

Theme: 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.

## I. Intro - The Complex Story In Isaiah

- A. I love books, movies, shows with complex plots
- B. You can fully develop a deep, rich story with time
- C. But you can get lost if you don't keep up with the plot
- D. Isaiah - a huge story of Judah's coming fall & restoration
- E. A key motif: Coming King Who will restore God's people
- F. We will also look at complex use of this idea in history

## II. Anointed with the Spirit of Wisdom

- A. The King will be anointed with the Spirit
  - 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 — Isaiah 11:1–2
    - 1. We will look more at the relation to Jesse later
    - 2. This is a reference to the Coming King
    - 3. The preeminent thing is He will be anointed with the Spirit of the Lord
    - 4. Key leaders were anointed with the Spirit and recognized as such
      - a. Joseph - anointed Spirit of wisdom to save others
        - So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one **in whom is the spirit of God?**" Genesis 41:38

- b. Bezalel anointed with the skill to make the tabernacle
    - "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, <sup>3</sup> and **I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts** — Exodus 31:2–3
  - c. Joshua given the spirit of wisdom to lead the people into the promised land
    - Now **Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom** because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the Lord had commanded Moses. Deuteronomy 34:9
  - d. David anointed with the Spirit to deliver and lead God's people as their King
    - So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on **the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power.** <sup>1</sup> Samuel 16:13
5. The coming King will be anointed with the Spirit of God to lead, deliver, and save God's people.
- Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. Isaiah 42:1
- The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, Is 61:1
- a. Isaiah 42:1 is referenced at the baptism of Jesus, and He began His ministry by stating that Isaiah 61:1 was fulfilled in Him!
  - b. Jesus is the Coming King who is Anointed with the Spirit and brings freedom and justice for those being oppressed.

B. The King will be anointed with the Spirit of wisdom

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 — Isaiah 11:2

1. Predominately wisdom words - wisdom, understanding, counsel, and knowledge
2. Emphasis on the fear of the Lord, which is wisdom  
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. Isaiah 11:2–3
  - a. The fear of the Lord is repeated for it is central
  - b. The fear of the Lord is the beginning and foundation of wisdom  
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 9:10
  - c. The fear of the Lord is the key to the treasure of wisdom  
The Lord is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness. <sup>6</sup> He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure. Isaiah 33:5–6
  - d. This King will delight in the fear of the Lord, walking in it Himself, and leading His people into the fear of the Lord.
3. Wisdom does not judge off external appearances but sees through to the heart to know the truth  
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 Isaiah 11:3

- a. True wisdom can penetrate beyond external appearances to see and hear the underlying reality
- b. Others may be fooled and thus act wrongly, but this King will see by the Spirit of wisdom to know truth
- c. Jesus clearly possessed this wisdom!  
Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? Mk 2:8  
But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. <sup>25</sup> He did not need man’s testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man. John 2:24–25
  1. Jesus was not fooled; He knew what others were trying to hide in their thoughts
  2. But His knowledge ran to the essential nature of fallen humans!
  3. This is One anointed by the Spirit of Wisdom!

C. The Wise King will establish and rule in righteousness

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. Isaiah 11:4–5

1. The Davidic kings had failed to rule in righteousness but the coming King would rule in righteousness so that evil would be punished and righteousness established.
2. This King would be full of righteousness and faithfulness and this would bless His people.
3. This is the result of wisdom - justice and righteousness, all things being order in accord with God’s pattern and design in creation.

4. This is because creation was laid out in and by wisdom  
How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you made them all. Psalm 104:24  
By wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place;<sup>20</sup> by his knowledge the deeps were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew. Proverbs 3:19–20
  - a. Creation is made by and with the wisdom of God
  - b. The wisdom of God is the warp and woof, the very fabric and structure of creation!
  - c. To walk in wisdom is to align with the very nature and structure of all creation, and to rebel against wisdom is to work for the undoing of our own life and creation itself.
5. The Coming King of wisdom establishes righteousness because that is the very nature of the universe.

### III. Jesus: The Word of Wisdom

- A. Jesus is the Word of Wisdom, Creator, and Sustainer  
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1:1–4
  1. Jesus is the Logos, the Word, Who creates, structures, and sustains the entire cosmos.
  2. He is the Wisdom of God through Whom all was made, and He is the One Who orders the whole universe, and is its underlying Reality.
  3. This is why life is in Him; He is the ordering of all that exists.

4. This is the focus of O Wisdom antiphon & sonnet  
O Wisdom,  
which came from the mouth of the Most High,  
reaching to the ends of the earth,  
ordering all things mightily and gently:  
Come to teach us the way of prudence.  
  
I cannot think unless I have been thought,  
Nor can I speak unless I have been spoken.  
I cannot teach except as I am taught,  
Or break the bread except as I am broken.  
O Mind behind the mind through which I seek,  
O Light within the light by which I see,  
O Word beneath the words with which I speak,  
O founding, unfound Wisdom, finding me,  
O sounding Song whose depth is sounding me,  
O Memory of time, reminding me,  
My Ground of Being, always grounding me,  
My Maker's Bounding Line, defining me,  
Come, hidden Wisdom, come with all you bring,  
Come to me now, disguised as everything.  
(Malcolm Guite)

- B. Jesus is Wisdom for our justification and sanctification  
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.”  
1 Corinthians 1:30–31
  1. Jesus is the Wisdom of God personified!
  2. Jesus is our righteousness (justification), holiness, redemption - so our boast is in Him, not ourselves.
  3. The only way for this King to establish the wisdom of righteousness is to give it to us - and He has!

4. But Jesus the Wisdom of God is sanctifying us as well - making us holy in all we desire and do!

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> **And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** 1 Corinthians 6:9–11

- a. When Christ washed and justified us He also began to sanctify us, freeing us from destructive patterns of behavior that are foolish rather than wise.
- b. We can not walk in Christ the Wisdom of God while clinging to foolish, destructive patterns of behavior that undermine and undo the very fabric of creation.
- c. But we do not walk in wisdom by our power but by the powerful work of the Holy Spirit - the same Spirit Who anointed Jesus!

#### IV. Applying the Word

- A. Meditate deeply on God's Wisdom this week
  1. Think on these Scripture passages
  2. Meditate on the song and poem
- B. Wisdom's Table
  1. Metaphor in Proverbs of Lady wisdom's table
  2. In Jesus the metaphor is reality!
  3. He invites you to His table to feast

4. He invites you to the table to be empowered by the Spirit of Wisdom

#### The Word of Wisdom (O Wisdom)

Isaiah 11:1-5  
November 17, 2019  
Communion  
Ephesians 1:17-19

Teaching keywords: wisdom, Advent and Christmas, Christology, Holy Spirit, prophecy (Old Testament), righteousness

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better, having the eyes of your heart enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. Ephes. 1:17–18

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