

# The King is Coming

## The Word of Wisdom (O Wisdom)

### Key idea:

Jesus is anointed with the Spirit of wisdom to govern and order everything rightly, and as God's Word of Wisdom He justifies and sanctifies us so that we may walk in the wisdom of holiness.

### Key text:

Isaiah 11:1–5

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord —

<sup>3</sup>and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

### Key points:

1. Isaiah prophesied that a King would come from Jesse/David Who would be anointed with the Spirit to lead, deliver, and save God's people.
2. The King would be anointed with the Spirit of wisdom so that He would not judge by mere external appearances but see through to the heart to know the truth.
3. The Wise King establishes and rules in righteousness - when all things are in accord with God's pattern and design in creation.
4. Jesus is God's Word of Wisdom, the Creator and Sustainer of everything that exists.
5. Jesus is Wisdom for our justification and sanctification, giving us righteousness, holiness, and redemption, and anointing us with the Spirit so that we can walk in the path of wisdom, which is holiness.

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
2. Isaiah 11:2 says that Jesus is anointed with the Spirit of wisdom, but the New Testament presents Jesus as the Wisdom of God. Why would Jesus need to be anointed with the Spirit of wisdom if He is the Eternal Wisdom of God?
3. Why does Isaiah 11:2-3 seem to give special stress to the fear of the Lord? What is the fear of the Lord? How is it related to wisdom?
4. The outcome of the wisdom of the Messiah is that He reigns in righteousness, judging evil and establishing justice and righteousness. How is righteousness related to wisdom? Can one be wise and reject righteousness and embrace evil? Why or why not?
5. Scripture often relates the act of creation with wisdom (see Proverbs 8:22-36; Psalm 104: 24; Proverbs 3:19-20; Jeremiah 10:12; John 1:1-3). Why is this important? What does it tell me about the relationship between wisdom and how creation exists and operates?
6. Look at the antiphon "O Wisdom". How does it develop the biblical teaching on wisdom? How does each line of the poem build on the previous lines to tell me something new and greater about Christ the Wisdom of God?
7. Look at Malcolm Guite's sonnet "O Sapientia" (O Wisdom). What seems to be his main focus in the sonnet? How pervasive does he view the wisdom of God found in Christ? How essential to life is Christ the Wisdom of God?
8. How should we respond to those who state they do not see evidence for God and demand "proof" for God's existence? Can we escape God and His wisdom?
9. In 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 Paul states "It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: 'Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.'" How does this relate to my justification? How does it relate to my sanctification?
10. Where is God calling me to grow in wisdom this week? Where am I missing His Wisdom revealed all around me?
11. Whom can I pray for, share what I have learned, and invite to church this week?

### Preview of next week: The Messenger of the Lord (O Adonai) [Isaiah 11:1-5]