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# The House on the Rock

Lesson 19: Christ, Our Wisdom for Living

[http://www.clearcreekchapel.org/Ministries/Education\\_ABE.htm](http://www.clearcreekchapel.org/Ministries/Education_ABE.htm)

## Decisions! Decisions! Decisions!

We cannot escape decision-making.

We are concerned about the results of our decisions.

Our desire is to make the right decisions.

## Indecision!

The “if-only” disease is a crippling malady.

The “if-only” disease destroys our confidence in future decisions.

Indecision is an aspect of our sinfulness because it expresses a problem in:

Our knowledge and understanding of the world.

Our whole relationship to the world and God.

## Two ways to live

Jesus’ very presence demanded a decision.

Christ’s summons was to faith and obedience.

Our response to Christ’s summons has results for eternity.

Those who take notice of what Jesus says build their lives on a firm foundation.



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Those who do not heed what Jesus says have chosen a foundation of shifting sand for their lives.

## **Life or Destruction**

Jesus' words demand decision and no one can remain neutral to them.

Life's decisions can be made in a way that leads to life or destruction.

No decision is a "No!" decision.

The decision we make about Jesus Christ will affect every other decision that we will subsequently make.

## **Difficulty in Decision-making**

Some decisions are easy in theory because there is clear scriptural teaching about them.

Many decisions have no obvious relationship to moral principles derived from the Bible.

Many decisions are not clearly connected with questions of godliness or righteousness.

## **Confusion about decision-making**

What the Bible says:

Wisdom involves the ability to make the right decision.

If we lack wisdom, we should ask God in faith and wisdom will be given to us.

Popular notions about what the Bible says:



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God hands down to believers clear-cut solutions to all of their problems.

Decisions are made on the basis of vague and subjective feelings about the Lord's will.

### **Biblical wisdom and guidance**

God gave us minds and he expects us to use them in wisdom.

The renewal of the mind is linked with the transformed life (Romans 12:2).

Conversion includes conversion of the mind.

Repentance literally means a change of mind.

The fruit of the gospel in our lives includes the conforming of our minds more and more to the mind of Christ.

### **A sanctified mind**

To think Christianly with a sanctified mind is to think of reality in terms of the truth revealed in Christ.

A sinful mindset is one which views reality apart from what God has revealed in Christ.

The Christian mindset comes about through the gospel.

Christian wisdom is a conforming of the mind to the gospel.

Growing as a Christian means learning to apply the fact of the gospel to every aspect of our thinking and doing.



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## **Jesus Christ as Wisdom**

Jesus Christ is God's wisdom and reveals God's wisdom to us.

The wisdom which centers on the gospel is related to the wisdom which captivated the authors of the Old Testament wisdom books.

Wisdom belongs to all who believe the gospel.

## **Understanding Wisdom in the Bible**

We must apply our knowledge of Christ as fulfiller in order to understand the real significance of the Old Testament.

Since Jesus Christ is the fulfiller of the Old Testament, he alone can bring us to an understanding of the full meaning of the Old Testament wisdom books.

Because we become Christians through Christ, we must begin our understanding of wisdom with Christ.

## **Jesus, the source of all wisdom**

Jesus spoke with an authority that Israel's sage and scribe never had.

Jesus spoke as the source of all true wisdom.

The person and work of Jesus provide us with the only reliable basis for understanding ourselves, our experience, and the world.

The foundation rock of the house of life is the word of Christ.