

## **Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

The Word of Wisdom

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We're studying the Revelation Gifts. These are Gifts that REVEAL something.

We've seen the Word of Knowledge. We've learned that it has to do with the past and/or the present, only.

In this study we will look at the Word of Wisdom.

The Word of Wisdom is a Supernatural revelation from the mind of God. It is unrelated to human wisdom. It has to do with people, places, events or things. It always, and only, deals with the future, never the past or the present.

Let's look at an example of the Word of Wisdom from the Ministry of Jesus. Here Jesus is instructing Peter as to how they were going to pay their taxes. Jesus is doing the talking.

"Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them [the tax collectors], go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee." (Matthew 17:27)

Peter did as he was instructed. Lo and behold, it was exactly as Jesus said it would be. The very first fish that Peter caught had a coin in its mouth. Jesus knew that it would be the first fish. He said so. He knew it would have a coin in its mouth. He said so. Actually, the word Jesus used for coin is "stater." That is a coin that is equivalent to approximately \$4.00 plus, today. That was exactly enough money to pay both Jesus' and Peter's taxes. Jesus knew that this was going to happen just ahead of Peter. That's why what Jesus predicted would be classified as a Word of Wisdom. The Word of Wisdom always, and only, has to do with the immediate or distant future.

The Word of Wisdom is considered by many to be the greatest of all nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Greatest because it reveals what God would have someone to do and oftentimes how it will turn out. Greatest because it actually reveals future events. What could be greater than God revealing His future plans to someone? What could possibly be greater than Almighty God actually giving someone direction right from His Throne Room in Heaven? Now that's GPS. And I don't mean Global Positioning Satellite. I mean God Positioning Saints. God Positioning Saints for success.

I was once making plans to move immediately to a Midwestern State to attend Bible School. One day while on my knees in prayer, I was caught up in a **trance**. I found myself standing on an ocean dock. Before me was a giant sea-going vessel. It was

a bit of a "rust bucket" actually. There were men seated in captain's chairs hanging from ropes, scraping and painting all over the vessel. Suddenly I was aware of Jesus standing directly beside me. He was holding what appeared to be a small pad and a pen. It could have been a palmtop and a stylus. After all, everything in Earth is just a replica of something in Heaven. (Romans 1:20) I asked Jesus regarding the rusty, unprepared vessel, "What is it?" He answered, "It's [symbolic of] you." I asked again, "When will it be ready?" Jesus answered me, "In nine months."

I should have been disappointed but somehow disappointment just never seems to be an option when you're in the presence of Jesus. I felt pretty good standing there beside Him in the sun looking at that giant vessel symbolizing me and my rusty, unready condition. Suddenly I came out of the trance. I was still on my knees just as I had been prior to the trance.

I knew that Jesus had just personally told me that I would not be going to Bible School until the next year. This was a Word of Wisdom. I was presently an unready vessel for His purpose. This was a Word of Knowledge. It is not unusual for these two Gifts to operate together.

Jesus was telling me to not go to Bible School immediately as I had planned. His plan and purpose for me was to wait and go the following year. I was not to leave for another nine months. He needed to do further work in me before I would be ready. I obeyed Him and the metaphorical rust scraping and painting continued over the next nine months.

The following year I proceeded to Bible School as He had instructed. Four families ultimately paid my tuition, housing, transportation and other expenses. I never asked any of them for anything. The Lord put it on their hearts to offer it. When God guides, God provides. Had I gotten ahead of His timing, I'd have been sunk!

The Word of Knowledge and the Word of Wisdom can come to us in many ways. They can come through a dream, an inward picture, an open vision, a trance, God's still small voice, God's authoritative voice, a simple inner knowing, through other human beings, through an Angel or even through Jesus Himself delivering a Word to us. Visit our Faith Building Bible Study Centre for fifteen detailed lessons on "Supernatural Biblical Guidance."

However they come, if we will obey what God is revealing, we'll get the blessings and God will get the Glory.