
Wise and Understanding Living

Job 28 | Ephesians 2:4-10 | Galatians 5:22-25 | 2 Peter 1:3-11

Central idea: Wisdom begins with reverence for God and shapes how we trust Christ, grow, and respond to hardship.

I. Job's hardship raises the question of wisdom

- Job loses his possessions, children, and health.
- His friends claim his suffering must be punishment for sin, although God calls Job upright and blameless.
- Job responds to loss with worship: "Blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21).

II. Where can wisdom be found? — Job 28

- **People find hidden treasure** (vv. 1-11): silver, gold, iron, and precious stones.
- **Wisdom is different** (vv. 12-22): it cannot be mined, bought, or measured against riches. Job's friends show the limits of human explanations.
- **God knows its source** (vv. 23-28): "The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding."

III. Wise living begins with God's grace — Ephesians 2:4-10

- God makes us alive with Christ and saves us by grace through faith.
- Salvation is a gift, not something we earn or a reason to boast.
- Because of that gift, we are created in Christ for good works.

IV. Wise living grows visible fruit — Galatians 5:22-25

- The Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- These qualities show the gospel taking root in daily life and in our treatment of others.

V. Wise living requires continued growth — 2 Peter 1:3-11

- God has given us what we need for life and godliness.
- Build on faith with virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love.
- These qualities must keep increasing; practicing them keeps believers fruitful and steadfast.

Conclusion and invitation

- Like Job, we can face hardship by trusting God's wisdom. In Christ, we receive grace and keep growing toward his character.
- The invitation calls listeners to obey the gospel through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism, or to ask the church for prayer.