

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**October 23-24, 1999**

**"Where to Get Wisdom"**

**Dale Whitehead**

**James 3:13-18**

The characteristic of false wisdom (James 3:15).

The first characteristic of false wisdom is that it is earthly. It is earthly because it is limited to the present material world of time and space. It is a closed system. By definition it has no place for God or the things of God. It has no place for spiritual truth or illumination.

The second characteristic of false wisdom is that it is "natural" (PSUCHIKE). It comes from a Greek word (PSUCHE) which means "pertaining to the life of the soul."

The term does not refer to the gross lusts of the flesh but rather denotes that which is essentially human, life apart from God as contrasted to life imparted by God, devoid of the Spirit of God, hence "unspiritual."

The third characteristic of false wisdom is that it is demonic.

The word "demonic" (daimoniodes) literally means "demonical" and stamps false wisdom as demonic in character.

The reason the person who possesses false wisdom can be cut off from God and the wisdom from above and be oblivious to it all is because false wisdom has its roots in the kingdom of darkness (2 Corinthians 4:1-4).

We should never think that if someone comes to Christ and embraces the gospel that it was our work. We are not strong enough to overcome the demonic forces behind false wisdom. It is fully the work of God (2 Corinthians 4:5-6).

The great demonic delusion that will fall on the remaining, unbelieving world at the time of the tribulation will not be anything new but will rather be the full unleashing of the demonic delusion that has gripped unredeemed men since the fall (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12).