

# The Function and Importance of The Pastor-Teacher

Colossians 1:28-29

*Paul returns again to the importance of who you listen to in the proclamation of the Scriptures.*

And this is so true today, where there are so many heretical and false teaching in a multitude of Churches.

from *Gnosticism to Calvinism.*

from Universalism to Chrislam (combining of Christianity and Islam).

from Grace salvation to all forms of works salvation.

from No Filling of the Holy Spirit to mysticism.

from Replacement theology to Total Omission of Historical Significance.

It boggles the mind to think of many of the things that are being taught in churches today. From men and women with no training to PhDs. *People, there is nothing more important than who you listen to and what is presented as Biblical teaching.* Every one of these lies in heretical teaching can be made to sound so believable.

Colossians 1:28-29

28 **we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ;**

29 **For this purpose also I labor, according to his power which mightily works within me.**

**We proclaim Him** Here is the message you should hear! Not we proclaim mankind or Islam but we proclaim Him and the relative pronoun refers to Jesus the Christ, the hope of Glory.

The Biblical Greek is so rich in words describing the function of the Pastor-Teacher. Here we have the **Present Active Indicative** noting what should be the continual function of the Pastor-Teacher, of the verb ***kataggello***, which means to **declare openly**. To communicate openly the truth of the Word of God.

The most important point in being a good communicator is being a good listener. In conversation, most people are thinking about what they are going to say, while a good communicator is one who 'listens' to what is being said.

So, the question arises, who does the Pastor-Teacher listen to? The answer is given in the next verse 29:

29 **For this purpose also I labor, according to his power which mightily works within me.**

Referring, of course, to the Holy Spirit.

Whether Republican or Democrat or Libertarian I find it interesting that whenever we have a debate, the networks do a truth/lie test.

I wish we could do this with every pastor. *The only problem is that whether something is Biblically true or not depends on your interpretation of the bible.*

**Your view of God:** Is He a God who does everything and man simply receives from Him by faith or is your view of God is that He demands that man does things for Him before He will bless man?

**Then your view of the Bible.** Is the Bible the Divinely inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God, **OR** are their mistakes in the Word of God, in other words... **does God lie?**

It is amazing how many times that many people would say that God is wrong! Remember that one of the satisfying adventures for our flesh nature is to judge God, then judge others.

The Greek language is rich on words for communication of biblical truth. The word we have here in context is

***kataggello.***

This word emphasizes the manner in which the Pastor-Teacher performs his Spiritual Gift.

In Classical-Greek this word referred to “**official reports**” proclaimed publicly. In the New Testament, it means “**to proclaim a message authoritatively to the hearers**”.

The content of the message varies, he may, as here, proclaim news about Jesus the Christ;

It may be the way of Salvation as in Acts 16:17

17 **Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out saying, 'These men are bondservants of the Most-High God, who are proclaiming our word to you the way of Salvation.**

or Acts 13:5

5 **they began to proclaim the Word of God.**

or Acts 4:2b

2b **...proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead**

Another rich Greek word for communication is ***kerusso*** which emphasizes the office function of Pastor-Teacher.

The interesting thing about this word is that by its very nature, demands action on the part of the hearers...THE ACTION OF FAITH.

This declaration challenges everyone to believe in JESUS CHRIST as the only Savior and then to live your life in refer to that initial Faith.

Matthew 3:1

1 **now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching our word in the wilderness of Judea saying, 2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." call to action!**

This word is used to describe the speaking of Jesus:

Matthew 9:35

35 **Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming our word the gospel of the Kingdom**

You will note we have yet another word for communication here in verse 5; **teaching**. This word emphasizes your part.

***Didasko***: to **teach**, to **instruct**. And your part as a hearer is to concentrate on what is being taught.

One Lexicon:

“this word was especially used for the impartation of practical or applicable knowledge which was basic to the development of skill of any kind.”

So, when JESUS CHRIST was teaching or when a Pastor-Teacher is teaching (***didasko***) it is with the desired result that the hearers will know how to do or accomplish something.

Another word close in concept to ***didasko*** is the compound Greek word ***parakaleo***. This type of communication is designed to help or encourage the hearers. The prefix ***para*** means to the side of and ***kaleo*** to call. The word emphasizes communication that helps, comforts or encourages.

There are several other words but this gives you some idea of how rich the Greek of the New Testament really is and how it benefits to know the original languages.

Colossians 1:28

28 **we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ;**

**Admonishing** this is a compound Greek word made up of *mind* plus the verb **to put** or **place**—**to put into your minds**. It means to **warn** or **admonish** or **exhort** with the goal being to correct something.

### **Admonishing every man**

There is a message for all mankind. For the unbelievers—the Gospel, for believers –to live according to the Gospel.

### **And teaching**

Our third word for communication of Biblical Truth

**proclaim... admonish... and now teaching**

Three responsibilities of every Pastor-Teacher.

We noted the Greek word for teaching, used of our Lord in Matthew 9:35.

35 **Teaching every man with all wisdom** should read as King James **in all wisdom**

**Teaching every man with all wisdom**  
should read in the KJ as **in all wisdom.**

We could well spend a few months on **Wisdom**. It is important to God, so therefore, it should be important to us. The problem is most of us seek **WISDOM** when it is too late! **“I wish I had known that before this happened!”**

When it comes to living we desire **Wisdom**—who am I to marry?  
**Wisdom** on what to do,  
**Wisdom** on where to live,  
**Wisdom** to teach my children, etc.

### **Journey of Wisdom through the Word of God—the Holy Bible.**



#### **Where is Wisdom to be found and what is Wisdom?**

The journey on wisdom begins in the first book God gave to us. The book of Job.

In Job 28 Job finally seeks wisdom. Wisdom of the True God. In chapter 1 Job thought he knew and understood God. Then things went just the opposite of the way he thought things should be.

Job thought he had the wisdom of God. That if he was good, God would bless and if he was bad, God would curse with all kinds of bad things. Then, for no known reason, everything fell apart.

He lost everything but his wife. He even lost his children. Then Job became depressed, and wished he had not been born (chapter 2).

Then Job became angry at God. God was not acting the way he was sure God would act. Then Job goes through long discussions with three people he thought were his friends. Job did not even have the wisdom to pick friends.

### **Do you have this wisdom?**

Then in Job's last speech, (before God speaks) in chapter 28, Job gets to the heart of the problem and asked where Wisdom can be found. In verses 1-10 he speaks of many of the valuable things found in the earth; like gold, silver, precious metals, and food.

Then in verse 12 he starts his beckoning for wisdom.

Job 28:12

12 **But where can wisdom be found? and where *is* the place of understanding?**

This is the most important question, not just for a philosopher or an inventor of religion (Hinduism, Islamic, Buddhist, Mormonism, etc.) but for everyone; the housewife, the student, the workers and producers... everyone.

**As you search for the meaning of your own life,  
where are you going to start in  
your understanding and wisdom?**



“God alone knows where wisdom dwells and its origin”!

Job 28:20

20 **Where then does wisdom come from? and where *is* the place of understanding?**

No other living being knows the source of wisdom; not man, nor angel and it is not to be found in any existential beings.

Job 28:21

21 **Thus it is hidden from the eyes of all living**

God then reveals wisdom and understanding in stunning simplicity. Job 28:28

28 **And to man He said, ‘Behold the fear of the Lord, this is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding,’**

Here you have the beginning of all wisdom, is to show reverence to God in all things, **SEEKING HIS WORD FOR ALL GUIDANCE IN LIFE** and **TO FEAR HIM IN EVERYTHING CONTRARY TO HIS WORD.**

This is so simple, it is given in two parts:

Part 1: **positive:** *Fear or Live in reverence to the Lord.*

Part 2: **negative:** *Depart from any teaching that is contrary to His Ways.*

This is clarified in Psalm 111:10

10 **The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.**

First, please note the word ***commandments*** is in italics, which means it is not in the original text.

And the Hebrew word translated **do** means to practice them, accomplish or practice His truth and justice and His precepts:

Psalm 111:7-8

7 **The works of his hands *are* truth and justice; all his precepts *are* sure... or trustworthy**

8 **They are upheld forever and ever,  
They are performed in truth and uprightness.**



**All creation is from the Wisdom of God.**

This is just one of many reasons why man rejects creation and prefers his own thinking of evolution.

Psalm 104:24

24 **O Lord How many are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Your bodies, souls are designed by His Wisdom.  
The earth, the universes, the galaxies, and all that is on the earth reveal the wisdom of God.

Jeremiah 10:12

12 **It is He who made the earth by his power, Who established the world by his wisdom, And by His understanding He has stretched out the heavens**  
The three heavens and all the galaxies.

This is what is behind the ‘magnificent picture of Christ’  
in our study of Colossians 1:15-16

15 **He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.**

16 **For by him all things were created: both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.**

## **III** JESUS CHRIST is the Wisdom of God.

For this we will simply read 1 Corinthians 1:  
where we have the historical battle of **Wisdom**:

Between **God’s Wisdom** and the **World’s wisdom**.

Verse 18

**The Gospel appeals to Faith not to human reasoning.**

## 1 Corinthians 1:17-19

18 **For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.** [this comes from verse 17;]

17 **Not send me, Christ, to water baptize, but to proclaim the gospel, not in wisdom of words— *sophia logos* so that the cross of Christ should not be made void— empty of power to save**

### **So, what is the Gospel? — The Cross of Christ.**

Verse 18

**For** To nullify the Cross is to nullify the Gospel: to render the gospel void

**the word** in contrast with *Sophia logos* of verse 17 here:

18 **The word of the cross is foolishness** according to their wisdom **to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God**

Note how God divides the human race:  
Those who are Perishing and Those being Saved.

19 **For it is written, “I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER INTELLIGENCE, UNDERSTANDING I WILL SET ASIDE.”**

God will set aside the thinking of man; that is...  
God will set aside all religion;  
all thinking that man can earn something from God.

## Question:

When will God destroy the **wisdom** of the wise and destroy the **understanding** of the prudent?

This occurs at three distinct phases in human history.

1<sup>st</sup> In the **UNSEEN** realm God does this every time one believes in JESUS CHRIST and is imputed with +Righteousness and saved and given Eternal Life.

2<sup>nd</sup> But in the **SEEN** realm, where the world will see at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent of JESUS CHRIST, when JESUS CHRIST returns to earth—victor, and the world cries for the mountains to fall on them.

3<sup>rd</sup> In final destruction at the end of the Millennium.

1 Corinthians 1:20-31

20 **Where is the wise man?**

Directed at Gentiles — human wisdom.

**Where is the scribe?**

Directed at the Jews — religious wisdom.

**Where is the debater of this age?**

Directed at Greeks — philosophy.

**Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?**

21 **For since in the wisdom of God<sup>1</sup> the world through its wisdom did not *come to know God,***

Two systems of WISDOM

## **Wisdom of God vs wisdom of the world**

each person gets to choose which they will follow.

- 21 **God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached** Gospel to save those who believe..

Simple Faith in the One He sends is all God is looking for.  
This is true of Salvation or Spirituality

- 22 **For indeed Jews ask for signs** seeking to be saved by sight **and Greeks search for wisdom;** seeking to be saved by human wisdom

- 23 **but we** Christians **preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,** from their wisdom, from their way of thinking.

- 24 **but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

What is the **Power** of God? JESUS CHRIST

What is the **Wisdom** of God? JESUS CHRIST.

1 Corinthians 1:25-28

Verse 25 reveals why JESUS CHRIST is both the **Wisdom** of God and the **Power** of God.

25 **Because the foolishness of God** foolish act by God of doing all this through JESUS CHRIST **is wiser than men, and the weakness of God** that is the weak act by God **is stronger than men.** Christ crucified is weakness to man and being saved by faith alone is weakness to man.

26 **For consider your calling, brethren,** believers –think what you were like when you believed in JESUS CHRIST as Savior **that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;** all these are described in terms of the flesh.

27 **but God has chosen the foolish things** acts that seem foolish to man; the Cross and Faith **of the world to shame/dishonor the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,**

28 **and the base things of the world and the despised...**

**Who** is despised by the world?

**Who** is hated by the world?

For **Who** does the world have contempt?

Yes—**JESUS CHRIST**, the Son of God!

And God has chosen to use **Him** to shame the world.

28 **God has chosen, the things that are not,  
so that He may nullify the things that are.**

### Things that ARE

1. Our natural birth
2. Total Depravity
3. Minus Wisdom

### Things that ARE NOT

1. Spiritual birth, 2<sup>nd</sup> birth
2. Righteous in JESUS CHRIST
3. Wise in Christ

29 **so that** for the final purpose that **no man may boast**  
or have confidence in self **before God.**

30 **But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus,** our eternal  
position:

*In Christ by faith alone in Christ alone.*

**who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness  
and sanctification, and redemption,**

## We have already noted that...

- 1 **JESUS CHRIST is the Wisdom of God.**
- 2 **He is the Power of God.**  
and now
- 3 **He is the Righteousness of God.**
- 4 **He is our Sanctification.**  
and
- 5 **He is our Redemption.**



**so that, just as it is written,  
“LET HIM WHO BOASTS BOAST IN THE LORD.”**

# Here is WISDOM

**I DID NOTHING FOR MY SALVATION  
BUT BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST  
WHO DID EVERYTHING FOR MY SALVATION.**

## **IV** Wisdom of Satan

The arch enemy of JESUS CHRIST is declared to operate from his own wisdom. Isaiah 47:10

10 **you** Satan **felt secure in your wickedness** plotting against God **and declared ‘no one sees me .’ Your wisdom and your knowledge, they have deluded you; for you have said in your heart ‘I am’ self-existing and there is no one besides me’.**



## Where Wisdom is to be found

James 3:13-18

Verse 13-14

Your life will reveal if you have True Wisdom

Verse 13

The 'haunting' question.

**Who among you is wise and understanding?**

Wise here refers to wisdom of divine origin and content.

Understanding always accompanies True Wisdom. This word means that you have the wisdom to accurately calculate what is going on in any circumstance.

**Let him show! by his good behavior**

Here is another secret to True Wisdom—consistency in actions in your life; and of course, 'good' refers to Divine Good.

It is the wise believer who knows to be in the Filling of the Holy Spirit.

**his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.** This does not mean that Wisdom is gentle but the wise person applies all wisdom gently –not flaunting.

An excellent place to see what this means is from Galatians 6:1

1 **Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual** empowered and led by the Holy Spirit **restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.** Wisdom, like Spiritual Love is not arrogant.

Back to James 3:13

13 **Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him reveal by his good behavior his deeds in gentleness –of applying wisdom.**

14 **But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart,** Jealousy and selfishness are not of God's wisdom. In fact, you cannot be wise if you are jealous and selfish. What is going on in your soul will be revealed in your life **do not be arrogant! and so lie! against the truth.** Be honest to yourself! Notice all the sins in this one verse: bitterness, jealousy, selfishness, and arrogance—each one is anti-thetical to Divine Wisdom. It is amazing how arrogance often presents itself as being wiser than everyone else.

15 **This wisdom** that produces arrogance and selfishness **is not that which comes down from above,** divine wisdom **but is earthly,** Satan is the ruler of this earth, this is his kingdom and this wisdom belongs to his kingdom **natural,** as far as humans are concerned this wisdom comes from the flesh

nature **demonic**. wisdom from Satan and serves his purpose

16 **For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder**—confusion, making decisions that actually counter each other **and every evil thing**. Every evil practice

17 **But the wisdom from above** divine wisdom, wisdom from God given to man through His Word and Spirit.

**is first pure**, righteous **then peaceable**, just as JESUS CHRIST is the Prince of Peace so is His Wisdom **gentle**, in its application **reasonable**, as per the Plan of God **full of mercy and good fruits**, fruit of the Holy Spirit **unwavering, without hypocrisy**. Giving all glory to God, not trying to claim it for yourself.

18 **And the seed whose fruit is righteousness** the great issue in Salvation and in Wisdom **is sown in peace by those who make peace**<sup>1</sup>

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{<sup>1</sup> [New American Standard Bible: 1995 update](#). (1995). (Jas 3:13–18). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.}

Soloist

1. Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,  
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heav'n and home,  
When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Congregation join in singing

○ Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Congregation sing verse and chorus

○

2. "Let not your heart be troubled," His tender word I hear,  
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;  
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me..

○

○ Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Congregation Chorus and **KEY CHANGE**

**I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches  
me.**

○

and I know He watches me.

○ and I know He watches me.



○

