

“Common Sense or Godly Wisdom?”

Joshua 9

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Reality #1: GODLY WISDOM PROTECTS GOD’S PEOPLE . . . OR NOT. Joshua 9:1-15

So the men took some of their provisions, but did not ask counsel from the LORD. And Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live, and the leaders of the congregation swore to them. Joshua 9:14-15 (ESV)

Wisdom = a divine perspective which leads to **godly choices**.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14 (ESV)

To determine God’s will, we do our best **thinking** and we do our best **discerning**.

Reality #2: SOMETIMES, OUR **UNWISE CHOICE** RESULTS IN A DIFFICULT CONSEQUENCE. (Joshua 9:16-21)

Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? [Who is really pleasing to you?] He who walks blamelessly and . . . who swears to his own hurt and does not change. Psalm 15:1-2, 4 (ESV)

Reality #3: OUR GRACIOUS GOD MAY CHOOSE TO TURN OUR UNWISE CHOICE **AROUND FOR GOOD**.
(Joshua 9:22-27)

The take-home truth: Consulting the Lord is the key to making wise decisions.

APPLICATION TIP:

Select a decision you must make—whether momentous or not—and ask yourself the following questions.

- As I make this decision, have I done the necessary thinking to help bring clarity? Do I need more information or evaluation? Do I need godly counsel to help me think it through?
- Have I given the time needed to talk and listen to God about this decision? Do I have a sense that He is leading? Is what I am hearing consistent with the Scriptures? Do I need godly counsel to help me discern God's voice?