

THE  
POOR  
WISE  
MAN

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## INTRODUCTION

A few months ago, I was invited to preach in a fellowship comprising of young graduates, so, I prayed to God to give me a message that will make a change in someone's life.

While waiting, God took my mind to a story in Ecclesiastes 9 verse 14 - 16, *There was a little city with few men in it; and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siege works against it. But there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that poor man. But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heeded.*

Little did I know the life changing points in this story until God started to unfold certain things to me. After all, I asked myself, "Why was he poor when he has wisdom that could deliver a city and yet he couldn't deliver himself from poverty?"

I would like to share with you in this book some reasons why many people who are wise; I mean wise Christians, find it hard to part away from poverty. Ask the Lord to help you prepare your heart to receive truth from his word.

## CHAPTER ONE

### WHO IS A WISE MAN

I would like to define a wise man from the story we just read, Eccl. 9:14 - 16 and relate it to biblical perspective of a wise man. If I remove the word “Poor” from verse 15a the statement becomes “But there was found in it a wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city”

Firstly, a wise man is the man whose knowledge can solve a problem based on the information available to him. From the story, the bible recorded that this man was a wise man not because he was the only man that was in the city neither was he the only fellow that was given the opportunity to show the elders of the city the way out but because he was the only man whose ideas and knowledge brought victory to the city.

Every content of the bible is important and when properly considered it gives deeper meaning to the scripture. Let us have a picture of a board or council meeting and there is a problem at hand, you agree with me that everyone would want to suggest a solution. Meanwhile, every suggestion may be subjected to criticism; any opinion, which nobody could prove otherwise, might be accepted. Some fellow may be sitting on the wall but when the suggestion brings desired result, it will be generally accepted. King Solomon was a good example. He applied his God-given-wisdom to render justice (I king 3:15-28) so also was this poor wise man.

Secondly, a wise man is the man that dominates. The word “Wisdom” is taken from two different words - Wise and Dominion. True wisdom controls and brings to subjection matters that are difficult. Like I normally say, if you are in a group and you want your voice to be heard, the best thing to do is to keep silence because after a while you would be asked to contribute your opinion. If you are truly wise, your voice will be heard.

I have met a lot of people who want to prove that they are wise; they would tell you several things without you asking for details. The bible affirms that these set of people are not wise.

***For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.*** Eccl. 5:3

A man dominates when he has what it takes to control. A king dominates because of his kingdom and a wise man dominates because of his wisdom.

Thirdly, a wise man is the man that accepts the supremacy of God's foolishness compared to his human senses. There are two types of wisdom: the wisdom that comes from God and the one the devil gives to his children. The wisdom of this poor wise man was from God. You may want to ask me how did I know that?

***All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching...***

II Tim. 3:16

If the scripture is written by the inspiration of God then the man's wisdom is from God. It may be he prayed to God for wisdom or he was conscious of his existence and decided to fear him or he was

just a free thinker who set his mind on things that are pure and of good report.

***Finally brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.***

Philippians 4:8

At this point, I am telling you that if what you are planning to do is going to bring praise and honor to God, please go ahead. Meanwhile, any wisdom that is contrary to what is in Philippians 4:8 is from the devil. The people with devilish wisdom are regarded as “evil genius” I pray that our daily application of wisdom will be to the glory of God.

Before I round up this chapter, let me show you a man that was not wise.....

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