

Wisdom From Above —Without Hypocrisy

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BIG SANDY, Texas—There are many sections in the Bible that describe characteristics that disciples seek to inculcate into their lives. One such section is found in James 3:17.

James 3:17—“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

Today, we will discuss the subject of being without hypocrisy.

Greek word in James 3:17

Notice the major Greek words dealing with the subject of hypocrisy.

■ *Anypokritos* (No. 505 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is the Greek word in James 3:17 translated as “without hypocrisy.” It is used six times in the New Testament.

Romans 12:9—“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.”

2 Corinthians 6:6—“. . . by sincere love”

1 Timothy 1:5—“. . . from sincere faith”

2 Timothy 1:5—“I call to remembrance the genuine [No. 505] faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.”

James 3:17—“. . . without hypocrisy”

1 Peter 1:22—“. . . sincere love of the brethren”

Other words for hypocrisy

There are many verses in the New Testament that deal with the subject of hypocrisy, but they revolve around two associated Greek words.

Hypokrisis (No. 5272 in *Strong's Concordance*) is a Greek noun generally translated as hypocrisy. It is used six times in the New Testament. Following are a few of them.

Matthew 23:28—"Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."

Luke 12:1—"He began to say to His disciples first of all, 'Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.' "

■ *Hypokrites* (No. 5273 in *Strong's Concordance*) is a Greek noun translated as "hypocrite" and "hypocrites." It is used 20 times in the New Testament. Following are a few of them.

Matthew 6:2—"Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward."

Matthew 6:5—"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward."

Matthew 7:5—"Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

Matthew 23:13-15—"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."

Matthew 23:23—"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone."