



“At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, ‘Ask for whatever you want Me to give you.’” (I Kings 3:5 - NIV)

Prayer: Lord God, Your ears are always open to the prayers of Your holy and humble servants who come to You in the name of Jesus. Teach me to always ask according to Your perfect will, that I may never fail to receive the blessings which You have promised; through Your Son Jesus Christ my Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN



Order of Worship – The Common Service With L.S. – pg. 15

Greeting by the Pastor

- Invocation (Liturgy pg. 15)

Opening Hymn **C.W. 410 vs. 1 / TLH 458** sung by the Congregation

- Confession of Sins

- Absolution

- Prayer and Praise (pg. 16)

- Prayer of The Day (pg. 17)

First Lesson – I Kings 3:5-12 – Solomon asks for Wisdom.

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 119b (C.W. pg. 110 – Read Responsively)

M: Teach me O Lord to follow Your decrees; then I will keep them to the end.

C: Give me understanding and I will keep Your law and obey it with all my heart.

M: Direct me in the path of Your commands, for there I find delight.

C: Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to Your Word.

M: Fulfill Your promise to Your servant, so that You may be feared.

C: How I long for Your precepts! Preserve my life in Your righteousness.

M: This Is The Word Of The Lord.

Second Lesson – Romans 8:28-30 – God works for your good.

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 7:7-12 – Ask – Seek - Knock

Nicene Creed by the Congregation: (Liturgy pg. 18)

Sermon Hymn: **C.W. 411 / TLH 457** sung by the Congregation

Sermon Text: I Kings 3:5

Sermon Theme: What Do You Want from God?

"Create in Me" – (pg. 20)

Offering (The plates will not be passed but are at the entrance doors)

Offering Prayer

Prayer of The Church

Lord's Prayer

Communion Liturgy (Liturgy - pg. 21)

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy – Liturgy pg. 22)

Words of Institution (Liturgy pg. 23)

Agnus Dei (O Christ Lamb of God – Lit. pg. 23)

RECEPTION of Christ's Body & Blood which are Really Present, In / With and Under the Bread and the Wine for the forgiveness of sins.

Communion Hymn **C.W. 302 / TLH 326** sung by the Congregation after everyone has communed including the Pastor

Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon - Liturgy pg. 24)

Collect / Prayer (pg. 24)

Benediction

Closing Hymn **C.W. 410 vs. 9 / TLH 458** sung by the Congregation.

As You Leave The Church Building You are Entering the Mission Field.

SERMON TEXT: I Kings 3:5

Vs. 5 – At Gibeon The Lord Appeared to Solomon during the night in a **dream** and God said, **Ask** for whatever you want Me to give you.

GREETING: Jesus says: heaven & Earth will pass away, but My Words will never pass away. . (Matt. 24:35)

If God came to you in a dream and said: “Ask for whatever you want Me to give you.”

What would you ask for? (Pause to think)

Perhaps you would be like Solomon and ask for Wisdom?

Perhaps you would ask for peace in our nation?

Perhaps you would ask for a cure for COVID-19?

Sometime ago I asked the following question:

Which ONE of the following would you choose?

A. Lord, heal me of ALL my bodily ailments.

B. Lord, take away ALL my emotional stress. OR

C. Lord, Forgive me ALL my sins.

In this section of First Kings 3:1-15 we learn that Solomon asked for WISDOM.

Solomon wanted Wisdom so that he would be able to govern the people of Israel with a discerning heart in order to distinguish between right and wrong.

This of course is a most noble request.

This request of Solomon pleased God so much that the Lord said to Solomon:

“Since you have asked for this and not for a long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will NEVER have been anyone like you, NOR will there EVER be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for – both riches and honor – so that in your lifetime you will have not equal among kings. And if you walk in My ways and obey My statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.” (I Kings 3:11-14)

The wisdom which the Lord gave to Solomon proved to be most beneficial shortly after this request when in **I Kings 3:16-28** we are told that two women who were arguing came to King Solomon to settle the argument. Each of these two women had a baby. One of the women rolled on top of her baby in the night and her baby died. So she switched her dead baby with the living baby of the other woman.

Both women were claiming that the living baby was their own child.

After Solomon heard their story he asked for a sword to cut the living baby in two pieces and to give each woman a portion of the baby.

The two women each responded differently.

The one woman said: *“Cut him in two! Neither I nor you shall have him!”*

The other woman said: *“Please my lord, give her the living baby! Do not kill him!”*

From the answers of the two women, King Solomon knew which woman was the rightful mother of the baby, and the woman who begged to spare the life of the child was the true Mother.

This verdict which King Solomon made was spread through the land and held King Solomon in awe.

If only each one of us were this wise in all our decisions.

Of course no one will ever be as wise as Solomon in all his wisdom because God made that clear when God said to Solomon:

“I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will NEVER have been anyone like you, NOR will there EVER be.” (I Kings 3:12)

Even though the Lord God has not given you or I earthly wisdom that matches or surpasses that of King Solomon, the Lord has given you and I (us) wisdom which extends into eternity in heaven.

We are told in the following Passages what and Who true Wisdom is:

The message of the angel to Zechariah the priest concerning John the Baptist.

Luke 1:17 – **“He will go on before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to The Wisdom of the righteous – to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”**

Jesus, during His instruction of His followers and in an effort to lead the Pharisees to repent speaks of Himself as WISDOM.

Luke 7:34 - 35 – **“The Son of Man came eating and drinking and you say, He is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and “sinners”. 35 – But WISDOM is proved right by all her children.”**

God through the Apostle Paul to the congregation of believers in Corinth expands on the fact that Jesus is True WISDOM in the following sections to the Corinthians.

I Corinthians 1:23 - 24 – **“but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the WISDOM of God.”**

I Corinthians 1:30 – “It is because of God, that you are in Christ Jesus, Who has become for us **WISDOM** from God – that is our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore as it is written, ‘Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.’”

I Corinthians 2:6-10 – We do however speak a message of **WISDOM** among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age who are coming to nothing. No we speak of God’s secret **WISDOM**, a **WISDOM** that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written: No eye has seen, no ear has heard no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him – BUT God has revealed it to us by His Spirit. The Spirit teaches ALL things, even the deep things of God.”

Earthly wisdom is nice, but True Wisdom in Christ Jesus our Risen and ascended Savior is Eternal Life in Heaven.

All the wisdom of this world cannot defeat Satan / the devil and his power.

All the wisdom in this world, the best scientific wisdom and medical wisdom cannot raise someone from the dead. (God has graciously given our society wisdom to help prolong people’s lives, but not keep them alive forever.)

Even Solomon in all his wisdom could not make payment for sin, and could not keep himself from dying.

Only Jesus defeated Satan and death by His perfect life and innocent death and glorious resurrection.

Only the pure and sinless blood of Jesus (Who is God, equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit) could and did pay for the sin of the world, including all of my sin and your sin.

Only Jesus is powerful enough to come on the Last Day and raise all the dead and judge all Mankind with true justice. Only Jesus can and has won heaven for us.

And so: What Do You Want from God? AMEN

THEME: What Do You Want from God?