

THE IDENTITY OF THE OVERCOMING CHURCH: GOD'S WISDOM ON DISPLAY

Houses of Light Church • June 8th, 2025 • Anthony Recio (based on notes by Pastor Netz Gomez)

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord." - Ephesians 3:10-11

I. God Is Infinitely Wise — And That Wisdom Is Seen Through the Church

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known..."

A. 🔍 Key Insight:

1. Manifold wisdom = multi-dimensional, complex, beautiful wisdom.
 - a) It's not one-dimensional wisdom. It's complex, beautiful, layered.
 - b) Wisdom that creates a plan before the world began.
2. **The church (Jews + Gentiles united in Christ) is God's way of putting His wisdom on display.**
3. He could've shown it through nature, through miracles, or through angels—but He chose us.

B. 🔍 Application:

1. God's wisdom isn't just theoretical—it's visible through ordinary, messy people made new in Christ.
2. You don't need to understand everything God is doing to trust that His wisdom is at work.

***Proverbs 3:5-6** — Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

3. What if your struggle, reconciliation, or faithfulness is showing off God's wisdom to a watching world—and beyond?

C. 🎨 Illustration: God's Wisdom Is Like a Tapestry

1. From underneath, a tapestry looks like tangled strings and chaos. From above, it's a masterpiece. Same with your life. You might only see the knots—but God sees the picture.

***Romans 11:33** — "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!"*

II. Heaven Is Watching — Your Life Has a Cosmic Audience

"...to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms..."

A. 🧠 Context:

1. Paul isn't just talking about earthly kings. This is spiritual: angels and demons.
2. 🌌 What Are "Rulers and Authorities"?
 - a) This refers to spiritual beings — angels, demons, and everything in between.
Paul talks about them again in **Ephesians 6:12**:
"Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world..."
3. God is using the church as a living sermon to show His superiority, power, and plan.

B. 👁️ Application:

1. Heaven sees what we often miss: the church is the front line of spiritual warfare and victory.
2. Every act of unity, every forgiveness given, every person restored—testifies to God's wisdom in defeating evil.
 - a) 🧠 Think About This:
 - (1) When you forgive someone? Angels learn about mercy.
 - (2) When you show kindness in a bitter world? Heaven sees God's patience in action.
 - (3) When you fall and repent and keep going? Hell sees that grace always wins.
3. You may feel small—but your obedience echoes in eternity.

C. 🗨️ Real Talk:

1. This isn't just "church as usual." This is war. Worship is warfare. Community is resistance.
 - a) Some of you feel like your faith doesn't matter. But it does!
You show up on Sunday. You try to walk in obedience. You forgive when it's hard. You keep praying even when it's quiet. **Heaven sees. Hell notices. And God uses it all.**
Romans 8:28 — And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
 - b) Your Monday morning obedience preaches louder than a microphone ever could.
2. The church isn't a hobby—it's heaven's headline.

III. God's Eternal Plan Is Unstoppable and Centered on Christ

"...according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord."

A. 📌 Key Doctrine:

1. God's purpose isn't reactionary—it's eternal.

2. Jesus wasn't a backup plan—He is the centerpiece of God's story.
3. The word accomplished (past tense) = done. Victory is already won in Jesus.
4. Let's break that down:
 - a) Eternal purpose = God's plan from the very beginning. Not plan B.
...the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world. - Revelation 13:8b
 - b) Accomplished in Christ = it's done. Finished. Not just a dream. It's already real.
John 19:30 — When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

B. 🔍 Application:

1. You're not building your own purpose—you're stepping into God's eternal one.
 - a) This means your life is not random. It's not wasted.
 - b) You're part of a plan that's older than time and stronger than death.
2. When you feel discouraged, remember: **the story ends in triumph. The cross wasn't defeat—it was the reveal of God's deepest wisdom.**

IV. ✨ Final Reflections

A. 🙌 What Does This Reveal About God's Character?

1. He is wise beyond comprehension.
2. He is sovereign in the unseen and seen.
3. He is gracious, choosing broken people to display eternal truths.

B. 🚀 Why Does This Matter for Us?

1. You are part of something far bigger than your job, schedule, or struggle.
2. The church isn't just for you—it's through you that God is preaching to the cosmos.

C. 🎯 How Do We Respond to All This?

1. Worship God's Wisdom
 - a) Don't just admire His power—admire His wisdom.
 - b) When life feels like tangled string, remember: God sees the full tapestry.
2. Live With a Heaven-Aware Perspective
 - a) You're not just living before people—you're living before angels and demons.
 - b) Your life is cosmic evidence of God's glory.

Hebrews 12:1 — "Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses..."

D. 3. Commit to the Church

E. The church isn't optional in God's plan—it is the plan.

- F. Even if the church feels messy, frustrating, or slow—it's God's stage.
Matthew 16:18 — “I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

V. 🧠 **Summary:**

- A. God is putting His wisdom on display — not through the stars, or prophets, or lightning bolts — but through the church. Through you. Through us. Angels are watching. Demons are watching. And God is saying, “Watch this...”
- B. God is using the church to make His eternal wisdom visible in the heavenly realms—and your life is part of the message. The headline: **God is wise. God is good. And Jesus is Lord.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. This summer, HOLY58 invites you to join our Burning Hearts Summer Intensive! Over four exciting days, students will explore God's Word, engage in creative projects, and grow in their faith. The program will wrap up with a special Family Service. July 14th - 17th | Ages: 13-18 | For more information, please visit the table outside or scan the QR code.
2. Vacation Bible School (VBS), for our children, is coming up (July 28th — August 1st). We are looking for volunteers to support us with this event. For more information, please visit the table outside or the children's office in Building 1 (across the street).