

Wise or Foolish (Your Choice)

How do you want to be remembered in life, as wise, or foolish? Wisdom or foolishness, which of the two do we possess.

The option of being wise or foolish is in the grasp of man. Not because of some innate ability, but because of choices. The apostle Paul said, "Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:15-17). There are several Hebrew and Greek terms, or words that are translated wisdom in the English language. Under the various terms, wisdom is defined as, "the insight into the true nature of things; the ability to discern modes of action with a view to their results; while (some) are theoretical, (others) practical" (Lightfoot). In some cases, the terms are translated as "prudence," i.e., "denotes practical wisdom, prudence in the management of affairs."

As Jesus advanced in wisdom, we also have that option. Which one will you choose: the wise or the foolish? If it is wisdom that you seek, consider the words of Solomon, of whom Jehovah said, "I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there hath been none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee" (1 Kings 3:12). For Solomon says, "Wisdom crieth aloud in the street; She uttereth her voice in the broad places; She crieth in the chief place of concourse; At the entrance of the gates, In the city, she uttereth her words: How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? And scoffers delight them in scoffing, And fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: Behold, I will pour out my spirit upon you; I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man hath regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, And would none of my reproof: I also will laugh in [the day of] your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as a storm, And your calamity cometh on as a whirlwind; When distress and anguish come upon you. Then will they call upon me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, And did not choose the fear of Jehovah: They would none of my counsel; They despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, And be filled with their own devices. For the backsliding of the simple shall slay them, And the careless ease of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell securely, And shall be quiet without fear of evil" (Prov. 1:20-33). What will you choose? Joshua said, "choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Joshua 24:15). Wise choice. ret