

"Seeking Wonder and Gaining Wisdom" Rev Seth Jones

-
- Afterglow of the WONDER of Christmas
 - What now?
 - Wonder -----Wisdom relationship
 - The more wisdom we gain, the more there is at which to wonder
 - "More you know, less you know"
 - Example of Daisy Pass
 - Wonder of view
 - Wisdom re: drop off
- Brief Discussion of History of WONDER and WISDOM
 - WONDER - condition for gaining WISDOM
 - Greek philosophers - Plato and Aristotle
 - Rabbinic Tradition - the "why of the Fall"
 - Christian Tradition - Desert Fathers, Augustine, Aquinas
- Why WISDOM and WONDER matter
 - Discuss RCC
 - My interview - re: "growing the church"
 - What does it mean?
 - If Jesus Christ is our model for what "growing the church" means
 - Then Gospel story for today holds meaning for that question
 - RCC as vessel/holder of WISDOM
 - Not an age specific statement, rather a recognition of the intergenerational nature of WISDOM
 - At the same time, do we have avenues available for those who seek WISDOM from those who have it?
- Gospel Story - Luke 2:41-52
 - 1 - Honoring Traditions - Lk 2:42
 - But not for their own sake
 - In order to change them - CF: MK 2:27
 - Not in slavish devotion to them
 - CF: MT 15:3
 - 2 - Fellowship with others - Lk 2:46
 - Young JC WONDERS and asks questions of the Rabbis
 - Note PARTICIPATION and SEEKING in this scene
 - Back and forth
 - Not singular direction
 - Seeking the same mind
 - CF: 1 Cor 1:9
 - CF: Phil 2:5
 - Rabbinic tradition in Talmud
 - Opposite interpretations of Scripture in one book

- 3 - Knowing Source of our WISDOM and WONDER - Lk 2:49
 - JC is not rejecting his earthly father in this scene
 - He is claiming the One Source of all our WONDER and WISDOM - God
- 4 - Gaining WISDOM in order to SEEK WONDER, Gaining WONDER in order to SEEK WISDOM
 - Requires we trust the process - Lk 2:51
 - Obeying parents = gaining WISDOM
 - Not a command, rather a reflection of trusting the process of Gaining WISDOM
 - Gradual
 - Deliberate
 - Ps 62:5-8
 - 1 Peter 1:21

■ Applications

- Is Church a source of WONDER?
 - If not, why not?
 - No WONDER = no access to WISDOM
 - No access to WISDOM = nothing to WONDER about
- Is our fellowship in Christ about building up one another?
 - WISDOM increases as we seek the WISDOM and fellowship of one another
 - Faith is something we do together
 - Do we WONDER what is going on with one another in their faith life?
- Where does the source of our WONDER and WISDOM lie?
 - In our own desires and even beliefs?
 - Or does it lie where it belongs - GOD?
 - Do we have the wisdom to know the difference?
 - AA Prayer
 - God grant me the serenity to accept what I cannot change; the strength to change those things I can; and the WISDOM to know the difference.
- Are we able to trust the process of gaining WISDOM?
 - Takes time - We want it NOW
 - Takes trust - which means patience
 - Our honor of WISDOM and WONDER leads others to WONDER at the Source of the WISDOM present here.