

**Two kingdoms** - two heads, two spirits, two bodies etc.

- What has happened?
- What is happening?
- Why has it happened?

“65 percent of Americans claim to be born again, but only about 6 percent had a biblical worldview. How could this be?”

“The leading journal of conservative evangelicals once did a study on the articles it carried and found that only 1 percent of them had even one reference to Scripture! This is the part of the body of Christ that is known mostly for its devotion to Scripture.” Rick Joyner

- **Why is Christianity failing in Europe?**

- Secular humanism and Islam flourishing
- **The Church** – divided; depressed; self-centred; materialistic; weird; irrelevant; powerless; prayer-less; clue-less
- **Reasons**
  - Rejection of Jesus
  - Rejection of the Word of God
  - Rejection of the Holy Spirit’s work
    - “Form of godliness that rejects the power thereof; from such turn away”
  - Rejection of personal relationship with God
  - Based on man’s opinion of what is right and wrong - intellectual

- **Why is the Christianity flourishing in places like China?**

- One million per month!

- **The Church** – united; filled with joy; Christ centred; spiritual; powerful; relevant; prayerful; motivated
  - Acceptance of Jesus as the Way
  - Acceptance / Hunger for Word of God
  - Acceptance of Holy Sprit’s work – supernatural
  - Acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour
  - Based on God’s wisdom - revelation

## **Challenge**

- The church in our nation poorly prepared to stand in these evil days

## **Serious Need**

- Spirit of wisdom and revelation of God, His power, His love, His grace, His wisdom as revealed in His Word by His Spirit

## **Two Wisdoms Clashing!**

**Genesis 1-3** - foundational to our understanding of life

**Gen 3:16-17** God says, “...don’t eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat it you shall surely die (be separated from God and die spirit, soul and body).”

## **Wouldn’t be a great benefit to have the knowledge of good and evil?**

- Why doesn’t God agree?

## The devil argues his case

- Deceptive
- **Aims**
  - To separate the human race from God
  - Fulfil his desire to be God (like God)
  - To sit on the throne and rule and be worshipped like God
  - Gollum-like – descending into greater corruption
  - Glorify “Knowledge”, especially in the West has become god.
    - What do you know?
    - OR WHO do you know?

## Isaiah 14:9-17

<sup>9</sup> The grave below is all astir to meet you at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you— all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones— all those who were kings over the nations.

<sup>10</sup> They will all respond, they will say to you, "You also have become weak, as we are; you have become like us."

<sup>11</sup> All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you.

<sup>12</sup> How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!

<sup>13</sup> You said in your heart,

"I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain.

<sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; **I will make myself like the Most High.**"

<sup>15</sup> But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

<sup>16</sup> Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: "Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble,

<sup>17</sup> the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?"

### **Being “like God” - central to devil’s temptation**

- He probably couldn’t imagine that a person wouldn’t want that.
- Difficult to tempt a person died to self
  - No desire for personal glory, position and acclaim is.

**Gen 3:5-6** “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. The woman saw the tree was ... a tree **desirable to make one wise...**”

### **Why does God forbid eating from this tree?**

- Motivated by his love for us
- Solomon – desired wisdom and was praised
- **Why?**
  - He knew the knowledge of good and evil was unable him to rule well
- He asked God for wisdom.

### **What is wrong with “receiving the knowledge of good and evil” from this tree?**

- Every society has its laws of “good and evil”.
- No matter what the laws may be they can never give eternal life.
- Like the 10 commandments they reveal us to be sinners
- Zimbabwe’s laws not the problem

### **Two types of wisdom, knowledge and understanding**

- Diametrically opposed to each other
- Come from different sources – two kingdoms

## **Wisdom** – “know how”

- Based upon knowledge.
- Cannot exist without a knowledge of all the facts pertinent to any purpose or plan.

## **God’s Wisdom**

### **God knows everything** - “omniscient”

- God knows everything about everything.
- He knows what men are thinking (see [Ezekiel 11:5](#); [Luke 5:21-22](#)). He knows everything that is going to happen. He even knows everything that could happen, under any set of circumstances (see, for example, [1 Samuel 23:10-12](#); [2 Kings 8:10](#)).
- God cannot devise a bad plan or fail to bring His purposes and promises to their conclusion because He knows everything.
- His omniscience undergirds His wisdom.

## **Example: David and Saul – Types of Wisdom**

### **Saul is a type of “the wisdom of man”.**

The king they preferred above God.

Man’s choice – “head and shoulders” above the rest.

Became demon possessed.

Anti-Christ spirit – against David

**David is a type of Jesus.** He is God’s anointed king – chosen by God.

### **1 Chronicles 12 - Warriors Join David**

<sup>31</sup> men of half the tribe of Manasseh, **designated by name to come and make David king**-18,000;

<sup>32</sup> **men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command;**

<sup>33</sup> men of Zebulun, experienced soldiers prepared for battle with every type of weapon, to help David with undivided loyalty-50,000;

<sup>38</sup> All these were fighting men who volunteered to serve in the ranks. They came to Hebron fully determined to make David king over all Israel.

### **God's ways and our (man's ways) are so different**

**Isaiah 55:8-9 (New King James Version)** “For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are* your ways My ways,” says the LORD. “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

**Proverbs 24:3-4** <sup>3</sup>Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; <sup>4</sup> By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

**1 Peter 4-5** “Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, ***are being built up a spiritual house***, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

<sup>6</sup> However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup> But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, <sup>8</sup> which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

<sup>9</sup> But as it is written: “*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*”

<sup>10</sup> But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

**James 3:13-18 (New King James Version)**  
**Heavenly Versus Demonic Wisdom**

<sup>13</sup> Who *is* wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct *that* his works *are done* in the meekness of wisdom.

<sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. <sup>15</sup> This **wisdom does not descend from above**, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where envy and self-seeking *exist*, confusion and every evil thing *are* there.

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.