

Monday, September 14, 2020
Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...

**"At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night,
and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.'
(And Solomon said) Give your servant therefore an understanding mind
to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil,
for who is able to govern this your great people?"**
1 Kings 3: 5, 9

What would you ask for if God made you the same offer that He made to Solomon? Would you ask for health? Would you ask for wealth? What about an end to this pandemic? World peace? Happy children and grandchildren? Solomon could have asked for anything he wanted to. In fact, it had crossed God's mind that Solomon might ask for: "riches and honor"!

So, did Solomon blow it? He gave God a pretty "religious" answer by asking for wisdom (a discerning mind). Did he give God the answer he thought God was looking for? It was as though God was his "genie" on that night. God had said, "Tell me your wish. Your wish is my command." Or something like that.

So, Solomon asked for wisdom. If you ask me, Solomon was already wise in that he would ask God for wisdom compared to anything else he could have asked for. But God gave him even more wisdom. In fact, God made him the wisest man to ever live, aside from Jesus.

So, why was wisdom the best thing Solomon could have asked for, and why is it still the best thing you or I could ask God for? Well, it's because wisdom lasts. Material things have their limits. Wisdom gets you through everything else. You can be healthy and wealthy, but if you're not wise, your health and your wealth may be squandered. The pandemic may go away, but if you and I are not wise, we will quickly slip back into our worldly thinking when the threat has gone away.

God has promised in His Word to give wisdom to anyone who asks Him for it. God also gives us wisdom when we study His Word. Wisdom outlasts anything material. Wisdom helps us to weather the storms of life. Wisdom gives us peace because we learn to have a mind like God's.

If you want to grow in your wisdom, just read the Book of Proverbs. It's packed full of wisdom from God. The Book of Proverbs says this:

**"Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding,
for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.
She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her."**
Proverbs 3: 13-14

God's Peace!
Pastor Jim