon, known as the wisest man under the sun, was not only a timekeeper but also a time manager. He recognized that for everything under the sun, there is a specific time: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to laugh and a time to cry, a time to plant and a time to harvest. King Solomon's point is that every endeavor under the sun has its designated time, and missing that moment or acting prematurely can be detrimental. As sons of light (wise individuals), we must save time and manage it effectively.

"Don't be a time keeper, rather you have to be a time manager" because

"Time keepers keep time for others benefits while time manager are time utilizers, they utilized time for themselves "

Our God is the God of time and seasons. Wise individuals understand this secret and manage time to ensure they do not miss their promises from God. In Africa, we often lag in this area of time management. We excel at wasting time but lack even a basic understanding of time management and redeeming time. This is evident in our meetings or church services, where the scheduled start time is 8:00 AM, yet no one arrives on time. This issue has become a cultural norm, passed down through generations.

Most people do not realize that some tasks, if not completed at a specific time, can never be done as effectively as they could have been. Opportunities often do not come twice, as we say, "A golden chance never comes twice."

Imagine a man wanting to play football at the age of 40. His passion and desire are commendable, but the issue is timing. The optimal time for him to play football has passed, and he cannot keep up with it. If he had been wise and joined a team at the age of 18, he would have

been on time. Due to this lack of wisdom, he is unable to fulfill his dream because of wasted time.

In Africa, we often discover our purpose in life late. A young man or woman of 25 years may still be unsure about their future, lacking vision and direction but content with eating and sleeping. Some people do not find salvation until they are 30 years old, living a life of confusion. It takes time to know God and understand the systems of advantage in the kingdom, but due to carelessness, we waste our time and live in confusion. This issue is passed down through generations, indicating a lack of wisdom in our mindset.

A wise person understands the seasons for different actions. Wise individuals recognize the seasons for planting and harvesting, for marriage and for staying single. Apostle Paul wisely said:

Ephesians 5:14-17 (NIV): "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you. Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish but understand what the Lord's will is."

Every time given to us by God has a specific purpose. Failing to fulfill your assignment at the right time can fragment your destiny. The biggest battle and resistance from Satan is not from property or opportunity but from stealing time from a person. Satan ensures you miss your specific time for encounters of grace, opportunities, and promotions, leaving you in a cycle of pain and frustration. This is why Paul advised us to be wise and redeem time, for the days are evil.

"The biggest battle and resistance from Satan is not from property or opportunity but from stealing time from a person"

In the New Testament, we see how Jesus managed His time effectively. Jesus spent three years and six months in ministry, yet the impacts are still felt today. He understood that God is the God of patterns and seasons. At times, Jesus refused to eat and drink for the sake of time because He knew His time on earth was limited. Due to His passion and desire to fulfill God's agenda, He sometimes rejected food and allowed others to eat. The disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat," but He responded, "I have food to eat that you do not know about. My food is to do the will

of God and accomplish His work" (John 4:31-34). There were times when Jesus got tired and fell asleep only in the boat because He was racing against time. Going home to rest would have been a waste of time. He told His disciples that they had to do God's work during the specific time before darkness will come, when no one could work:

John 9:4 (NIV): "We must do the works of Him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming, when no one can work."

This is the character of wise individuals. As human beings, we are always subject to specific times to accomplish tasks. Not everything can be done at our convenience. Some tasks require immediate action (Kairos moments), while others take a long time (chronos events). Wise individuals do not confuse the two. In his book "How to Become Great Through Time Conversion," Sunday Adelaja said:

"The proof that most people don't know how to measure their life by converting time into products is reflected in what they do with their free vacation time. That is a vacation! It is the best time for you to be productive because you are not being distracted by work." - Sunday Adelaja

Failing to utilize vacation time productively is a waste of time and a sign of a lack of wisdom. One of the biggest mistakes we make is measuring time in terms of weeks, months, and years. If you measure time in this way, you will find that you have enough of it, but in reality, you are wasting many seconds, minutes, and hours without realizing it.

According to Sunday Adelaja, time should be measured in terms of seconds, minutes, and at most, hours. By doing so, you will find yourself utilizing time more effectively and engaging in productive activities during idle time.

06: SILENCE

A wise person values the power of silence. Understanding that many evils and conflicts arise from the misuse of the tongue, they choose their words carefully. Apostle James highlights the potential of the tongue to create significant impact despite its small size. He advises against becoming teachers or excessively talkative individuals, as those who teach will be judged more strictly. He acknowledges that we all stumble in various ways, but those who do not stumble in their speech are truly wise (James 3:1-4). Thus, it becomes evident that the highest expression of wisdom is silence. Silence often serves as the best response to many situations. Wise individuals are excellent listeners but tend to speak less.

"The highest expression of wisdom is silence. Wise individuals are excellent listeners and sparing speakers; they listen much and speak little."

Wise individuals do not speak on every matter. Only fools speak without discernment, for anything that comes to their mind is spoken as if it is wisdom. Those who know much speak less, and those who speak much often reveal their lack of understanding.

"Those who know much (the wise) speak less and focus on important matters, while those who know little (the foolish) speak at length, including irrelevant things."

Ecclesiastes 5:2 (NIV): "Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool."

King Solomon observed that hastiness in speech often leads to evil words. Speaking without thinking is risky, and speaking many words before God is disastrous. Wise individuals speak less and listen more, recognizing that extensive speech often indicates foolishness and a lack of wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 6:11 (NIV): "The more the words, the less the meaning, and how does that profit anyone?"

Excessive words often lead to lies and meaningless chatter. Science, for instance, does not require many words to explain concepts, as brevity conveys meaning more effectively. Wise individuals prefer concise explanations, understanding that too many words can be boring, introduce lies, and make room for excuses.

Jesus exemplified this wisdom when He chose not to respond when asked if He was the King of the Jews. Understanding that the Pharisees were intent on His demise and that His words would not change their intentions, He chose silence over wasting energy on explanations. Silence is often the best answer. As seen in the Garden of Eden, while Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed Satan, Satan remained silent and gained dominion. Jesus knew that speaking many words could lead to losing dominion, so He remained silent to preserve it.

Proverbs 17:28 (NIV): "Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent, and discerning if they hold their tongues."

The highest form of wisdom is silence. In arguments, if the person you are debating chooses to remain silent, they may appear wiser because silence is a characteristic of wisdom. Wise individuals do not complain, speak nonsense, or engage in debates, understanding that these actions lead to conflicts and misunderstandings. They do not disclose their possessions, lives, or secrets to everyone. Instead, they keep silent and work quietly, allowing their success to speak for itself.

09: Calmness and Self-Control

Wise individuals are characterized by calmness and self-control. They are not hot-tempered, understanding that a lack of self-control can derail their destiny. Wise individuals do not rush; they move slowly but surely, demonstrating high levels of self-determination and self-control. They do not follow fleeting trends but create their own lifestyle, one that they can maintain without pressure.

"Speed in the wrong direction is not an advantage. The further you go in the wrong direction, the more time and energy you will need to return and start afresh, causing delays in reaching your destiny."

Wise individuals are not driven by pleasure, recognizing that indulgence in pleasure leads to poverty. As Proverbs 21:17 states, "Whoever loves pleasure will be poor; whoever loves wine and olive oil will never be rich." They remain calm and unmoved by emotions, taking comfort in the biblical assurance: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in

me" (John 14:1). They understand that everything has a beginning and an end. Satan often exploits a lack of calmness and instills fear to disrupt one's future.

"The greatest success for a person is to have self-control and the ability to maintain calmness (control over their emotions)" - Pastor Tony Kapola,

Wise individuals remain calm even in adverse situations. They do not make hasty reactions, decisions, or judgments. Instead, they allow themselves time to think, ensuring they make sound judgments and decisions.

"Anger is an emotional and self-inflicted punishment due to others' behavior."

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger (Proverbs 15:1). King Solomon further states that a hot-tempered person must pay the penalty (Proverbs 19:19). Any decision or action taken in anger often leads to destruction, and the consequences must be faced. This is why many people end up in prison due to their anger and hot-temperedness. Proverbs 15:18 notes, "A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."

Many of us fail to control our emotions until we commit offenses and then regret our actions. However, wise individuals control their anger, emotions, and reactions, thus avoiding many problems, calamities, and conflicts. "The highest expression of wisdom is silence." Anger and hot-temperedness yield no benefit; instead, they signify foolishness and a lack of wisdom.

"The highest expression of wisdom is silence." Anger and hot-temperedness yield no benefit; instead, they signify foolishness and a lack of wisdom"

Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NIV): "Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools."

Jesus exemplified calmness when He slept in the boat despite strong winds pushing it. He did not want to take quick action because He was full of wisdom and calmness.

Calmness brings self-control in various circumstances. Wise individuals understand their environment and live accordingly without being swayed by it. They maintain balance and live with purpose, controlling their emotions, finances, and relationships to achieve their visions.

Proverbs 25:27-28 (NIV): "It is not good to eat too much honey, nor is it honorable to search out matters that are too deep. Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control."

King Solomon, the wisest man on earth, described the impact of lacking self-control. He advised maintaining balance in every matter, as excess is harmful. He recommended focusing on issues within one's capacity and avoiding attempts to handle matters beyond it. Wise individuals do not force events if the timing is not right. King Solomon warned that searching for something beyond one's control is risky. A person lacking self-control is vulnerable to breakdown and collapse.

Wise individuals live within their means and budget. They do not extend their budget for the sake of pleasure or to please others. Even if they have the means to do something, they refrain if it may have negative consequences. Overindulgence, even in sweet things like honey, can be harmful. "If you find honey, eat just enough—too much of it, and you will vomit" (Proverbs 25:16).

A lack of calmness leads to premature marriages, unwanted pregnancies, and wrong relationships, especially among the youth in campuses due to the freedom they experience. Without self-control, they fall into sexual immorality and face the consequences. This book aims to help you understand that you must not be controlled by your environment or emotions but rather control them in Jesus' name. Amen.---

10: Privacy

Wise individuals understand the importance of privacy. They keep secrets until the appropriate time for revelation. Anything of value must be protected and sealed until it is time to be revealed. Imagine going to a store to buy something new, only to find it open yet priced the same as a sealed item. It is likely that the open item is outdated or expired. This demonstrates that anything of value must be properly sealed and protected.

"Anything of value must be sealed; anything easily available, cheap, and readily accessible often lacks value."

Consider the human body. The most vital organs, such as those involved in reproduction, respiration, excretion, and digestion, are not exposed; they are protected within the body.

Anything valuable is placed in a secret place and revealed only at the right time. Premature revelation often diminishes its worth and profitability.

Privacy is a characteristic of God, who is the epitome of wisdom. King David received a revelation that God dwells in the secret place:

Psalms 91:1 (NIV): "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

God is found in the secret place to add value and enhance His name. Anything easily available is perceived as cheap.

"Even though salt is a mineral, it cannot be compared to gold in terms of value and price due to their differing availability and accessibility."

This is why a single gram of gold is much more expensive than ten kilograms of salt. Salt is inexpensive because it is readily available, whereas gold is more valuable and costly due to its scarcity.

Jesus often instructed His disciples to keep miracles and signs private. He emphasized the importance of secrecy to avoid premature exposure, which could lead to attacks and obstacles. Men only attack what they can see. To reduce attacks, maintain privacy in your business, plans, and visions until the appropriate time.

"people only attack what they can see, what they cannot see they cannot attack. To reduce attacks, maintain privacy in your business, plans, and visions until the appropriate time"

Wise individuals tend to be introverted (introverts), meaning they are not easily accessible. They emulate God's characteristic of dwelling in the secret place. Wise individuals keep secrets and do not share confidential information entrusted to them by others. They are known as "secret keepers." Promotions or demotions in high-ranking job positions often depend on one's ability to maintain confidentiality (privacy), not just diligence. In the New Testament, Jesus taught His disciples the importance of private prayer:

Matthew 6:6 (NIV): "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Genuine and wise prayer occurs when no one else is watching. Jesus Himself spent much time praying and meditating alone on the mountain:

John 7:10 (NIV): "But after His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He also went up, not publicly, but in private."

Jesus prayed and fasted alone, emphasizing the significance of privacy. He also said:

Matthew 6:3-4 (NIV): "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Jesus highlighted that those who perform acts for public recognition receive their reward from the public, while those who act privately receive their rewards from God. Since God dwells in the secret place, true worshippers are found there. Wise individuals are introverted and value privacy, knowing that private prayer is the hallmark of wisdom.

FIVE THINGS WISE PEOPLE NEVER SHARE WITH ANYONE

Wise individuals, such as Dr. Myles Munroe, Jack Ma, Billy Graham, and Pastor TD Jakes, across different times and environments, have identified five things one should never share with anyone unless absolutely necessary:

1. Don't share your vision and dreams with anyone, except a trusted, proven, and well-disciplined mentor. Sharing your vision with everyone invites undue attention and attacks, jeopardizing your success before it matures.
2. Don't share your daily source of income or salary with anyone. Your income is a private matter. Whether it is large or small, keeping it private prevents potential attacks on your life.
3. Don't share your pain, difficulties, and temptations with anyone. Your challenges may differ from others. Handle your struggles with the understanding that God is the supervisor and rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Not everyone deserves to know your trials and tribulations.
4. Don't share your source of strength or point of weakness with anyone. Your weaknesses are leverage for your enemies. Remember Samson and Delilah. Exposing your weaknesses makes

you vulnerable to attacks. Master the art of appearing unbothered, seeking help from the right sources while relying on God. Public complaints only expose your lack of wisdom.

5. Don't share secrets entrusted to you by others. Someone who discusses others' problems with you will likely discuss your problems with others. Maintain confidentiality and respect the trust placed in you.

09: Self-Discipline

Wise individuals adhere to principles, understanding that success in any endeavor requires discipline. Achieving success in life necessitates self-discipline, which entails the ability to implement the goals you set, stand firm in your purpose, and utilize the time given by God effectively. It involves the capacity to bring your vision to fruition.

Wise individuals exhibit self-discipline in various aspects of life, including finance (financial discipline) and time management (time discipline). Self-discipline also encompasses waking up early, performing activities punctually, and diligently working towards your goals.

Even Jesus demonstrated self-discipline in His ministry. He dedicated time each day to prayer and meditation, recognizing that manifesting the fullness of God required the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus spent forty days and forty nights praying in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-5) and ultimately overcame temptation by Satan due to His self-discipline and dedication to His ministry and honor to His Father.

Wise individuals understand that anything durable and sustainable results from the honor of self-discipline. They discipline themselves to learn daily, generate ideas, meditate, and work diligently. Sustainable achievements do not come by chance; they are generated and acquired through consistent effort and discipline.

Therefore, wise individuals are not lazy; they hustle and strive for their future. Even when tired, they do not make excuses but continue to work and fulfill their responsibilities. Wise individuals set goals and work towards achieving them with a clear sense of purpose. They create lifestyles that accommodate their income and expenditures, establish schedules for their routines, and live by principles, avoiding actions driven solely by pleasure.

Self-discipline is a hallmark of wise individuals and can be cultivated through the influence of others, though it is primarily birthed by the spirit of wisdom. Discipline is a strength for any Christian, yielding many positive outcomes, including eagerness, curiosity, passion, and the desire to pursue tasks with full dedication. Self-discipline involves prioritizing issues, inspiring confidence, and providing encouragement in life.

THE EFFECTS OF CARELESSNESS (Lack of Discipline)

Why do we become careless in life?

Upon reflection, I realized that our lack of prosperity is often not due to the absence of opportunities or blessings from God, but rather our inability to manage and care for the things we receive. Many of us still exhibit poor management skills. Through meditation empowered by the Holy Spirit (the spirit of wisdom), I came to understand the following facts:

"The things which you did not buy for yourself, you are less likely to honor, respect, or take care of, compared to those you acquired through your own efforts."

We often take greater care of the things we paid for, labored for, and struggled to obtain. In contrast, when things come to us easily or cheaply, we tend to be careless with them, often leading to their loss or destruction.

Proverbs 13:11 (NIV): "Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow."

We sometimes expect to receive abundant blessings quickly, but many of us are not capable of handling such abundance. God often allows us to receive blessings gradually, as the Bible says we shall have more in the end. Many of us are not prepared to handle great success or large sums of money. Consequently, when such blessings come, we diminish them until they are reduced to a level we can manage. For instance, university students often receive substantial accommodation and meal funds, but within a month, the money is gone due to careless spending and lack of financial discipline (lack of wisdom). We end up begging and struggling, not because God did not provide opportunities, but due to our carelessness and lack of money management.

"Lack of wisdom produces negligence. We often fail to take seriously the things given to us by God, people, or anyone else."

Luke 16:10-12 (NIV):¹⁰ "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

God often checks our hearts and finds that we expect blessings without being trustworthy or careful with what we already have. The law of the kingdom dictates that if you can maintain a little, you will be able to maintain more. God may withhold blessings until we learn to manage what we have properly.

"Good management attracts resources; poor management chases them away and leads to poverty." – Dr. Myles Munroe

MY TESTIMONY

I experienced this firsthand when a friend gave me an expensive Rolex watch. While on a mission to preach the gospel in a village, I forgot the watch in the bathroom but remembered to take my phone, which I had bought at a high price. This incident taught me an important lesson through the spirit of wisdom.

1. If you cannot take care of the small things given by people, how can you expect to receive more from God? The mindset of receiving and wasting must be addressed.
2. If you neglect physical things you can touch, see, and feel, will you be able to care for spiritual things you cannot touch or see? This includes anointing, graces, favor, miracles, open doors, and opportunities.
3. If The same mindset used to waste small things will be used to waste great things. This understanding is why Luke 5:38 says new wine must be put in new wineskins. Transformation of attitude and ideology is crucial for receiving and maintaining greatness, success, honor, and value.

The mindset capable of maintaining ten thousand dollars is not equipped to handle ten million dollars. This is why we often struggle and complain about life being unfair. The main issue lies in our mindset.

4.If The same eye used to see small opportunities will be used to see great opportunities. Expect no difference.

God is just. He often sees our lack of self-discipline, knowledge, preparation, and management, leading Him to withhold true riches and blessings. It takes a transformation of our minds before God can trust us with greater blessings.

This is why God's spiritual blessings are not cheaply available to everyone. God waits until our mindset is cultivated and ready to receive. He requires us to pay the price because if blessings come cheaply, we will not respect or honor them. This is why we sometimes perceive God as unfair. In reality, we need to become new wineskins to receive new wine (self-discipline).

10: Ever-Learning Habit (Learning Mindset)

Wise individuals are ever-learning. They never settle for less and maintain a daily routine of study and self-improvement.

Wise individuals are constantly in pursuit of knowledge. They never settle for mediocrity and are committed to continuous learning. Their daily routine revolves around studying and acquiring wisdom. Passionate about gaining understanding and achieving success, wise people are perpetual students of knowledge. They do not allow themselves to act out of ignorance. Instead, they take the time to learn what is necessary to attain their goals. They are open to receiving instructions and understanding that growth comes from learning and applying new knowledge.

Proverbs 18:15 (NIV): "The mind of the prudent is ever getting knowledge, and the ear of the wise is ever seeking (inquiring for and craving) knowledge."

Wise individuals welcome instructions and do not shy away from learning opportunities. They avoid mediocrity and embrace guidance, recognizing that rejecting instruction leads to destruction. The Bible emphasizes that fools reject knowledge and wisdom, leading to their downfall.

Examples of Ever-Learning Individuals:

1. Albert Einstein:

Einstein's passion for learning was evident throughout his life. Despite facing initial academic challenges, he remained curious and dedicated to understanding complex concepts. His continuous pursuit of knowledge led to groundbreaking discoveries in theoretical physics. Einstein famously said, "Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death."

“Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death.” -Albert Einstein

2. Marie Curie:

Marie Curie's dedication to learning and research in the field of radioactivity earned her two Nobel Prizes in different scientific fields. Her relentless curiosity and commitment to acquiring knowledge exemplify the ever-learning mindset. Curie's work continues to inspire scientists worldwide.

3. Elon Musk:

As the CEO of multiple innovative companies, including SpaceX and Tesla, Elon Musk is known for his insatiable thirst for knowledge. Musk continuously seeks to expand his understanding of various fields, from aerospace to artificial intelligence. His ever-learning habit drives his success and innovation.

Proverbs 1:5 (NIV): "Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance."

Wise individuals prioritize learning and self-improvement. They set goals and work diligently to achieve them, understanding that continuous learning is essential for personal and professional growth. They create schedules to allocate time for studying and self-development, ensuring they do not stagnate.

Benefits of an Ever-Learning Habit:

1. Increased Knowledge and Skills: Continuous learning enhances one's knowledge base and skill set, making individuals more competent and confident in their abilities.

2. Adaptability: An ever-learning mindset allows individuals to adapt to new challenges and changes in their environment. They remain open to new ideas and approaches, enabling them to thrive in dynamic situations.

3. Personal Growth: Learning fosters personal growth and self-awareness. It encourages individuals to reflect on their experiences, recognize areas for improvement, and strive for excellence.

4. Professional Advancement: Employers value individuals who demonstrate a commitment to continuous learning. Such individuals are often seen as assets to the organization, leading to career advancement and opportunities for leadership roles.

Henry Ford: The founder of Ford Motor Company, Henry Ford, exemplified the ever-learning habit. Despite his lack of formal education, Ford's curiosity and dedication to learning about machinery and manufacturing processes led to the creation of the assembly line and revolutionized the automotive industry. Ford famously said, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young."

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young."-henry ford

In conclusion, wise individuals cultivate an ever-learning habit. They remain dedicated to acquiring knowledge, receiving instructions, and avoiding mediocrity. This mindset propels them toward success, personal growth, and meaningful contributions to society.

-CHAPTER 08: THE POWER AND INFLUENCE of WISDOM

Wisdom is more powerful than anointing. In fact, wisdom possesses the ability to accumulate wealth, resources, and influence on earth. This is evident in the lives of individuals who have significantly impacted the world; behind their influence lies wisdom. Many of these individuals are custodians of wisdom. We see this exemplified in the life of King Solomon, who attracted kings from different nations eager to hear his extraordinary wisdom and understanding. As Isaiah 60:3 states, "Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn." The Queen of Sheba travelled a long distance just to hear the wisdom of God to Solomon, the bible says

1 Kings 10:1, 3-14, 16-29 (NIV):1 When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. 3 Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. 4 When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, 5 the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed.

The queen of Sheba was astounded by the organization and systematic nature of King Solomon's kingdom. Every member of his palace was well-prepared to perform their duties and welcome guests. The queen was so impressed that she remarked to King Solomon:

"The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth, you have far exceeded the report I heard. How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness."

The queen of Sheba gave King Solomon 120 talents of gold, large quantities of spices, and precious stones. Such quantities of spices were never brought again. Hiram's ships brought gold from Ophir, along with almugwood and precious stones. King Solomon used almugwood to make supports for the temple of the LORD and the royal palace, as well as harps and lyres for the musicians. The Bible states that King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba all she desired and

asked for, besides what he had given her from his royal bounty. Then she returned to her own country.

The weight of the gold that Solomon received annually was 666 talents. Gentiles and kings brought these treasures to the brightness of Solomon's light. King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold, with six hundred shekels of gold going into each shield. He also made three hundred small shields of hammered gold, with three minas of gold in each shield. These were placed in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon.

King Solomon's throne was a great piece covered with ivory and overlaid with fine gold. It had six steps and armrests on both sides, with lions standing beside each of them. Twelve lions stood on the six steps, one at each end. Nothing like it had ever been made for any other kingdom. All of King Solomon's goblets and household articles in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Silver was considered of little value in Solomon's days, signifying that wealth and resources were abundant under his reign.

King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. "The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart." This means that if you possess wisdom, people will never ignore you. The entire world is drawn to you, not because of your appearance, but because of your wisdom. Year after year, everyone who came to Solomon brought gifts—articles of silver and gold, robes, weapons, spices, horses, and mules. Solomon accumulated chariots and horses; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, which he kept in the chariot cities and with him in Jerusalem.

"Your certificate and knowledge will give you a job, but your wisdom will attract resources into your life, because wisdom attracts favor, honor, and riches."

King Solomon made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills. Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and Kue. The royal merchants purchased them from Kue at the current price. They imported a chariot from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty. These were also exported to all the kings of the Hittites and Arameans.

All individuals who possessed wisdom had significant influence on earth. Consider Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, the Apostle Paul, and our Almighty God in the flesh, Jesus Christ. Daniel

remained in the government of Babylon through multiple reigns; every king respected him. Jesus' wisdom was so compelling that Gentiles could not ignore Him:

Mark 1:37 (NIV): "And they found Him and said to Him, 'Everyone is looking for You.'"

People sought Jesus because He carried something incredibly valuable and rare—wisdom. They were interested in His teachings, as His words were like honey, providing the nourishment they sought every day. Once again, "Men shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your light." Where there is no wisdom there is no influence and success

CHAPTER SIX: THE WISDOM to LIVE In THE COSMOS

When we speak about the cosmos, we refer to the world. Thus, the wisdom to live in the cosmos encompasses the knowledge and understanding that enable us to thrive in the world while adhering to the principles and commandments of God. When Jesus sent out His disciples, He instructed them, "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16). This means we need to adopt the wisdom of the serpent (Satan) to achieve success, influence, and dominion in our lives while ensuring we remain humble and obedient to God's will.

Jesus' recommendation to be wise like the serpent implies that there is valuable secular wisdom within the serpent that can help us conquer territory, obtain dominion, and become influential in the world. Let's explore the areas where the serpent leveraged its wisdom to gain influence.

1. DOMINION

The serpent (Satan) was cast out from the presence of the Lord (heaven) and descended to earth. Initially, Satan was not given any dominion or authority to rule on earth. However, he cleverly manipulated the situation to conquer authority from humans (Adam and Eve). It is important to note that when we refer to the serpent, we mean the snake that carried the spirit of Satan. Satan entered the snake and used it to gain access to Eve, symbolizing Satan in this context.

Genesis 3:1 (NIV): "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, "You must not eat from any tree in the garden"?'"

After being cast out from heaven, Satan descended to earth with the intent of surviving in the cosmos. He targeted Eve, knowing that it was easier to deceive her than Adam. Satan's objective was to strip humans of their dominion by causing them to disobey God's commandments. Unfortunately, he succeeded, and humanity lost its mandate until Jesus came to restore it.

When Jesus advised us to be wise like the serpent, He was highlighting the secular wisdom embedded within the serpent that can be used to gain dominion and influence in the cosmos.

The Characteristics of the Serpent

The serpent possesses unique characteristics that contribute to its ability to survive and thrive:

1. **Stealth and Agility:** A serpent has no legs, yet it can move swiftly and strike with precision. It carefully selects its environment to ensure its survival and escape routes. The serpent avoids polished and smooth surfaces, understanding its limitations.
2. **Strategic Thinking:** The serpent does not move in pairs and is highly strategic in its actions. It strikes with a single point of attack, delivering potent venom that can be lethal. This teaches us to recognize our weaknesses and control them to prevent enemies from exploiting them.
3. **Diplomacy:** The serpent (Satan) is the father of diplomacy. When Jesus came to earth as a human, Satan attacked Him through King Herod, who ordered the massacre of male children. Failing on that, Satan approached Jesus in the wilderness and attempted to negotiate through temptations (Matthew 4:1-5). Jesus triumphed through wisdom, not warfare, highlighting that wisdom is more powerful than physical weapons.

Ecclesiastes 7:19 (NIV): "Wisdom makes one wise person more powerful than ten rulers in a city."

One of the serpent's most powerful secrets to gaining dominion is its access to information. The serpent is highly sensitive and punctual in acquiring information.

Genesis 3:1 (NIV): "He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, "You must not eat from any tree in the garden"?"'

How did Satan (the serpent) know about God's commandment to Adam and Eve? He was determined in information acquisition. Information is the key to knowledge and secular wisdom. Anyone seeking dominion in the cosmos must ensure they have ample information about various sectors in the world. You cannot control or manage what you do not understand.

So, Jesus' instruction to be wise like serpents emphasizes the importance of adopting strategic thinking, stealth, and diplomacy while maintaining humility and adherence to God's principles. By studying and emulating these characteristics, we can achieve dominion and influence in the world.

After realizing that it was impossible to achieve his goal through brute force (because Herod had declared the killing of all male children in the city at that time), Satan approached Jesus in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-5). He attempted to negotiate with Jesus using cunning and subtlety. However, Jesus emerged victorious through wisdom and discernment. This narrative highlights that battles are fought and won through wisdom, not physical confrontation. As the Bible states, "Wisdom makes one wise person more powerful than ten rulers in a city" (Ecclesiastes 7:19). The phrase "Be wise as serpents" reveals a secret of dominion found within the serpent.

Among the powerful secrets of the serpent's dominion are:

1. Access to Information

The serpent is exceedingly wise, sensitive, and diligent in. This trait is evident in Genesis 3:1, where the serpent questions the woman, saying, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" This raises the question of how the serpent knew about God's command to Adam and Eve, given that he was not present when the command was given. This demonstrates the serpent's determination in seeking out information.

Information is the key to knowledge and secular wisdom. Anyone seeking dominion in the world must ensure they have extensive information about various sectors, much like the serpent. One cannot manage or control something they do not understand. To gain mastery, one must be well-informed.

2. Time Management

The serpent (Satan) is highly adept at time management and is acutely aware of its importance. He approached Adam and Eve before they had reproduced and multiplied across the earth (Genesis 3:1-3). He came early, targeting the first humans before they had a chance to spread out. This strategy underscores the importance of seizing opportunities early. It is easier to establish one's territory before others have taken control.

In Matthew 4:1-4, Satan came to Jesus before Jesus had begun His ministry. Knowing that Jesus' mission was to overthrow him and reclaim dominion for humanity, Satan tried to negotiate with

Jesus early on to maintain his hold over the world. He understood that Jesus' arrival posed a significant threat and sought to make an early agreement.

This principle teaches us that anyone seeking dominion must understand the law of time management. Time is the currency used to buy greatness. One purchases greatness not with money, but with time. By acting early and wisely, we can achieve dominion.

The statement "Be wise as serpents" provides profound revelations on the importance of wisdom. Jesus emphasized that in our endeavors, we must employ wisdom, for without it, achieving dominion would be challenging.

SUCCESS AND WISDOM

When the serpent (Satan) was cast out from the heavens, he arrived on earth with nothing. However, through a strategy that many of us might not fully understand, he managed to acquire everything. When Jesus came into the world, He found that Satan had conquered territories and was controlling the economic systems of the world. Satan had significant influence on earth.

In the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible, Matthew 4:8-10 states:

> "[8] Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. [9] 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.' [10] Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

It is written that everything belongs to God, and nothing else belongs to Satan (the serpent). So, what happened that allowed Satan to conquer authority and possess everything on earth at the time of Jesus' arrival? Satan told Jesus that everything He saw belonged to him (Satan), and he offered it to Jesus, implying ownership.

In the NIV Bible, Psalm 24:1-2 states:

> "[1] The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; [2] for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters."

This raises the question: How did the serpent achieve dominion and success in the cosmos? This is why we need wisdom to navigate life because there is a great secret hidden from us that we must seek to understand.

Many may not grasp why I emphasize the connection between wisdom and success. I am revealing that through wisdom, the serpent achieved dominion and success in the cosmos.

In the book of Ezekiel, we find insight into this in Ezekiel 28:3-5:

> "[3] Indeed, you are [imagining yourself] wiser than Daniel; there is no secret [you think] that is hidden from you."

This was God explaining how Satan recruits people and asserting that Satan is wiser than any man, including Daniel. Because Satan is meticulous in seeking information, he claims to know everything. But he doesn't acquire knowledge from man alone; he is incredibly diligent in searching for information.

> "[4] With your wisdom and understanding, you have gained wealth for yourself and amassed gold and silver in your treasuries. [5] By your great skill in trading, you have increased your wealth, and because of your wealth, your heart has grown proud."

These scriptures reveal the secret of Satan's success and dominion in the cosmos. God Himself acknowledges that it was due to wisdom. My dear friends, no one can have dominion and influence in the cosmos without the wisdom to live in it. The serpent, being exceedingly wise, gained power through wisdom rather than force. He had no inherent success, but through wisdom, he attained it. God confirmed this in Ezekiel 28:4.

Thus, the key to success, influence, and dominion in the cosmos is wisdom. Without the spirit of wisdom, one is destined to live in poverty and obscurity, never achieving dominion.

In the book of Genesis, we see our patriarchs of faith—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—applying wisdom (prudence) to navigate various situations and achieve success and dominion. These men attained success even when they were not living in their own land. Like the serpent, they went to different places as slaves and servants, but through wisdom, they achieved success and dominion.

1:2 The Wisdom of the Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

In the book of Genesis, we observe our patriarchs of faith—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—applying wisdom in various situations to navigate life and obtain success and dominion. These men achieved success even when they were not living in their own land. Like the serpent, they went to different places as slaves and servants, but through wisdom, they achieved success and dominion.

Abraham's Wisdom in Egypt

There was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. As they were about to enter Egypt, Abram said to his wife Sarai:

> “I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.” (Genesis 12:10-13, NIV)

When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was very beautiful. Pharaoh’s officials praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. Abraham applied wisdom by asking Sarai to pose as his sister. Although it posed a risk for Sarai, Abraham believed that God would protect her. By using this strategy, Abraham spared his life and gained wealth and status.

While it might seem that Abraham lied, he technically did not, as Sarai was his half-sister. Abraham twisted their relationship for safety, demonstrating the wisdom to navigate perilous situations. This is what I call it prudence, is the mechanism to attain advantage in dangerous situations. By this technique, Abraham was treated well and obtained success, transforming from a potential slave to a man of great wealth and honor.

Abraham's Wealth and Favor

> “He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels. But the Lord inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram’s wife Sarai. So Pharaoh summoned Abram. ‘What have you done to me?’ he said. ‘Why didn’t you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, “She is my sister,” so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!’ Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.” (Genesis 12:16-20, NIV)

Abraham knew that revealing Sarai as his wife could bring danger and poor treatment. By employing wisdom similar to the serpent's, he negotiated with Sarai for the sake of obtaining favor in a foreign land. Abraham went to Egypt empty-handed, but through this approach, he acquired wealth from Pharaoh. Abraham's wisdom resulted in him leaving Egypt as a wealthy and honored man.

The Importance of Wisdom (prudence)

We celebrate Abraham's success, recognizing that it originated from using the wisdom of the serpent. To achieve success in the cosmos, we must learn and apply such wisdom rather than relying solely on energy, power, prayer, and fasting. Success becomes attainable through wisdom, while it remains elusive if we only exert force.

It is possible to be born into poverty and rise to wealth, or to begin life as a slave or servant and eventually become a leader. Abraham went to Egypt as a slave but emerged with servants, becoming a master. This exemplifies the wisdom to navigate the cosmos.

Isaac's Application of Wisdom(prudence)

We see another example in Abraham's son, Isaac, who followed his father's example and applied wisdom to achieve success.

The Wisdom of the Patriarchs: Isaac's Example

In the same way that Abraham applied wisdom in Egypt, we see his son Isaac following a similar path. Isaac's story further illustrates the importance of wisdom in achieving success and dominion.

Isaac's Wisdom in Gerar

Now there was a famine in the land—besides the previous famine in Abraham's time—and Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, in Gerar. The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live."

When the men of that place asked Isaac about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," because he was afraid to say, "She is my wife." He thought, "The men of this place might kill me on account

of Rebekah, because she is beautiful.” When Isaac had been there a long time, Abimelech, king of the Philistines, looked down from a window and saw Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah. So Abimelech summoned Isaac and said, “She is really your wife! Why did you say, ‘She is my sister’?” Isaac answered him, “Because I thought I might lose my life on account of her.” (Genesis 26:1-2, 7-9, NIV)

Like his father, Isaac used wisdom to obtain favor and success in a foreign land. Wisdom is the principal thing; it turns captivity into victory and changes people's stories. The lack of wisdom often leads to unnecessary battles, as seen in the case of John the Baptist, who fought a battle that led to his demise.

Isaac knew that claiming Rebekah as his wife could bring him danger and poor treatment. By employing wisdom similar to the serpent's, he left the battle to the King of Kings (God), knowing that God would protect Rebekah and fulfill His promise to make Isaac the father of nations.

Isaac's Prosperity in Gerar

Then Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the men might well have slept with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.” So Abimelech gave orders to all the people: “Anyone who harms this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.” Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold because the Lord blessed him. The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him. Then Abimelech said to Isaac, “Move away from us; you have become too powerful for us.” So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar, where he settled. (Genesis 26:10-17, NIV)

Isaac achieved success in Abimelech's land by claiming Rebekah as his sister, similar to his father's approach. Through wisdom, he obtained true riches in a foreign land, not in his own. This demonstrates that success does not depend on one's origin or location but on the wisdom one possesses.

The Importance of Wisdom

Jesus said, “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.” (Matthew 10:16, NIV). This means that we, as Christians, live among people who may not share our values. To survive and thrive, we must borrow the wisdom of the serpent to navigate life while pleasing God and others, ensuring a long and prosperous life.

Our patriarchs applied this wisdom, which is why they lived long and achieved success. Most advantages in the cosmos belong to secular individuals. To obtain success and favor, we must understand and apply the wisdom of the serpent, as Abraham and Isaac did.

In today's world, we see people who do not follow God yet control the economic and leadership systems. To achieve similar dominion, we must apply the wisdom of the serpent. Our patriarchs demonstrated this prudence, which may seem unjust, as they sometimes told lies to secular individuals. However, in the context of living and obtaining dominion in the cosmos, this prudence is essential.

12: The Wisdom of the Serpent and the Children of Light

Jesus said, "For the children of this world are wiser than the sons of light in their own dealings." (Luke 16:8-9, NIV)

> “[8] The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly (wisely). For the people of this world are more shrewd (wiser) in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. [9] I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.”

Jesus recommended that as long as we live in the world, we must use worldly wealth to gain friends, which means to gain dominion and influence. If we do not understand the wisdom of the serpent concerning business, ministry, and maintaining strategic relationships, achieving dominion and influence in our Christian experience and kingdom advancement will be difficult.

However, this wisdom does not imply stealing or manipulating people. Rather, it involves understanding how to communicate, relate, think, and behave while living in the world.

1. The Parable of the Shrewd Manager:

In Luke 16, Jesus tells the parable of the shrewd manager. The manager was about to lose his job, so he reduced the debts of his master's debtors to gain their favor. His master commended him for acting shrewdly. Jesus uses this parable to illustrate how the people of this world are more astute in managing their affairs than the people of light. He encourages His followers to be wise in using their resources to build relationships and secure their future in God's kingdom.

2. Abraham and Pharaoh:

In Genesis 12, during a famine, Abram (later called Abraham) went to Egypt. Knowing the Egyptians would find his wife Sarai (later called Sarah) beautiful and might kill him to take her, Abram asked Sarai to say she was his sister. This strategy, though risky, was a wise move that spared Abram's life and earned him favor and wealth. While it may seem deceptive, Abram's wisdom allowed him to navigate a dangerous situation and come out prosperous.

3. Isaac and Rebekah:

Similarly, in Genesis 26, during another famine, Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, in Gerar. Fearing for his life because of Rebekah's beauty, Isaac told the men of that place she was his sister. When Abimelech discovered the truth, he protected Isaac and Rebekah, ensuring their safety. Isaac's wisdom in handling the situation allowed him to thrive in a foreign land, resulting in immense wealth and prosperity.

Applying Wisdom in the Modern World

These biblical examples teach us that wisdom is crucial for navigating life's challenges and achieving success. In today's world, wisdom involves strategic thinking, effective communication, and building strong relationships.

4. The Apostle Paul:

Paul, the Apostle, demonstrated wisdom in his ministry by adapting his approach to different audiences. In Acts 17, Paul spoke to the people of Athens by referencing their altar to an "unknown god," using their own beliefs to introduce the gospel. This approach allowed Paul to connect with his audience and share the message of Christ effectively.

5. Jesus and the Pharisees:

In Matthew 22, when the Pharisees tried to trap Jesus with a question about paying taxes to Caesar, Jesus responded wisely by asking for a coin and pointing out Caesar's image on it. He said, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." This answer amazed them and silenced their attempts to trap Him, showing Jesus' profound wisdom in handling tricky situations.

To thrive in the world, Christians must adopt the wisdom of the serpent while maintaining integrity and obedience to God's principles. This means using our resources wisely, understanding the dynamics of relationships, and communicating effectively. By doing so, we can achieve dominion and influence, advancing God's kingdom while navigating the complexities of the world.

ASSOCIATION: LIVING WISELY in the COSMOS

As long as we live in the world, association with others is inevitable. We interact with various people daily, and the Bible teaches us to choose our associations wisely. Proverbs 13:20 (NIV) states:

> "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."

As Christians, we face the challenge of associating with others, knowing that not everyone is a Christian or shares our beliefs. Jesus advises us to "be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16). This means we should be discerning and shrewd in our interactions while maintaining our integrity and faith.

Daniel: A Model of Wisdom and Integrity

Take, for example, Daniel. He was a man of God but also held a high position in the government of a non-believing kingdom (Babylon). Despite his environment, Daniel pleased God and excelled in his governmental role.

Daniel 5:29 (NIV) states:

> "Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

Even though Daniel lived among non-believers, he did not violate God's principles. He was determined, conscious of time, diligent, wise, humble, and fearless. Daniel managed to live wisely in the world, embodying the wisdom of the serpent and the innocence of the dove.

The Currency of Wisdom

Daniel's story reminds us that he was not born in Babylon; he went there as a slave. Yet, through the currency of wisdom, he gained dominion and success in a foreign land. Jesus' instruction to "be wise as serpents and harmless as doves" means living in a way that reflects God's glory while navigating the world's complexities.

As followers of Christ, we might find ourselves in various roles—governors, senators, members of parliament, ministers, or even presidents. Despite these roles, our priority should always be representing the Kingdom of God. Daniel's example teaches us that instead of being controlled by the world's systems, we should influence them, making the name of Jesus known.

Navigating Associations

In our interactions with others, wisdom is crucial. Not everyone we associate with will share our faith. However, working with non-believers should not affect our passion for God or our faith. For example, working in a Muslim company while being a Christian should not change your beliefs or mindset.

Examples from the Bible¹.

Joseph in Egypt: Joseph, sold into slavery by his brothers, rose to a position of power in Egypt. Despite his circumstances, he maintained his integrity and faith, ultimately saving his family and many others from famine (Genesis 41-50). Joseph's wisdom and ability to interpret dreams gained him favor with Pharaoh, leading to his rise in power. Living wisely in the cosmos involves understanding how to navigate associations and relationships while maintaining our faith and integrity. By embodying the wisdom of the serpent and the innocence of the dove, we can influence the world positively, reflect God's Kingdom, and achieve success and dominion without compromising our beliefs.

CHAPTER SEVEN: NEGATIVE IMPACT OF SECULAR/HUMAN WISDOM

It is beneficial to learn and acquire secular, artificial, and human wisdom as we navigate life on earth. However, from the beginning, God created and designed humanity to obtain divine wisdom first, before secular wisdom. It is the Spirit of God that brings divine or natural wisdom. As King Solomon stated, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10, NIV). Divine wisdom stems from the fear of the Lord, which is imparted by the Spirit of God.

God intended for all men to bow before Him and worship Him, but unfortunately, this is not the case. The lack of fear of the Lord in our world is due to the prevalence of secular wisdom over divine wisdom. The operation of secular or intellectual wisdom without divine wisdom has led to superstitious wisdom, satanic wisdom, witchcraft, and more. Human wisdom has eroded the fear of the Lord in today's world, making men fleshier than spiritual. Men have replaced the Spirit of Wisdom (divine wisdom) with human wisdom, causing numerous problems.

God expected that all people would be saturated with divine wisdom before human wisdom. The negative impacts of secular wisdom we face today include pride, rebellion, conflicts, wars, and idol worship. Secular or human wisdom without divine wisdom can lead to destruction. Divine wisdom is the controller of everything, while human wisdom is merely an assistance to help us understand and exploit the earth we live in.

Apostle Paul's Teaching on Wisdom

Apostle Paul addresses the issue of human wisdom in 1 Corinthians 1:18-20 (NIV):

> "[18] For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. [19] For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.' [20] Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?"

Paul emphasizes that God's wisdom transcends human wisdom. Many people in Corinth rejected God's Word, filled with divine wisdom, and created their own lives based on human wisdom. This led to pride, rebellion, antichrist behavior, murder, fornication, and other evils. Instead of being fortified with divine wisdom, they were fortified with secular wisdom.

Paul further states in 1 Corinthians 1:21 (NIV):

> "For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe."

Despite people considering divine wisdom foolishness, it is the only way to save those who believe. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 1:25

Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 1:25 (NIV):

> "For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength."

We cannot compare God's wisdom to human wisdom. Divine wisdom is unique and marvelous. The Spirit of Wisdom (God's wisdom) should precede human wisdom because human wisdom is not a spirit, but divine wisdom is.

The Risk of Human Wisdom in Isolation

Human wisdom can lead to corruption and destruction if it functions without divine wisdom.

Divine wisdom is pure and holy, generated by the Holy Spirit. Human wisdom is weak unless it is supplemented by divine wisdom. It is better for a person to be led by divine wisdom alone than to be controlled solely by human wisdom, as divine wisdom leads to life and peace, while secular wisdom leads to death and destruction (Romans 8:6).

Preachers and leaders must be guided by divine wisdom before imparting secular or intellectual wisdom to the body of Christ. Apostle Paul emphasized this approach in 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 (NIV):

> "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."

The prevalence of human wisdom over divine wisdom has led to rebellion, terrorism, and other forms of immorality. Only through the Spirit of Wisdom can we truly please God and avoid these pitfalls.

The Power of Divine Wisdom

Divine wisdom is light, and human wisdom in isolation from it leads to darkness. John 1:5 (NIV) says:

> "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Human wisdom can only be beneficial when it works in partnership with divine wisdom.

Without divine wisdom, human wisdom may lead to pride, destruction, and rebellion.

Real-Life Examples

Technology has advanced significantly, bringing both benefits and challenges. While human wisdom has led to incredible innovations, such as smartphones and the internet, these advancements also come with risks. The misuse of technology for cyberbullying, identity theft, and spreading misinformation are examples of how human wisdom, in isolation from divine wisdom, can lead to negative consequences.

2. Environmental Conservation: Human wisdom has allowed us to understand the impact of our actions on the environment. However, without the guiding principles of divine wisdom, efforts to protect the environment can be inconsistent and driven by personal or political agendas. Divine wisdom encourages stewardship of the earth, promoting sustainable practices and care for creation.

3. Leadership and Governance: Leaders who rely solely on human wisdom may prioritize their interests over the well-being of their people. Examples include corruption, unjust policies, and power struggles. Divine wisdom, on the other hand, promotes justice, humility, and service to others.

King Solomon's Mistake

King Solomon, known for his wisdom, made the mistake of relying more on secular wisdom than divine wisdom. He married 700 wives and had 300 concubines, many from surrounding kingdoms, to secure peace and alliances. This strategy, although clever, led him away from God's principles.

1 Kings 11:4 (NIV) says:

> "As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been."

Solomon's reliance on secular wisdom led to his downfall. Despite his intelligence, he neglected God's command to obey His principles, resulting in negative consequences for his kingdom.

While secular and human wisdom are valuable for living on earth, divine wisdom must come first. The negative impacts of relying solely on secular wisdom include pride, rebellion, and various evils. By prioritizing divine wisdom, we align ourselves with God's design and purpose, ensuring that human wisdom serves its intended role as an assistance rather than a replacement for the fear of the Lord and divine understanding.

CHAPTER Ten: HOW TO RECEIVE the SPIRIT of WISDOM

Intellectual Wisdom is not a gift but a grace from God, and it begins the moment you receive the Holy Spirit. However, there are rules of engagement to subscribe to secular wisdom. Wisdom is a refined grace that requires a person to upgrade themselves in various dynamics of learning and participating in different ways of life. Generally, wisdom is acquired; you cannot simply sleep and wake up full of knowledge and wisdom. There are many methods to obtain wisdom. Divine wisdom is mainly generated by the Holy Spirit, while knowledge is the foundation of secular wisdom. I would like to describe a few ways to acquire wisdom based on my understanding and revelations.

1;The Fear of the Lord

There was a discussion between Job and his three friends who visited him during his terrible ordeal. One day, Job said:

"There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore. Mortals put an end to the darkness; they search out the farthest recesses for ore in the blackest darkness. The earth, from which food comes, is transformed below as by fire; in fact, food is obtained from the earth. People assault the flinty rock with their hands and lay bare the roots of the mountains. They search the sources of the rivers and bring hidden things to light. But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell? Because all other things you can search for with diligence and intellect, but where can wisdom be found?"

Job said, "The deep says, 'It is not in me'; the sea says, 'It is not with me.' It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed out in silver. It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir, with precious onyx or lapis lazuli. Coral and jasper are not worthy of mention; the price of wisdom is beyond rubies. The topaz of Cush cannot compare with it; it cannot be bought with pure gold. Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds in the sky. Destruction and Death say, 'Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.'"

Finally, Job said:

"God understands the way to it and He alone knows where it dwells, for He views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When He established the force of the wind and measured out the waters, then He looked at wisdom and appraised it; He confirmed and tested it. And He said to the human race, 'The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.'" (Job 28:23-28, NIV)

The Bible says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10, NIV). When we talk about the fear of the Lord, we mean acting with the awareness that God sees us, doing things to please Him, and behaving like kingdom ambassadors. The fear of the Lord is the primary reason we obtain wisdom from God (divine wisdom).

The moment you begin acting according to God's principles and instructions is when you start attracting wisdom. This is what we call the knowledge of the Holy One, which occurs when you seek the necessary conditions for receiving the Holy Spirit because the Holy Spirit is the initiator of divine wisdom.

Those who fear the Lord are often wise, upright, and free from corruption. They know God's will and avoid sin, corruption, iniquity, fornication, adultery, cheating, lying, anger, conflict, and fighting.

Understanding the Fear of the Lord

To understand the meaning of "the fear of the Lord," consider the following scenarios and reflect on your possible reactions:

1. When you are alone in the house and notice money left by someone else on the table, what will you do?
2. Imagine you are in a relationship, and your boyfriend or girlfriend visits you at night and locks the door, indicating a desire to sleep with you, but you are not married. What will you do?
3. Imagine you are a university student taking an exam. During the exam, your neighbor offers to share answers hidden in their pocket. The exam is tough, and you see a slim chance of passing. What will you do?

4. When you are a manager, and people report that someone in your team must be terminated for committing an offense, what will you do?

Your reactions in such situations determine if you have the fear of the Lord. The fear of the Lord involves God-like character, mercy, forgiveness, humility, patience, calmness, endurance, giving second chances, and avoiding sin. The Bible says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, making you God-like on earth. The way you treat people reflects the level of your fear of God.

“The way you treat people reflects the level of your fear of God.”

You cannot have the fear of the Lord without knowing His Word and living according to it. When we talk about the fear of God, we mean acting according to the Scriptures. When you keep His Word, you truly know His will and follow it.

David said, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11, NIV). Without God's Word, it is possible to commit iniquity and sin. David kept God's Word in his heart to avoid sin. The fear of the Lord comes from His Word. By reading His Word, we obtain instructions, insights, promises, and principles. This is where divine wisdom begins.

The fear of the Lord is the easiest way to obtain divine wisdom, but many people fail to comprehend it due to disbelief and disobedience toward God's Word. As believers who come from heaven, we must admit the truth, live according to God's Word, and we shall obtain wisdom.

2: The Power of Meditation

Meditation involves the creation of mental images, deep thinking, and reasoning. It is one of the most effective methods for obtaining wisdom within the body of Christ and among believers. After the death of Moses, Joshua was given the mandate to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land, Canaan. Leading such a vast crowd was no easy task for Joshua.

To guide Joshua, God instructed him on how to obtain divine wisdom as their forefathers did. God told Joshua to meditate on the Scriptures and the book of the law written by Moses. He was instructed not to let it depart from his mouth so that he might gain light—knowledge,

understanding, and wisdom—and become aware of the principles and ways of God (divine wisdom).

Joshua 1:8 (NIV) states:

> "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Through meditation, we receive the light of God (divine wisdom) and various revelations. Wisdom comes when the Word of God transitions from being mere scripture (logos) to becoming Rhema, a form of light. Light signifies understanding, knowledge, and wisdom—emerging from darkness.

The Impact of Meditation on Biblical Figures

Meditation is a powerful means of obtaining divine wisdom (light) from God. Two notable figures who gained divine wisdom through meditation are King David and his son King Solomon.

1. King David:

Through meditation, King David received the revelation that God dwells in the secret place and the Most High place (Psalm 91:1). He also realized that God is merciful and never disappoints the righteous. David proclaimed, "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging for bread" (Psalm 37:25, NIV).

This profound statement emerged from deep meditation on God's faithfulness in people's lives, starting with his own experiences. David concluded that God is not a liar.

2. King Solomon:

Similarly, King Solomon, the son of David, meditated on everything done under the sun. He concluded that much of human labor is vanity (Ecclesiastes 1:2). Solomon observed that people labor intensely but often do not achieve success or, even when they do, they do not enjoy their lives or possessions.

Solomon also realized that every action, event, or plan—whether successful or not—occurs within specific times and seasons (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Through meditation, Solomon concluded

that there is nothing better for a person than to eat, drink, and find satisfaction in their labor. This realization, he noted, is from the hand of God (Ecclesiastes 2:24, NIV).

> "A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God."

This powerful statement reflects divine wisdom. Solomon recognized that the ability to enjoy life comes from God, not from human effort.

The Fruits of Meditation

The reason King David wrote the largest and longest book in the Bible (Psalms) is due to his meditation. Through meditation, he received many revelations and documented them for remembrance and our benefit. Similarly, King Solomon wrote three books in the Old Testament (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon) due to his meditative practice.

Apostle Paul also wrote many books in the New Testament—almost fifteen—due to his meditations, resulting in numerous revelations. Meditation fosters revelation, understanding, and divine wisdom.

Meditation is a powerful practice for obtaining divine wisdom. By reflecting deeply on God's Word and His ways, we can receive revelations and insights that guide us in our daily lives. The examples of King David, King Solomon, and Apostle Paul demonstrate the profound impact of meditation on gaining wisdom and understanding. As we meditate on Scripture and seek God's guidance, we, too, can experience the transformative power of divine wisdom.

03: The POWER OF ASSOCIATION

Association refers to being together with others, including sharing ideas, discussing, walking, negotiating, and moving together with a shared mentality or attitude. Association often leads to compatibility because, as the Bible says, two cannot walk together unless they agree (Amos 3:3). We can be defined by the friends we keep. Joel Nanauka famously stated, "Show me your five friends, and I will tell you who you really are." This highlights that a person is often an average of the five to ten people they spend the most time with.

King Solomon advised, "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm" (Proverbs 13:20, NIV). Association is powerful because a person's character is heavily

influenced by the company they keep. Associating with wise individuals attracts the spirit of wisdom, while associating with fools leads to foolishness.

Apostle Paul emphasized the impact of association in 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV):

> **"Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.'"**

It is risky to have friends who lack wisdom, as their mindset will eventually influence you, even if you do not share their views. Therefore, it is better to distance yourself from such company than to walk with fools. Love is essential, but association is a matter of choice. One has the freedom to choose who to associate with without despising or hating others.

3; The Role of Mentorship

Through association, a person can obtain mentorship. It is crucial to associate with wise mentors who can guide you toward success rather than with mediocre individuals who may lead you into darkness. Our generation faces the challenge of mob psychology, where young people lack self-determination and often find themselves in the company of fools. The Bible advises us to walk with the wise to become wise.

Real-Life Examples

1. **Professional Growth:** IN the workplace, associating with experienced and knowledgeable colleagues can significantly impact your career growth. For example, if you regularly interact with top performers and seek their guidance, you are more likely to adopt their successful habits and mindset, leading to professional success.
2. **Personal Development:** Surrounding yourself with positive, goal-oriented friends can influence your personal growth. Suppose you have friends who prioritize health and fitness. In that case, their habits can inspire you to adopt a healthier lifestyle, resulting in improved physical and mental well-being.
3. **Academic Achievement:** In an academic setting, students who associate with diligent and focused peers tend to perform better. For instance, joining study groups with dedicated students can enhance your understanding of subjects and motivate you to excel in your studies.

4. Financial Stability: Associating with financially savvy individuals can positively impact your financial habits. Learning from friends who are knowledgeable about saving, investing, and budgeting can help you make better financial decisions and achieve financial stability.

Association is a powerful force that shapes our character and influences our wisdom. By choosing to associate with wise and positive individuals, we can enhance our personal and professional lives. Mentorship and positive associations lead to growth and success, while negative associations can lead to detrimental outcomes. It is essential to choose your associations wisely to ensure that you are influenced positively and guided toward a fulfilling life.

04: The POWER OF IMPARTATION

Impartation is the act of laying hands upon someone or declaring something spiritually to release a specific anointing or grace. This method is often used by God to anoint individuals for a particular purpose. In the Old Testament, we see an example of this when Joshua took over the leadership role from Moses after being imparted with the spirit of wisdom.

Joshua 34:9 (NIV) states:

> "Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the Lord had commanded Moses."

Joshua received divine wisdom through impartation from Moses. However, God also commanded Joshua to meditate on the Scriptures to maintain and grow in this spirit of wisdom. Impartation provides a foundation, but meditation is crucial for sustaining and deepening one's connection with divine wisdom.

The Role of Meditation

Meditation is essential for utilizing the spirit of wisdom. Through meditation, individuals receive revelations and insights. Without meditation, a person cannot maintain intimacy with the spirit of wisdom, even if it was imparted to them. Meditation transports ideas from the spiritual realm into the house of wisdom.

New Testament Example: Apostle Paul

In the New Testament, Apostle Paul also imparted the spirit of wisdom to the Corinthians. This divine wisdom was different from secular wisdom.

1 Corinthians 2:6-7 (NIV) states:

> "We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began."

Paul emphasized that the wisdom imparted spiritually is divine wisdom, not human or secular wisdom. Divine wisdom can be imparted through teachings, preaching, and prayer. The more one engages with these activities, the more they are filled with the spirit of wisdom.

Biblical Examples of Impartation

1. Elisha and Elijah:

In 2 Kings 2:9-10 (NIV), Elisha asked Elijah for a double portion of his spirit before Elijah was taken up to heaven. Elijah replied that if Elisha saw him being taken, his request would be granted. Elisha received the double portion of Elijah's spirit, enabling him to perform many miracles and continue Elijah's prophetic ministry.

2. Timothy and Paul:

In 2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV), Paul reminded Timothy to fan into flame the gift of God, which was in him through the laying on of Paul's hands. This impartation helped Timothy grow in his ministry and fulfill his calling.

3. The Apostles and Believers:

In Acts 8:17 (NIV), Peter and John laid their hands on the believers in Samaria, and they received the Holy Spirit. This act of impartation empowered the new believers and strengthened the early church.

Impartation is a powerful way to receive the spirit of wisdom, but it must be accompanied by meditation and engagement with God's Word to maintain and deepen this wisdom. By following the examples set by Joshua, Elisha, Timothy, and the early believers, we can grow in divine wisdom and fulfill our God-given purposes.

5: Consecration and Private Prayer

One of the genuine methods to obtain wisdom is through consecration and private prayer.

Tarrying on the altar—spending dedicated time in prayer—can maintain and activate the spirit of wisdom. Divine wisdom is a spirit, and it takes spiritual practices to sustain the things of the spirit. Prayer can redeem and activate the spirit of wisdom within a person.

Apostle James emphasized the importance of prayer in obtaining wisdom:

> "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, without doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind." (James 1:5-6, NIV)

When praying, it is essential to have no doubts and to pray in the spirit. Genuine intimacy in prayer creates an atmosphere for the spirit of wisdom to dwell in a person. Prayer transforms fleshly characters into spiritual ones.

The Transformative Power of Prayer

The more you pray, the more you become humble, patient, and speechless before God. Prayer attracts the characteristics of wise individuals. King Solomon stated:

> "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10, NIV)

Meditation is indeed a method of obtaining the spirit of wisdom, but prayer is the catalyst that activates meditation and allows the spirit of wisdom to function correctly within a person.

Genuine prayer, especially private prayer, activates the spirit of wisdom.

The spirit of wisdom is a dimension of the Holy Spirit, which is the Spirit of God. Therefore, one cannot relate to the Holy Spirit without engaging in prayer. Praying in the spirit is a fundamental activity in the Kingdom of God. You cannot avoid prayer and expect to receive divine wisdom.

Biblical Examples of Consecration and Prayer

1. King Solomon:

King Solomon's first type of wisdom was divine wisdom, which he obtained through private prayer. After receiving divine wisdom, he studied books, listened to different information, and conducted research to understand the world. However, prayer was his initial step.

1 Kings 3:1-15 (NIV) describes how Solomon prayed for wisdom, and God granted his request, giving him unparalleled wisdom.

2. Daniel:

Daniel prayed three times a day, making prayer his lifestyle. Despite living in a foreign land with many challenges, Daniel's commitment to prayer led to divine wisdom and favor.

Daniel 6:10 (NIV) states:

> "Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before."

3. Jesus:

Jesus often isolated Himself from others to pray on the mountains regularly. His private prayers strengthened Him and provided divine wisdom for His ministry.

Luke 5:16 (NIV) says:

> "But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

4. Apostle Paul:

Apostle Paul was devoted to prayer and speaking in tongues. He acknowledged the importance of praying in the spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:18-19 (NIV) states:

> "I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church, I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue."

Consecration and private prayer are essential for obtaining and maintaining divine wisdom.

Through prayer, we activate the Holy Spirit within us, who in turn generates the spirit of wisdom. The examples of King Solomon, Daniel, Jesus, and Apostle Paul highlight the

transformative power of prayer in acquiring divine wisdom. As believers, we must prioritize prayer to ensure the continuous flow of divine wisdom in our lives.

05: LIFE EXPERIENCES (Pains, Difficulties, Trials, and Temptations)

This is one of the hardest methods of obtaining wisdom, and no person chooses it willingly. Instead, God Himself (through the Holy Spirit) uses it to train us in the course of wisdom. It is an uncomfortable method, yet it produces extraordinary results. No one chooses pain or difficulties, but we often find ourselves in seasons of hardship without realizing that we are receiving training from the "University of God" (The University of the Holy Spirit).

Many people believe that every pain, difficulty, or temptation comes from Satan, but there are times when God allows these challenges to teach us wisdom. Some people who were not mentored, taught, rebuked, or punished for their mistakes during childhood often lack wisdom as adults. The reason is simple: they were not corrected and stopped from their ignorance.

King Solomon said:

> "Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish them with the rod, they will not die. Punish them with the rod and save them from death." (Proverbs 23:13-14, NIV)

If you fail to discipline your child during their formative years, they may grow up to be stubborn and foolish, causing problems for you, your family, and society. God, as our Heavenly Father, disciplines us to help us understand wisdom. Many people who were not disciplined when they made mistakes continue to make the same errors, often causing violence and conflict because they lack self-discipline.

The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

-- Proverbs 29:15

KJV Holy Bible

God's Purpose in Allowing Trials

God understands us well and sees our bright future. When we lack wisdom and are not interested in learning it, He allows us to go through difficulties and pain. Just as He allowed Satan to afflict Job (Job 1:1-10), He uses these experiences to perfect us and teach us wisdom.

King Solomon said:

> "When a mocker is punished, the simple gain wisdom; by paying attention to the wise they get knowledge." (Proverbs 21:11, NIV)

Punishment, though painful, is a good teacher because it brings understanding and wisdom. In schools, students are often disciplined for failing exams, arriving late, or misbehaving. The purpose is to instill discipline, which is the key to wisdom. Similarly, God disciplines us, just as a parent disciplines their child, to train us to behave wisely. God trains us for our benefit, saying:

> "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." (Isaiah 48:17, NIV)

The Value of Discipline

There are times when we face challenges due to a lack of wisdom. God allows us to experience trials and temptations to learn from them. The Bible advises:

> "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline and do not resent His rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, as a father the son he delights in. Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding." (Proverbs 3:11-13, NIV)

God's discipline may seem unpleasant at the moment, but it produces righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Hebrews 12:11 (NIV) states:

> "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."

Real-Life Example

I remember when I started my university studies, I lacked discipline in financial matters, time management, and spiritual growth. God allowed me to go through difficulties by withholding all sources of pocket money, forcing me to live with minimal resources. My studies became challenging because I didn't know how to allocate time for personal study.

Through this process, God taught me financial discipline. I learned to save money, budget, and prioritize my spending. I also learned to manage my time effectively, setting routines for personal study, worship, and spiritual growth. After graduating from this "school of hard knocks," God opened doors for me because I had learned how to manage my resources wisely.

Biblical Examples

1. Job:

Job's story is a profound example of how God uses trials to impart wisdom. Despite facing immense suffering and loss, Job remained faithful to God. In the end, God restored his fortunes and blessed him abundantly (Job 42:10-17).

2. Joseph:

Joseph faced betrayal by his brothers, slavery, and false imprisonment. Yet, these trials prepared him for a position of great authority in Egypt, where he saved many lives during a famine (Genesis 37-50).

3. King David:

David endured years of hardship while fleeing from King Saul. These experiences molded him into a wise and compassionate leader, ultimately becoming Israel's greatest king (1 Samuel 16-31).

4. Apostle Paul:

Paul faced numerous trials, including imprisonment, beatings, and shipwrecks. These hardships strengthened his faith and resolve, enabling him to spread the gospel effectively (2 Corinthians 11:23-28).

5. Jesus Christ:

Jesus, our Savior, endured immense suffering and temptation. His journey was not only about success but also about enduring the cross. Through His pain, He brought salvation to humanity (Hebrews 4:15, Philippians 2:8).

Wisdom is often obtained through pain, difficulties, trials, and temptations. These experiences refine us, instill discipline, and teach us valuable lessons. While no one likes to suffer, these challenging seasons produce extraordinary wisdom and strength. By embracing God's discipline, we can grow in wisdom and become more like Christ.

06: LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION

We obtain knowledge through learning; nobody is born with knowledge. In the book of Hosea, God laments that people are being destroyed due to a lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). His desire is for us to acquire knowledge and wisdom. For this reason, He says, "I will give you pastors who will feed you with knowledge and understanding" (Jeremiah 3:15, NIV).

Knowledge is acquired, and wisdom is obtained through the enlightenment that comes with knowledge. The spirit of wisdom dwells in an enlightened mind—one that possesses understanding, information, and knowledge. In the book of Proverbs, wisdom is personified, indicating that whoever seeks wisdom diligently will find it and be shown the ways to true riches and honor.

Proverbs 8:17-19 (NIV) says:

> "I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me. With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity. My fruit is better than fine gold; what I yield surpasses choice silver."

The Love for Wisdom

The simplest way to capture the spirit of wisdom is to love wisdom and hate foolishness and arrogance. It is impossible to seek something you do not like or pay for something you do not want. The spirit of wisdom is available for those who love and seek it diligently.

We obtain understanding through learning. What you do not know cannot come automatically into your mind. The spirit of wisdom thrives on knowledge and understanding. Without knowledge, you risk losing the spirit of wisdom, as it requires nourishment to thrive.

The Importance of Acquiring Knowledge

King Solomon was a man who acquired a vast amount of information. Through information comes awareness and understanding. When there is understanding, there is knowledge, and where there is knowledge, wisdom can dwell. Solomon advised that we should "buy the truth and sell it not"—in other words, acquire knowledge and not let it go.

Proverbs 23:22-23 (NIV) states:

> "Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Buy the truth and do not sell it—wisdom, instruction and insight as well."

Parents are often the first initiators of understanding through their care and guidance. They teach the truth and the realities of life, so it is important to value and retain their teachings.

Confidence and Competence

You cannot be confident without evidence (information), and your confidence depends on your competence (experience and knowledge). People fear the future due to a lack of competence and experience. Your relevance in life stems from the quantity of knowledge you have. Learning wisdom is for your benefit to excel in life.

We learn from other people, books, videos, and various resources. Our modern world provides easy access to learning materials. Many people watch videos on YouTube but few read books. However, many valuable insights are hidden in books. Reading books is a powerful method for acquiring wisdom.

Personal Experience

In my journey of seeking knowledge and wisdom, I began by reading the Bible, although I did not fully understand it until I incorporated prayer. Through prayer and fasting, I gained some understanding. I then meditated on the Scriptures, which helped me gain wisdom.

When I started university, I began watching videos on YouTube and downloading them from the library to watch during my free time. I learned a lot from mentors like Apostle Joshua Suleiman, Dr. Myles Munroe, Pastor Benny Hinn, Pastor Fred Msungu, Pastor Tony Kapola, and Pastor Joel Nanauka. Their teachings enriched my understanding.

After two years, God urged me to read books. Initially, I had no interest in reading, but I disciplined myself to read at least two pages a day. I started with "The Spirit of Leadership" by Dr. Myles Munroe. The book was so engaging that I ended up reading twenty pages and discovered my potential and purpose on earth. This experience illuminated the truth of Hebrews 10:7 (NIV):

> "Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, my God.'"

The Importance of Reading Books

There are things you cannot know unless you read books. Some knowledge is only found in books, not in the Bible, videos, prayer, or meditation. Reading books requires self-discipline and an understanding of the advantages of reading.

Reading books is like reading Bible verses or lecture notes. It is about prioritizing and understanding the benefits of reading. With God, all things are possible, and it is a matter of mindset.

In life, certain knowledge can only be found in books. While there are other methods to obtain wisdom, reading books remains a powerful and effective way. By acquiring knowledge through various means—learning from others, reading books, watching educational videos, and engaging in prayer and meditation—we can grow in wisdom and understanding. This balanced approach ensures a continuous flow of divine wisdom in our lives.

Five Key Reasons to Read Books

1. Secrets of Great Men and Women:

In books, the secrets of great men and women of God in various fields such as business, marriage, relationships, ministry, industry, and education are revealed. These individuals write books to share their journeys and how they achieved their success, providing valuable insights for others.

2. Hidden Knowledge and Wisdom:

Books contain the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of great men and women in the world. They outline the processes and steps necessary to achieve desired goals. There is nothing new under the sun; whatever you want to do, someone has pioneered it. By reading books, you understand the laws of process and the rules of engagement necessary to reach your goals.

3. Expansions of the Bible:

Books are expansions of biblical principles and are written based on revelations and experiences. God reveals different insights to different people, and these individuals share their revelations through writing. It is often impractical to verbally share knowledge with everyone, so books serve as a means to reach a wider audience.

4. Transformation of Mindsets:

Reading books can transform mindsets. Many of us are shaped by past experiences, culture, and local traditions, which can act as barriers to progress. Books help renew the mind and adopt valuable belief systems. Dr. Myles Munroe said, "Nothing changes until your mind changes." Books can elevate your mindset from a local champion mentality to a superior mentality capable of overcoming challenges.

5. Becoming a Good Author and Teacher:

You cannot be a good author if you are not a good reader. A good teacher must have been a good student. The best lecturers are those who were excellent students. We were not born with knowledge; we acquire it. This is why some people can speak confidently and knowledgeably for hours, while others struggle with content and repeat themselves due to a lack of knowledge.

The Importance of Reading

Reading is a powerful method of obtaining wisdom, but it is often overlooked. While many people watch videos, read the Bible, and pray, few prioritize reading books. It is beneficial to practice a few methods of obtaining wisdom, but it is best to engage in all methods, including:

- Fear of the Lord: Living according to the Word of God.
- Meditation: Reflecting deeply on the Scriptures.
- Association: Surrounding yourself with wise individuals.
- Impartation: Receiving wisdom through spiritual means.

life experiences: trials, difficulties, temptations and hardship, though nobody likes it but God always choose it to teach us wisdom

- Knowledge Acquisition: Learning through videos, books, pamphlets, and other resources.

The Value of Wisdom

Wisdom is a lubricant that reduces friction in life. It is more powerful than weapons of war and is the key to success and influence in the world. Today's world requires wise people. Without knowledge and wisdom, one is destined to struggle in life. King Solomon encourages us to seek wisdom and acquire knowledge:

Proverbs 9:4-5 (NIV):

> "Let all who are simple come to my house!" To those who have no sense she says, "Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed."

We must discipline ourselves in learning. The world we live in values knowledge, wisdom, intelligence, excellence, and skills. If you are not a partaker of these attributes, you will struggle to make an impact in life. Whether you are a preacher, mentor, counselor, evangelist, businessman, or businesswoman, people will not listen to nonsense. They value their time and seek meaningful and knowledgeable discourse.

Encouragement to Read Book

Reading books is essential for growth and development. It allows us to gain wisdom and understanding. The Bible says a wise person is always seeking knowledge:

Proverbs 18:15 (NIV):

> "The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out."

If you have been blessed by this book, invite your friends to be blessed too. Join in proclaiming kingdom principles and sharing the value of acquiring knowledge and wisdom.