

**TRUSTING GOD'S PROVIDENCE:
SAYING NO TO WORLDLY WISDOM**

Genesis 16:1-6

Wisdom of the world = how ungodly, unbelieving society thinks about and resolves the everyday issues of life.

Worldly wisdom **discourages** our hearts in knowing (believing/behaving) that God causes all things to work together for good; worldly wisdom tempts us to **doubt** and **dump** the truth, and to do what is right in our own eyes, instead of following Jesus in faith.

THREE AIMS IN SATAN'S USE OF WORLDLY WISDOM
to draw our hearts away from faith in
God's truth, goodness, and provision
for us as His people

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Deceives* (Our Hearts)

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Deceives* (Our Hearts)

Here is Satan's snare:

- Adopting the world's wisdom requires **compromising** God's truth.
- Worldly wisdom and godly wisdom are **incompatible**.

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Deceives* (Our Hearts)

Anytime we are tempted to run a course which requires us to compromise *any aspect* of God's wisdom and truth for living, **we are headed in the wrong direction.**

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Deceives* (Our Hearts)

As soon as we begin to turn our eyes to the world's wisdom in the things of life, we open ourselves to deceit and start a progression which takes us away from **single-minded devotion to God** and toward **empty deception**.

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Deceives* (Our Hearts)

This is abdication (abandoning) of Abram's God-ordained role as spiritual head of his wife.

As with Adam's abdication, Abram's sin and lack of leadership had a tremendously negative impact on his marriage.

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Defiles* (Our Relationships)

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Defiles* (Our *Relationships*)

It is **predictable** because sinful deception *always* births sinful actions when left *unchecked by God's truth*.

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Defiles* (Our *Relationships*)

It is **predictable** because sinful deception *always* births sinful actions when left *unchecked by God's truth*.

It is **shocking** because, as we read about Sarai's plan, our senses are assaulted with the wrong of it.

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Defiles* (Our *Relationships*)

It is **predictable** because sinful deception *always* births sinful actions when left *unchecked by God's truth*.

It is **shocking** because, as we read about Sarai's plan, our senses are assaulted with the wrong of it.

It is **tragic** because the consequences are brutal for them—and for all who come after them (Genesis 16:7-12)

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Demands* (Our *Allegiance*)

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

The World's Wisdom *Demands* (Our *Allegiance*)

Sarai gives voice to the form and fashion of the world when it feels it has been wronged:

- “No fair—I’m innocent—I’m a victim!”
- “I demand my rights!”

WAITING ON THE LORD

Watch for God! Look for evidence of God's grace to others and to you.

WAITING ON THE LORD

Watch for God! Look for evidence of God's grace to others and to you.

Adorn God's gospel. Live the beauty and wonder of Jesus in you.

WAITING ON THE LORD

Watch for God! Look for evidence of God's grace to others and to you.

Adorn God's gospel. Live the beauty and wonder of Jesus in you.

Invest in God's people. Selflessly love as God loves you.

WAITING ON THE LORD

Watch for God! Look for evidence of God's grace to others and to you.

Adorn God's gospel. Live the beauty and wonder of Jesus in you.

Invest in God's people. Selflessly love as God loves you.

Trust God. Walk by faith in God's goodness to you.

WAITING ON THE LORD

Good refers to God's purpose in *setting us apart* from sin to serve Him in holiness as He *conforms us* to the likeness of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Such is the power of God's good grace.

GRACE CHURCH
WILLIAMSBURG