

## **“Come, Holy Spirit” – Week Five Spirit of Wisdom ~ the Guidance of the Spirit**

### A. *Wisdom* defined (dictionary.com)

1. “knowledge of what is true or right coupled with just judgment as to action: sagacity, discernment, insight”
2. “scholarly knowledge or learning”
  - a. conventional wisdom, “a generally accepted theory or belief”
  - b. perennial wisdom / philosophy / tradition, “shared universal truth,” Richard Rohr (<https://cac.org/perennial-wisdom-2018-07-30/>) – e.g., ‘the Golden Rule’ ~ “do to others as you would have them do to you” (Jesus, Matt 7:12) ~ “what you do not wish for yourself, do not do to others (Confucius, ca 551-479 BC) ~ “what is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor, this is the entire Torah, the rest is commentary, go and learn” (Hillel the Elder, ca 110 BC-10 AD)

### B. *Wisdom* personified

1. the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament – Job (date and author unknown) ~ Psalms (King David, ca 1010-970 BC, and contemporaries) ~ Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon (attributed to King Solomon, ca 990-931 BC, ‘the wisdom of Solomon’)
  - a. *Hakmah* (Hebrew, “wisdom”) – “technical skill, aptitude; experience, good sense” (*Holladay Lexicon*)
  - b. Proverbs
    - i. wisdom (*Cultural Background Study Bible, NRSV*) – “understanding and preserving order in the world”: creation brought order to the cosmos (Genesis 1), law brought order to society (Psalm 1), etiquette brought order to human relationships (Leviticus 19:18), politics brought order to governance (1 Kings 3:1-15)
    - ii. moral instruction (Proverbs 1:1-7)
    - iii. ‘Woman Wisdom’ (Proverbs 8:1-9:6)
2. the *Logos* (Greek, “word”)
  - a. Greek philosophical term for the divine reason that orders the universe, Wisdom personified – Jewish biblical term for God’s creative speech (Genesis 1, Isaiah 55:11, Psalm 107:20), God’s law (Deuteronomy 6:4-9), God’s prophetic message (Jeremiah 1), Wisdom personified (Proverbs 8-9) – harmonized by Philo (ca 20 BC-50 AD), Hellenistic Jewish philosopher –

- b. applied to Jesus Christ by the author of John (John 1:1-18) and others (1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Colossians 1:15-20 Hebrews 1:1-4)

C. The Spirit of Wisdom

- 1. physical movement – *for example...*
  - a. Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12:1-9)
  - b. the freed people of Israel (Exodus 13:17-22)
  - c. Jesus Christ in ministry (Luke 4:1-21)
  - d. the disciples (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Acts 8:26-40)
- 2. physical ability – *for example...*
  - a. the freed people of Israel (Exodus 36:1, Deuteronomy 34:9, 1 Kings 7:4)
  - b. the judges and prophets (Judges 14:5-6, Isaiah 61:1-3 Joel 2:28-32)
  - c. Jesus Christ in ministry (Luke 4:1-21)
  - d. the disciples (Acts 2:1-4, Acts 4:8-13, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11)
- 3. spiritual movement – discerning what to do (Psalm 51, Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 6:53-63, John 16:7-14, Galatians 5:13-26, Romans 8:1-14, 2 Corinthians 3:1-6)
- 4. spiritual ability – doing it (Ezekiel 36:27, Isaiah 63:7-16, Acts 15:1-32, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12, 1 John 2:1-6)