## I Believe in God who is Wise

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: The thought of <u>examining an all-wise God may not seem as exciting as studying a God of majesty or a God of justice</u>, but it is just as important and beautiful. I hope you will see this today under 3 headings.

The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Explained
The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Illustrated
The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Applied

Our goals are: That you will be thankful that God is all-wise (全智, 无所不知), that you will get God's wisdom, and that you will share God's wisdom to a world that is groping around (摸索着) in blind ignorance (盲目的无知).

#### Article 1: The Only God

We all believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that there is a single and simple spiritual being, whom we call God—eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty; **completely wise**, just, and good, and the overflowing source of all good.

我们心中相信,并用口宣告:只有一位单纯的、属灵的存 有,我们称之为上帝;衪永远存在,无法测透,眼不能见, 永不改变,无限,全能,全智,公义,良善,是众善满溢的源头。 (王志勇牧师译)

## The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Explained

#### 1. God is wise; he has perfect wisdom.

Romans 11:33 Oh, the <u>depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!</u> How unsearchable (无法探寻的) are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

<u>Daniel 2:20</u> Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, <u>For wisdom and might are His.</u>

God is always wise. God is totally wise. God is wise in his character. God is wise in his actions.

#### 2. What do we mean by "wisdom?"

Wisdom refers to **knowing and using the best means to get to the best goals.** So when we say God is wise, we mean **he knows and uses the best means to achieve the best goals – which** is to gain glory for himself.

Just from this then, you can see **that wisdom is a practical virtue**. It is not some theoretical (理论的, 空谈的) esoteric (深**奥**的) thing.

#### 3. God's wisdom is linked to his power.

So when Ahithophel gave Absalom advice which he did not follow, it was because God did not want the rebel Absalom to follow Ahitophel's advice. God had the power to achieve his good goal.

<u>2Samuel 17:14</u> So Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The advice of Hushai the Archite is better than the advice of Ahithophel." <u>For the LORD had purposed to defeat the good advice of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring disaster on Absalom.</u>

Look again at the wisdom of God that is unstoppable. Job recognized that God had the power to do what was wise and right!

Job 9:4 God is wise in heart and mighty强大 in strength. Who has hardened himself against Him and prospered?

## The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Illustrated

1. Look at God's wisdom in his orderly (有秩序的) creation, for this will surely cause men to glorify God.

Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament (穹苍)shows His handiwork(手

段). 2 <u>Day unto day utters speech</u>, And <u>night unto night reveals knowledge</u>. 3 <u>There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard</u>. 4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a <u>tabernacle(帐幕)for the sun</u>, 5 Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, And rejoices like a strong man to run its race. 6 Its rising is from one end of heaven, And its circuit(巡回)to the other end; **And there is nothing hidden from its heat.** 

Only the spiritually (灵性的) dumb (麻木), blind, deaf, and those with no feeling would refuse to glorify God for his wisdom in creation! Look how rain comes...thousands of miles from the ocean! Go in a really dark place and look at the stars. Think how beautiful the seasons are. God's goal was to sustain life on earth and make it beautiful. He used the sun, moon, and stars to do so! Now consider how many times computer software needs to be updated! Not God's word!

#### 2. Look at God's wisdom in how he used greater things to provide for smaller things!

#### God controls the greater things (sun, moon, stars) to make sure the smaller things (grass and water) are provided.

<u>Psalm 104:19</u> He appointed <u>the moon for seasons</u>; The <u>sun knows its going down</u>.

God's goal was to sustain the earth so human life can be maintained (and you could then glorify him)!

Psalm 104:10 He sends the springs into the valleys, They flow among the hills. 11 They give drink to every beast of the field; The wild donkeys quench their thirst. 12 By them the birds of the heavens have their home; They sing among the branches. 13 He waters the hills from His upper chambers; The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works. 14 He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation (菜蔬) for the service of man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, 15 And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart. 16 The trees of the LORD are full of sap (汁液), The cedars (香柏) of Lebanon which He planted, 17 Where the birds make their nests; The stork (鹳) has her home in the fir trees. 18 The high hills are for the wild goats; The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers (獾).

With these greater things, God generously provides water and grass for the wild animals, even the birds, which then sing. God gives men such beautiful lumber. Man has an abundance of food. God generously provides even for animals of prey!

Psalm 104:20 You make darkness, and it is night, In which all the beasts of the forest creep about. 21 The young lions roar after their prey, And seek their food from God. 22 When the sun rises, they gather together And lie down in their dens.

And very importantly, God requires that man works. When man works he feels fulfilled.

Psalm 104:23 Man goes out to his work And to his labor until the evening.

#### 3. God's wisdom is displayed man's salvation.

Salvation is a particularly beautiful example of God's wisdom! Look how God raised lowly persons and imparted传给,给予 them with the "unsearchable riches" of Christ – <u>in order to bring glory to his name</u>. Look at the wonder of the Gospel.

Ephesians 3:8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; 10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities 主治的 and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Many tried to destroy this line of promise, but God worked around all the attempts – from Pharaoh, to the Assyrians, to the Babylonians, to Herod, but none could stop him. (Remember how people used to be bled in order to cure their sickness? Look how often man has to change the way he does medical things?) The ultimate goal (eternal purpose) of salvation is the glory of God and God wondrously moved man toward that goal.

## The Doctrine of God's Wisdom Applied

#### 1. You must worship God for his wisdom!

You can see God's wisdom in your salvation. You can see how God met all the conditions of his character, like his justice, so you could be saved. You can see God's wisdom in his justice on the wicked.

1John 4:9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation挽回祭for our sins.

Romans 16:27 to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

No one in his right spiritual mind would look at salvation and creation and not glorify God. **You can see his wisdom in his creation**. Though creation has fallen into sin, you can still see the beauty and benefits to you. You are not the cause of the crops (庄稼) growing! God is. He gave the seed and the growth. And thank God the seasons do not change.

# 2. But you cannot properly understand God's wisdom (and therefore worship him) until you accept that the world exists for the glory of God!

God's goal is his glory! (Yes, everything happens for your good, but always for God's glory (Romans 8:28).) So if people get sick, starve, or die, don't get angry with God. It is man's fault man has troubles,

but more, all these things ultimately happen for the glory of God. So accept God's glory as the ultimate purpose in life. This is what the Word of God says.

3. Then apply God's wisdom-his means and goals-to all areas of your life, so you can bring glory to him!

Let God's Word guide in what you believe and how you must live.

Let God's Word guide in how you family is organized and propagated (繁衍, 生育).

Let God's Word guide in how the church is run and in what she teaches.

Let God's Word guide in how you do business – the type of business you run...and how you run it.

Let God's Word guide in **how the nation is established and ordered**.

### 4. If you don't use God's wisdom, nothing good happens...rather...

You will become a law unto yourself. And since you lack wisdom...and power...you will sentence yourself to your own destruction. You will take short-cuts (捷径) to your goals, like Abraham who did not use God's wisdom (knowledge to achieve the perfect goals using the best means) on multiple occasions. Twice he exposed his wife to wicked men and he endangered 2 women by abandoning the marriage bed and fathering a child out of wedlock. Isaac then tried to short-circuit 短路,使失败God's plan by trying to bless Esau instead of Jacob. Jacob, carrying on a family tradition, tried to short-circuit God's order by deceiving his father.

Your family will become an economic transaction that you toss aside when there is no personal profit to you and order will disappear from society. Children will be raised to be unaccountable (不负责任的). Your church will tell people what they want to hear to keep the shell of the church, but true substance will be lacking.

<u>Your business will focus only on making profits, not on your employees</u>, or you will wait for the government to rob people so you can get a bailout.

Your government that rejects God's wisdom (and hence, his glory) is bound for the scrap heap (垃圾堆) of history. They will tell people, like even Australia is doing now, they can be 1 of 33 genders (性别). They will tell you happiness comes from being free to do what you desire. They are workers of the devil!

Psalm 33:10 The LORD brings the counsel (筹算) of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. 11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.

## **Conclusion:**

God is all-wise. He <u>knows and uses the best means to get to the best goals (his glory.</u> You must learn from him. When men depart from God's wisdom, troubles become their friend. But when men learn, love, embrace, and use God's wisdom, good results come to them...and most of all, glory goes to God.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

- 1. You must start with the fact that the world doesn't ultimately exists for you, but it primarily exists for the glory of God.
- **2.** You are therefore to live your life for the glory of God. What is exciting is that when you live your life for the glory of God you are then fulfilled in the greatest possible way. You will have unending joy. This was what Abraham had to come to terms with! And he did. And God blessed him so that he had children all over the world! And what glory had come to God through Abraham!
- 3. You will only acquiesce (默认) to God's wisdom and live with a single-eye focus on his will when God opens your eyes to your sin and saves you for his service. You whole purpose in life will then change.

Finally: If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, ask him to help you to be wise by showing you your sins and moving you to confessing them and trusting in Jesus Christ. Then you can live for the glory of God.