

# An Understanding Heart

**Introduction.** In Disney's 1992 film, *Aladdin*, the main character finds a magic lamp containing a genie. He's given three wishes which are traced throughout all the plot twists in the movie.

Can you imagine what it would be like for someone to grant you three wishes? In a way, Solomon had that happen. God gave Solomon the opportunity to ask for whatever he wished. In 1 Kings 3:5-14, he asked for an understanding heart to judge Israel. In the same way, we need an understanding heart about several subjects. Having an understanding heart helps us to be better servants, so we're going to investigate several areas where we need better understanding.

## **I. Of God's Will**

- A. Ephesians 5:17.
- B. 1 Corinthians 14:20.
- C. 2 Timothy 2:15.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8.

## **II. Of Good And Evil**

- A. Philippians 1:9-11.
- B. Colossians 1:9-11.
- C. Hebrews 5:12-14.
- D. Romans 12:9.

## **III. Of The Church**

- A. Acts 2:39-41, 47.
- B. Acts 20:28.
- C. Ephesians 3:10-11, 14-22.
- D. Ephesians 4:11-16.

## **IV. Of Ourselves**

- A. 2 Corinthians 13:5.
- B. 1 Corinthians 9:27.
- C. Romans 12:3.
- D. Galatians 5:4.

## **V. Of Others**

- A. Isaiah 1:17.
- B. Romans 12:15.
- C. Matthew 7:12.
- D. Philippians 2:3-5.

## **VI. Of Judgment**

- A. Matthew 7:1-5.
- B. John 7:24.
- C. Matthew 5:7.

D. Revelation 20:11-15.

**Conclusion.** Solomon's request is a good one for Christians now. Lord, give us an understanding heart. And help us to use it to your glory as we grow in Christ and proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9). Amen and amen.

If you're ready to obey the gospel so that you can replace your stony heart with a heart of flesh, then begin this morning by repenting of sins, confessing Christ in front of these people, and be baptized with Him.