

- **Matthew 13:51**

Jesus saith unto them,

Have ye understood

all these things?

They say unto him,

Yea, Lord.

- **Matthew 13:52**

Then said he unto them,
Therefore **every scribe** which is
instructed unto the kingdom of
heaven is like unto a man that
is an householder, which
bringeth forth out of his
treasure things
new and **old**.

- **“One thing I know; whereas I was blind, now I see.”**
(John 9:25)
- If we have understood these things,
what then?
- Let us be thankful to God, for this
understanding of Divine truth.
 - Understanding these things,
ought we not seek
to understand more?

- In a lecture of **Sir John Lubbock's** on the fertilization of flowers by the agency of insects, a striking distinction is noted in regard to this operation **between beautiful** and **hideous plants.**

- **Bees delight**
in pleasant **odors**
and bright **colors**,
and invariably choose
those plants which
give pleasure to man.

- If we watch the course of these insects on their visit to a garden, we shall observe them settling upon the rose, the lavender, and all other flowers of brilliant hues or sweet scent.

- In marked contrast with this is the conduct of flies, which always show a preference for those which possess an unpleasant smell.

- The bee is a creature of fine and sensitive tastes.

- The fly is "a species of insectoid vulture," naturally turning to such vegetable food as resembles carrion.

- To this
love of bees
for fine colors and
fragrant perfumes
we are indebted for
our choicest flowers

- Thus, age after age,
many blossoms have been
growing increasingly
beautiful.

- Psalms 90:17

**And let the beauty
of the LORD our God
be upon us:**

- On the other hand
a progress
in the opposite direction
has taken place
in those plants
which are frequented by flies,
and their unwholesome
and repulsive qualities
have become intensified.

- So is it with the two great classes into which mankind may be divided
- Men of this world,
- And those of the next.

- While the purified affections of the one center continually on "whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report,"
- The earthward and vile affections of the other fasten on corruption.

- As the laboring bee flies from one beautiful flower to another,
- So does the Christian seek all that is fairest, sweetest, and best on earth.

- His prayer is that of David,
Psalms 119:66
"Teach me good taste"
(which is the literal translation);

- And "
if there be any virtue,
and if there be any Praise,"
he thinks on these things.
(Philippians 4:8)

- There can be no shadow of doubt that the works of creation and the words of revelation speak with one voice.
- And that revelation deals principally with the moral character of the Creator and the spiritual nature of man,

- In the arid deserts of central South America there is a strange plant, the *Selaginella convoluta*, a species of club moss, endowed with very remarkable hygrometric properties.

- In the dry season,
when every particle of moisture
is extracted from the soil,
it is detached from
its growing place,
rolled up into a ball,
and carried away
by the violent winds
often to very great distances.

- It remains coiled up
in this form
for a considerable time;
but if carried to a marsh,
or the margin of a stream,
or any other moist place,
- It begins slowly to unfold,
and spread itself out
flat on the soil,
assumes its former
vigor and freshness.

- **When this new situation
is dried up,
it resumes its
old habits,
and, like an
adventurous pilgrim,
takes advantage of the wind
to emigrate to a more
favorable locality.**

- And is not this plant
an emblem of the man
who is detached from Christ,
- And who therefore wanders
from one broken cistern
of earthly joy
to another,
 - restless,
 - disappointed,
 - dissatisfied?

- He is wearied in his manifold journeys hither and thither in search of true satisfaction.
- Amid all the resources of modern science and art, there is still the same old vanity and vexation of spirit.
(Ecclesiastes 1:14)

- Jesus knew well how deep and universal was the experience He was appealing to when He said,
**'Come unto Me,
all ye that labor
and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.'**
(Matthew 11:28)

- We are striving to **attach outward things.**
- Our **possessions,**
 - Our **friends,**
- Our **enjoyments,**
 - To **ourselves;**
- But all our efforts **are to be in vain.**

- Our center is Christ;
- And until we are in Him,
we shall never know true peace.
- Our root is Christ.
(Colossians 2:7)
- And until we are
rooted in Him,
we shall be
helpless and lifeless.

- **Attached to Him**,
we shall not be moved.
- United to Him
by a living faith,
our hearts are fixed
and at rest;

- We are intended to be united to God,
to eternal life,
and to all the
blissful and glorious
realities
of the spiritual world.

- Only the heathen blinds himself to the rays of light that would penetrate his darkened mind.
- “Having eyes they see not”
(Matthew 13:13)

- **Psalms 119:66**

**Teach me
good judgment
and knowledge:
for I have believed
thy commandments.**

- **“Teach me good judgment”**
- The word here rendered **“judgment”** means, properly, **“taste,”**
- That power by which we determine the quality of things as **sweet, bitter, sour, etc.**
- **Then it is applied to the mind** as that by which we determine the moral quality of things, or decide what is right or wrong; **wise** or **foolish**; **good** or **evil**.

- **Psalms 34:8**

Taste

and see that the

LORD is good:

- David, who discovered a holy taste recommends it to others (Psalms 34:8),
- For the word rendered "judgment", properly signifies "taste".

- And denotes that relish for divine truth, and for the divine goodness and holiness, which is peculiar to true saints.

- **Saints** have a power of receiving pleasure **from the beauty of holiness,**
 - Which shines forth resplendently:
 - **In the word of God,**
 - **In the divine character,**
 - **In the cross of Christ,**
 - **In the example of Christ.**

- Whatever truly exalts God,
 - Brings the soul near to him,
and influences
the conduct of one
who is born of God.
- "Sweeter also than honey,
and the honeycomb."

- **"My meditation of thee shall be sweet."
(Psalms 104:34)**
- **"How sweet are thy words to my taste! sweeter than honey to my mouth."
(Song of Solomon 2:3)**
 - **"O taste and see that the Lord is good."
(Psalms 34:8)**

- It is only the spiritual man that discerns the things of God.

- Hebrews 5:14

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- **Proverbs 8:10**

**Receive my
instruction,
and not silver;
and knowledge rather
than choice gold.**

- What does wisdom offer?
 - She offers to surpass in value everything that men have yet honored.
- She will put aside rubies, and things that are to be desired, and all gold,
 - She will stand alone, absolutely unique in worth.
 - Gold may be lost; rubies maybe stolen;

- He who is without wisdom is without riches.

- He who has wisdom has all wealth.

- Wisdom is an absolute necessity to man's well-being, which gold is not.
- Wisdom is to be preferred to wealth, because the latter may be destructive to character,
- Many men have been morally destroyed by their riches.

- One has well said,
" God has made
the world double."
- The kingdom of heaven
is like so much in the natural world,
that our blessed Lord
hardly ever spoke
of sacred truths
without illustrating them
by the more familiar things of earth.

- His illustrations were drawn from the simplest subjects.
- His divine wisdom was to be understood by all in every age.
- The common people heard Him gladly.
(Mark 12:37)

- **Colossians 2:3**

In whom

are hid

all the treasures of

wisdom

and

knowledge.

- How is it possible to estimate the value of the soul without a knowledge of Him whose death was the price of its redemption?

- Where is the wisdom that can secure the harmony between what man is and what he ought to be?

- Where is the knowledge that can bring beauty out of the chaos which religion discovers?
 - It is in Christ alone:
 - In Him are hid all the treasures.

- We see virtue oppressed and vice triumphant,
- We see might over right,
 - Where is the solution?
 - The solution is in Christ.
- In the knowledge of Christ we see the rule of a "righteous Father" (John 17:25)

- **Knowledge** is enlightenment, acquaintance with truth;
- **Wisdom** is the application of the truth.
- **Knowledge** is the study, **wisdom** its fruit.

- Treasures suggest great value and excellence.
(**Parable of Lost Treasure**)
- All the treasures are in Christ;
not select truths,
but all truth.
(John 14:6)
 - So all knowledge
for the human soul
find their truest meaning in Him.

- **He emancipates**
the mind
from the bondage
of corruption and fear,
- The wisdom of God
sanctifies
all earthly wisdom.

- Who does not see that the light which Christ brings enhances and elevates every branch of knowledge?

- The word "hid" implies that wisdom and knowledge are stored up in Him in a hidden manner, suggesting —

- (1) **Concealment**.
- All these treasures **are not seen at once** by the bodily or spiritual eye.
- They **are hid** from the thoughtless and unbelieving world, from the vain and unassisted intellect (**1 Corinthians 2:8**).

- God has hid these things from the wise and prudent, **and revealed them unto babes.**

(Matthew 11:25)

- Just as many with an untrained eye traverse a country rich in mineral wealth, **and have no idea of what lies under the surface,**

- So the treasures that are hid in Christ are only seen by the eye of faith, and found by the devout and contrite soul taught by the Spirit of God.

- (2) But these treasures are intended for discovery and application.

- They are gradually unfolded.

- Yet the riches are still inexhaustible, and the oldest disciples are ever discovering

some new vein of preciousness in their Lord.

- So it will ever be.

- Jesus intends that we should use old knowledge in a new light and use it in His service.

- When one does that, what he knew before becomes a greater treasure than ever it was.

- The word
“knowledge”
occurs **172** times
in **169** verses in KJV.

- **2 Peter 3:18**

**But grow in grace,
and in the knowledge
of our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ.**

**To him be glory
both now and for ever.**

Amen.

- **Matthew 13:53**

And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.

- **13:54** **And when he was come into his own country,**

he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?⁵⁹

- **Matthew 13:55**

Is not this the carpenter's son?

is not his mother called Mary?

**and his brethren, James, and
Josef, and Simon, and Judas?**

- **13:56** **And his sisters,
are they not all with us?**

**Whence then hath this man
all these things?**

- **Matthew 13:57**

And they were offended in him.

But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

- **13:58** **And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.**

- There is a great lesson here.
- In any church service the congregation preaches more than half the sermon.
- The congregation brings with it an atmosphere of belief or unbelief.

- Many a message has been killed stone dead,

- Not because there was anything wrong with it;

- But because the minds of the hearers
were so closed

that it never had a chance.

- When we meet together to listen to the word of God, we must come with eager expectation.

- An empty vessel capable of holding water, if tightly corked, and thrown into the sea, still remains empty.

- So it is with our hearts;
unbelief closes them,
 - So that the
“water of life”
cannot fill them,
however abundantly
it may be poured
upon and around us.

- Unbelief
locks up the heart
of a sinner,
- And
binds the hands
of a Savior.

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



- 03-18-2018 Tryon, NC