

THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

- I. In Eph. 3:10 of the N. T., the apostle Paul speaks of “ the manifold wisdom of God.”
 - A. God’s wisdom is but ONE of the many divine attributes of the God of heaven.
 1. His wisdom is associated with His “grace” in this passage, as well as His “purpose,” and is often associated with His “power” and might.
 2. ALL of His attributes work together in harmony to bring praise to Himself, and good unto mankind,. Psalms 111:1-10
 - B. As we explore the “wisdom” of God, we can but touch the hem of the garment, from our finite minds and earthly environment.
- II. Now let’s look at the “manifold”ways we can see the wisdom of God at work.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, the WISDOM OF GOD IN CREATION.

- A. Nothing material existed “in the beginning” of the creation of all things. Gen.1:1-2
 1. ALL God had to do to end the state of “darkness” was to speak the words, “Let there be light,” and His wisdom began to be manifested.
 2. ALL the acts of creation involve WORDS, which was the WAY His wisdom was manifested.
- B. God’s wisdom put the sun, moon and stars in the sky to give light on the earth, and to regulate the seasons on the earth, and bring perfect harmony among the millions of stars in outer space. Gen.1:14-19
 1. None can number the stars of the sky, and with all the telescopes into outer space, we see that there are numberless stars in the heaven.
 2. The stars not only beautify the sky, but remind us of God’s greatness. Psa. 147:4
 - a. God’s wisdom is involved the gravity on earth, to allow man to live ON the earth, without being too close to the sun.
 - b. The closest star to earth is in the Alpha Centauri, and is over 4 light years away, which means that it takes over 4 years from the light of this star to reach the earth, traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per second.
 - c. Stars may appear to the human eye as being only a few feet from each other, but in reality, they are millions of miles away from each other.
 - d. Stars are gathered together in clusters which we call “Galaxies” (the stars WE see are in the Milky Way Galaxy), but there are an estimated 2 million more galaxies, with billions of stars in each galaxy.

II. 2nd, the WISDOM OF GOD IS SEEN IN HUMAN LIFE.

- A. Animal life, based on *instinct* and *animal nature*, a manifest action of God’s wisdom.
 1. Then, the crowning achievement of “human life” followed, with God making MAN .
 2. Animals are for the benefit of man, such as food and service.
 3. When Job of the O.T. questioned God, he was reminded of wild mountain goats, wild donkeys, the wild ox, the ostrich, the horse and the fowls, as examples of something God put within them.
- B. The highest order of life on earth is human life, formed in the image of God.
 1. Man has a limited amount of wisdom that the Mighty God allows him to have.

2. Even the continuation of human life is a result of God's wisdom.
 - a. God has created man with a built-in sexual desire, to allow him to reproduce offspring.
 - b. Even the small sperm (or seed of life) from the **male**, along with that which comes from the **female**, is smaller than the head of a straight pin, but can unite the physical features of the parents in the child that is conceived and born.

III. 3Rd, the WISDOM OF GOD IN SALVATION FROM SIN.

- A. God knew that man would someday depart from His will, and need salvation.
 1. He revealed his "purpose" to Satan **shortly after** he misguided the "woman," that it would be through a "woman" who would give birth TO that Savior. Gen. 3:15
 2. He then established the union of man and woman in marriage, as a picture of Christ and the church, WHERE His "wisdom" would be manifested in the existence of the CHURCH. (Summarize from Eph. 3:1-11; 5:31-32)
 3. This Savior, as head of the church, was the fulfilling of the promise made to Satan. Gen. 3:15; Gal. 4:4

- B. God's ultimate result of His wisdom is to bring many sons to eternal glory forever and ever. Heb., 2:6-10

CONCLUSION

I. RIGHTFUL HEIRS. I. In the reading of one's will, the usual rightful heirs to a wealthy man's inheritance are his biological children. At the reading, if one man shows up claiming to be an heir, he would need to produce proof of sonship. At the judgment day when the inheritance is bestowed on God's children, one person may well claim the inheritance because his Pastor told him he became one by "faith only." He might use John 1:12 to establish his relationship, which reads, *"But as many as received him, to them he gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."* Note that it does not say one who believes on his name IS a son of God, but those who believe on him have the power or right TO BECOME A SON OF GOD. Another person says that he is an heir of eternal life because he was told by Franklin Graham that if he said the sinner's prayer, he was saved. However, nowhere in the scripture does it say one can become a son of God by saying, "Lord, I am a sinner and cannot save myself, and I ask Jesus to come into my heart and save me. In the name of Jesus, Amen."

II. However, we ARE told how to become a son of God, by our faith, repentance being climaxed in baptism or immersion in water. Cf Gal. 3:26-29

Don Tarbet