

## Sometimes There Is A Wiser Decision

### I. Introduction:

- A. A foolish decision is always the wrong decision (**Proverbs 19:3**) with severe consequences (**Psalms 5:4-5**).
  - 1. Some decisions of wisdom are clearly a choice of right or wrong (**Matthew 25:1-13**).
  - 2. This lesson is not intended to at all imply or downplay the need to be wise (**Ephesians 5:17**).
- B. Having said all of that, wisdom is a growth process (**Proverbs 1:1-5**).
  - 1. A wise individual can increase in wisdom (**Proverbs 9:9**).
  - 2. That does not necessarily mean wisdom will come with age though (**Job 32:9**).
  - 3. We just have to make sure our source of gaining wisdom is right (**Psalms 19:7** and **I Corinthians 3:18-19**).

### II. Body: Using Wisdom (**Proverbs 3:13-18**) Wherein There Is A Choice of More Than One Right (i.e. **Romans 14:14-21**).

- A. Don't marry was the wisest decision at a certain time (**I Corinthians 7:6-8** and **I Corinthians 7:27-40**).
  - 1. However, there was also wisdom in choosing to marry to avoid the temptation to commit fornication (**I Corinthians 6:18-7:5** and **I Corinthians 7:9**).
  - 2. Even though marriage was not wise because persecution, that didn't make marrying a sinful choice (**Hebrews 13:4**).
- B. Give financial support to Paul was the wisest decision (**I Corinthians 9:11-14** and **Philippians 4:11-17**).
  - 1. The Corinthians allowed Paul to rob other churches, where was the wisdom in their allowance of his choice (**II Corinthians 11:8**)?
  - 2. Had they been wise, they'd consider what it meant not to be a burden (**II Corinthians 12:13-15**).
  - 3. Though, it was not as though he had to take money from them especially if a lesson could have been taught through such a refusal (**II Thessalonians 3:7-11**).
- C. Learn was the right choice (**Luke 10:38-42**).
  - 1. Martha being hospitable wasn't wrong (**I Peter 4:9**).
  - 2. The wisest choice though was to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from Him (**Matthew 11:28-30** and **John 6:63**).
- D. Some applications for us...
  - 1. Maybe it is lawful to go to a certain social gathering or entertainment function (**I Corinthians 10:27**), but because of potential temptations (**I Corinthians 15:33** and **I Peter 2:11**) or mixed signals we'd send (**Philippians 2:14-16**) it is unwise.
  - 2. Maybe it is lawful to choose a certain job (**Ephesians 4:28**), but because of the potential demands of that job being a conflict

- (**Matthew 6:33** and **Colossians 3:1-4**) or even the wrong motivation to work (**Proverbs 23:4-5**); that job may not be wise.
3. Maybe it is lawful to make a certain investment (**Proverbs 21:20**), but is it wise if that investment will lead us down dangerous roads (**Ephesians 5:3-5**; cf. **Matthew 6:19-21**)?
  4. Maybe it is lawful to find a mate (**Proverbs 18:22**), but wisdom must be used in the choice (**I Kings 11:1-11**, **Proverbs 12:4**, **Proverbs 21:9**, and **Mark 3:25**).
- E. Consider then, how we should work to get wisdom (**Proverbs 4:5-7**).
1. Obviously, wisdom is found in the Scriptures (**Colossians 3:16**).
  2. We can also find wisdom in wise counselors (**Proverbs 11:14** and **Acts 15:1-35**).
  3. You can also get wiser by being observant (**Proverbs 21:11-12**, **Proverbs 24:30-34**, and **I Corinthians 10:1-12**).
  4. Just don't count on your own self-wisdom (**Isaiah 5:21**).

III. Conclusion: There are many benefits to wise decision-making (**Proverbs 15:24**, **Proverbs 16:20**, **Proverbs 28:26**, **Colossians 4:5**, and **James 3:13-18**).