
God Gave Us a Brain: The [Christian] Myth of Common Sense

This View Misses the Fact that Knowledge and Wisdom ONLY Come Through an Ongoing Relationship with God

1. Wisdom and knowledge come through extended effort

Prov 2:1-5 ¹ My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, ² So that you incline your ear to wisdom, *And* apply your heart to understanding; ³ Yes, if you cry out for discernment, *And* lift up your voice for understanding, ⁴ If you seek her as silver, And search for her as *for* hidden treasures; ⁵ Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.

2. The Lord Gives Wisdom and Knowledge

Prov 2:6 For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding;

3. Fear of the Lord Is the Beginning of Wisdom & Knowledge

Prov 1:7 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge, *But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Prov 9:10 "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

This View Ignores or Defies Clear Revelation from God

1. Ignores Sinful Bent of Our Hearts

Jer 17:9 The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?

Mt 15:18-19 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. ¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Eph 4:17-19 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹ who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Phil 3:18-19 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: ¹⁹ whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is* their belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame-- who set their mind on earthly things.

Col 1:21-22 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight--

2. Ignores a Key Purpose of the Bible

Ps 119:105 Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

3. Ignores the Need to Know the Bible

Ps 119:1-12 Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, Who walk in the law of the LORD! ² Blessed *are* those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart! ³ They also do no iniquity; They walk in His ways. ⁴ You have commanded *us* To keep Your precepts diligently. ⁵ Oh, that my ways were directed To keep Your statutes! ⁶ Then I would not be ashamed, When I look into all Your commandments. ⁷ I will praise You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments. ⁸ I will keep Your statutes; Oh, do not forsake me utterly! ⁹ How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. ¹⁰ With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! ¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You! ¹² Blessed *are* You, O LORD! Teach me Your statutes!

John 3:19-21 ¹⁹ "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

1 Pet 2:1-3 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

4. Ignores the Truth that Success Comes through Understanding & Obeying God's Word

Ps 1:1-3 Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

Josh 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

5. Ignores the Clear Commands of God

Prov 3:5-8 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. ⁸ It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones. Col 3:1-3 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

1 Pet 1:13-16 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Luke 14:27 "And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

6. It Ignores What Happened in Genesis 3

Gen 3:6-7 ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

7. Rejects the presence of the sin nature / flesh

Rom 8:5-8 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Eph 2:1-3 And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

8. Ignores all of the commands, positive and negative, in the OT and NT