



WISE, PATIENT

Pastor Mark Driscoll

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well can we just wish a Happy Father's Day to all the dads and all the granddads amen we are so honored to have you with us if we've not met my name is uh Pastor Mark one of the pastors here and uh this is one of my favorite days of the year because I believe that if you get the men and you get the men to love and serve God the men can help straighten and fix everything else that is broken and so I just want to honor the men who are joining us live I want to honor the men who are joining us online and how many of you guys are part of uh real men those who are in the room and many of you are online just thank you for the honor of being your pastor I love you men you mean the world to me you really do and what we're seeing God do among the men in our church and then that message in Ministry going to the Nations it's quite frankly Supernatural and it is something that the world desperately needs perhaps more than ever and so uh I'm at the age now where uh I really am in the happiest and greatest season of my life I've got five kids that love and serve Jesus uh I've got two grandkids I've got two on the way my granddaughter is going to be here next month I asked Grace do you think I'm going to cry or laugh she said both so that's probably a prophecy of what July is going to look like and then in October we've got our third grandson coming and so this is really a wonderful day for me it's a wonderful season for me and I have the honor of teaching today but I just want you to know from my heart my heart for you is a Father's Heart I care I care very deeply especially for you men and you mean the world to me and I want you to have hope for yourself and your marriage and your family and your future and I believe that God has greatness and Destiny for you and it's a great honor to be the spiritual father of this church family and I thank you for that honor on this Father's Day and I want to honor all of you men who are fathers and especially those young men who are aspiring to be fathers God bless you and God has a great future for you amen all right all right um I'm going to pray and I'm going to continue in a sermon series that we've been in called real God uh God spoke to me and gave me this conviction and so I pivoted and through this what was supposed to be short sermon series and it has gone wildly well online apparently talking about God is something that is new um I thought I thought that in church we should talk about God when we talk about God they're like oh they're talking about God so so we're going to continue in our real God Series today but this will be helpful for all of you but especially for you men because God is a father and so if we're going to be fathers we need to be like our father to be like our father we need to know what our father's like uh father I pray now as we come to open your word into learn God I just thank you so much that you could have chosen any word by which to reveal yourself and you chose father you chose father and on Father's Day we we honor you as our heavenly father and God for those who didn't have a good dad we honor you as a father to the fatherless and those who like me have a great dad a dad who loves you and loves me and a dad that I'm so proud of and I I'm so grateful for I thank you that in addition to an Earthly father I have a heavenly father and God as we open your word today we invite the Holy Spirit to help us to learn who our father is so that we could become like him in Jesus' name amen well here's the here's the beginning of the sermon thus far in the real God series we've looked at God's attributes his characteristics his traits what's God like uh and what's interesting in our day we know a lot about our personality we don't know much about God's you ask the average person what's your personality there uh you know I'm an introvert I'm an extrovert I'm an ENTJ and then there's the whole you know what is your number and I always forget people always ask what is your number whatever Jesus was that's my number on the test um I don't know what that makes me but that's what I am and so what happens is we we take all these personality tests and we have all this information about this is who I am the question is well what's God like most people I don't know in fact the word God is one of the most uh poorly defined and differently defined words

that we have and what we want to do is we want God to tell us who he is and so we're looking at his attributes his characteristics and his traits we looked at the first category and that was his unshared attributes God is eternal he doesn't have a birthday we do uh we're not Eternal God is all knowing we we we don't know everything and what we did know as we get older we tend to forget uh God is all powerful and some of us can't even get a lit off a jar and so God has these these attributes that he doesn't share with us but then there are some attributes that he kindly does share with us and we're going to start to examine those attributes this week and in the remainder of the sermon series and so then the question I want to start with is why do you exist right why do I exist why do we exist why are we here what's the point what's the purpose of life and and ultimately there is this constant quest for identity and purpose who am I and why am I here and the Bible tells us in the opening chapter exactly where we come from what our identity is and what our purpose is so we'll jump right in Genesis 1 you were made deir Genesis 1:26-27 if you're new to the Bible this is the first page God said Okay God said this is where we begin God says so our God speaks this is what's nice Our God talks to us about himself God says let us you'll notice it's plural language that's the father son Spirit Trinity the relationship of God let us make man that is mankind named after the man in our image after our likeness and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea birds of the heaven over the livestock and over all the Earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth so God created man in his own image that's what we're going to talk about in the image of God he created him blank and blank what is it male and female you guys are very binary and judgy thank you uh male and female he created them and so this answers the two big questions the first is identity Who Am I who are we and what it says here is that our identity is not created by by us but it's created by God and this is what's leading to an entire generation of mental health we're looking at even young children and we're saying you need to create for yourself an identity and that identity might change and you need to fully commit yourself to it and as a result there's a lot of anxiety that comes among younger Generations well the good news is we don't create an identity God does and he tells us our identity and then we just need to obey what he instructs us to be in to do and so what it says here is he made us first and foremost blank and Blake male and female we believe this some of you say the world doesn't the world's stupid okay and that's on a good day um and so what it says is that we're made in the image and likeness of God male and female binary two genders and as a result uh we're going to have masculine and feminine ways of expressing things okay and so uh I'll let you know secret I'm a I'm a male I know it's shocking um and if you look at my wife she's a female and if you can't tell the difference you're not sober okay and so we just live in a world that's just confused about things that are obvious but God made us male and God made us female and God made us for relationship when it says let us make Mankind in our image in our likeness it means that God is father son and spirit God is uh relational Comm community and God made us for relationships so we're relational beings uh this is why the Bible will say in the next chapter it's not good to be alone right we need each other we need to be in relationship so I'm a man made by God to have a relationship with him and a relationship with others and then what it tells me here is there's God me and then lower creation so I'm not God okay and I'm not alongside of God and and I'm not a spark of the Divine so I'm not God God is over me but then I'm over lower creation I'm over plants and animals I have dominion means I should use the world that God made to create business and culture to create cities and to fill the Earth and to subdue it and have dominion for human life and flourishing that means that radical animal rights activists are just frankly wrong I'm not just a lucky animal that evolved I'm an image bearer of God in addition the radical environmental rights activists are wrong the Earth is not my mother God is my father

and furthermore the Earth is not sacred it is under the Dominion of the men and women that God Made In His Image and likeness so what this shows us this is our identity I'm a man under god with authority and dominion over lower creation that's identity and then this leads to purpose and what it says is that of everything that God made made only one category was made in His image and likeness that's us men and women uh ultimately animals don't bear the image and likeness of God creation and plants and such what we would call nature and the environment they don't bear the image and likeness of God and so now we find our purpose and our purpose is simply this you and I we were made to mirror when it says that we were made in God's image to image something is to mirror or reflect it okay and so air has one job that job is to accurately reflect the person standing in front of it okay so how about today probably you like me I got up and I stood before the mirror and it tragically did its job tragically did its job I like really I just looked over at Grace I was like I'm sorry you got to look at this all the time you know you know and so and so ultimately Air's job is to reflect the person in front of it here's the big idea you're God's mirror you're God's mirror God is invisible immaterial in spirit with the exception of Jesus entering into human history and occupying a human body to save us but God wanted creation people places to see something of his goodness and character so he made us in His image and likeness we're supposed to be the proverbial mirror that stands in the presence of God and reflects the glory of God the nature of God the shared attributes of God to the world and so ultimately now the whole point is this the goal of life is not to be true to yourself but to be true to your God the goal of life is not to create an identity but to reflect the identity that God has created you to occupy and ultimately what it means is this we don't create an identity God creates it and we are to mirror it and so what this means is God's shared attributes we reflect give you some examples and this is where we'll go in the next few weeks God loves me so we love others God forgives us so we forgive others God blesses us so we bless others uh God is generous to us so we're generous to others God tells the truth to us so we tell the truth to others and that means that our purpose is not found in ourselves but in our God and being faithful to him now what this uh causes is a lot of confusion because sin has entered the world the third chapter of the Bible sin enters the world as a result of sin some of us are broken mirrors you're reflecting God but you're you're you're not accurately reflecting his character it's like a broken mirror you're looking at it you're like I can't really see myself that mirror is broken it's not reflecting accurately and some people because of sin they're like a fun house mirr you ever stood before a fun house mirror I hate this them because I look shorter and wider and I don't need that I don't need that and so some people are fun house Mir you're like wow you you kind of reflect the character of God but it's very distorted and out of alignment and so what what we want to learn to be is restored mirrors that that reflect mirror image God's character to others starting I'll say this starting with those who are nearest and dearest to us that God's character should be reflected first in our marriage and then with our children and then with our family and friends and church family and co-workers and the goal is wherever we go to be asking okay what is my God like and how can I reflect him under these circumstances this is the whole point of the shared attributes so then that leads us to the question what does a mirror look like that's not broken or a funhouse mirror you know what does it look like when you accurately reflect the character of God and the shared attributes of God and this of course brings us to someone we all know and love and his name is his name is Jesus Christ he's the perfect mirror 2 Corinthians 4:4 the God of this world that's Satan has blinded the minds of the unbelievers to keep them from seeing the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ who is the he's the image of God Colossians 1:15 he is the image of the invisible God God is Spirit Jesus shows up says let me show you what he looks like in character the firstborn overall creation and I

love this in John 14:9 Jesus says Whoever has seen me has seen the father see it's family resemblance you've heard that line like father like son so Jesus is the son of God and he perfectly mirrors images reflects the character of the father and some people will wrongly say well I like the New Testament I don't like the Old Testament the god of the Old Testament he's kind of he's mean he's angry he's cruel little dangerous little violent I just really like Jesus he seems like a total sweetheart most hugable in high school I'm all about the Tas you know and they just love Jesus and what Jesus says we're the same character we manifest the same attributes what he's saying is you've seen me you've seen him because I'm a mirror that reflects him so the god of the Old Testament and the god of the New Testament all the same God and Jesus is the perfect reflection of God now what what I need you to know is this if you don't reflect God if you don't mirror God if you don't image God you're still going to be a mirror and the question is who are you going to reflect see because we're made to mirror it's just like any mirror if uh if someone else stood in front of my mirror the mirror would still do its job but it would be reflecting a different person you're a mirror if if you're not under God and you're not reflecting God then the question is who is it that you are reflecting let me tell you why this is so practical um some years ago I was uh there's a guy named Dr Drew Pinsky he's a psychiatrist to the celebrities and the Stars he's been at it for decades I uh I don't know him well but I was on his radio show and Grace and I my wife we were on his television show some years ago was radio show we took intimacy calls from total strangers it wasn't awkward at all um and I was in LA so I like I got to go and so uh so he's a celebrity uh psychiatrist to the Stars I don't believe he's a Christian but he did write a book some years ago called the mirror effect interesting same word meaning uh as to image and he talked about the celebrity Cult of narcissism and what he said is this he said that celebrity culture is driven by this celebrities Model Behavior that then their followers mirr what that means is celebrities go into the position of God and then we worship them by reflecting them so all of a sudden by liking clicking reposting sharing we're worshipping in addition when we look at a celebrity it's like well what are they wearing I'm going to wear that now you're mirroring them what is their behavior I'm going to mirror that what is their political candidate or cause I'm going to like and share that I'm going to mirror them what do they eating what are they drinking what are they driving I'm going to mirror them how do they cut their hair I'm going to look like them so I can mirror them and what Dr Drew says and this is very insightful he says oh over time those celebrities that are mirroring Behavior eventually if everyone is um is doing what they're doing it's it's not interesting it's boring it's boring so all of a sudden you're like oh my gosh did you see so and so doing such and such you're like yeah but now everybody's doing it it's not interesting so then celebrity culture you need to continually get more extreme and outlandish so that you can model new extreme outlandish Behavior that others can then mirror and if you don't you become a hasband you become a husband and what he's saying is this this leads to the destruction of an entire civilization because at the end of the day if you're not mirroring God you're mirroring a celebrity that celebrity usually ends up self-destructing and you're following in their example it's the blind leading the blind this is the problem in our world people are still mirroring but they're not mirroring God and as a result we have mental health we have depression we have all kinds of sickness that is culturally corrupting us to the core so the answer is this the answer is don't mirror them mirror him and we've even got a television show I just think about this we've even got a television show that is now become Legend and it is American Idol an idol is where you mirror someone other than God that's all that it is if you mirror God it's called worship if you mirror here's someone else it's called idolatry in America we've decided we're going to lift people up and we're going to make

them Stars they're going to become Idols they're going to model we're going to mirror and we're going to worship them and let me say this when you worship a person you're in the process of destroying them because they were not built for that that's the problem so what does it mean uh it means that we were made first and foremost with the identity of being created by God male and female and now our purpose is to image your Mir him so this leads me to the unshared attributes so then to rather the shared attributes uh so it's like okay if I'm supposed to mirror you what are you like and this is where I I want you guys to start putting your phone down and picking your Bible up I want you to stop looking at all the politicians and celebrities and I want you to look up and spend some time figuring out who God is okay and so first we're going to deal with one of God's shared attributes and it's that God is wise God is wise and we'll just read it here's a few scriptures wisdom uses practical skills for successful living that's my definition of wisdom job 12:13 uh with God are wisdom and might he has counsel and understanding Daniel 2:20 through 21 Daniel said blessed be the name of God forever and ever to whom belong wisdom and might he changes times and Seasons he removes Kings and sets up Kings he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding Romans 11:13 oh the depths of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God how unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways it's another way of saying he's not just a little bit wiser he's indefinitely wiser Romans 16:27 to the only wise God there's a lot of foolish demonic counterfeit gods to the only wise God be glory forever more through Jesus Christ amen and then I love this 1 Corinthians 3:1 18-20 let no one deceive himself If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age I'm very smart I went to Community College you know I have a degree in you know gender studies um let him become a fool that he may become wise for the wisdom of this world is folly with God if you read the Bible the world looks stupid if you're from the world the Bible looks stupid you got to pick for it is written he catches the wise in their craftiness and again the Lord knows the of the wise that they are the quote unquote wise they are futile so here's what it means that God is wise it means that if you want to have wisdom you got to agree with God and somebody like I disagree with God that's not wise like it seems wise I went to college and they told me I was very smart they also took your money and lied to you you're not very wise back to my initial point and so when it comes to wisdom um here's here's how it works in in in a previous sermon we looked at one of God's unshared attributes God is Creator because God is Creator then God has a Divine Design for that which he created if you're an architect if you're an engineer um let's say you're a composer you understand what the intent of that created piece of work is because you were the designer and you know exactly how it works and if someone deviates from that they're going to not have the same success or outcome because they working against the engineered Divine Design does that make sense and so what happens is God creates everyone and everything and then he writes a book and what he says is here's how it works and if you listen to him and agree with him and Obey him now you're in wisdom and if not you're in Folly you're in Folly and let me say this the world that we're in it is almost entirely foolishness very little wisdom in addition people who are the most foolish tend to think they're the most wise okay you noticed this okay there's a little chuckle I appreciate that testimony um Satan's first Temptation in Genesis 3 was to our first parents and what he said was I can make you wise here's how you become wise um live independent of God be proud not humble and have thoughts that disagree with God God is restricting your ability to achieve your full potential you'll be like God no knowing good and evil you'll be wise and it was a lie and Satan keeps tempting people and he keeps lying to people and he keeps saying wisdom is found apart from God wisdom is found by independence from God wisdom is found by Defiance of God disregard of God and disagreeing with God and this is

where in our culture there's even some people who would just go so far as to say politicians celebrities and the like they're like well I disagree with the Bible okay well they you just proved you're a fool that actually doesn't impress us that reveals you and and so I'll give you an example um how many of you are old car guys it's Father's Day old car guys uh so my my dad is a Car Guy R he fixes old cars he's working on an old Chevy right now uh my brother car guy's got some cool old Chevys um I I like to drive old cars but I'm not great at turning wrenches um my son is a car guy so pray that he gets the 1968 Jeep Gladiator out of my garage it's been there for a very long time I keep laying hands on it looking for a miracle hasn't put itself back together it's a cool truck it's a cool Sun but okay so so what happens I I love old cars uh one of my favorite drivers I've got a 1956 Chevy Bair that I like to cruise around with Grayson and what I know about old cars is this that over time every backyard mechanic grabs a wrench starts working on the car and making their own modification and then eventually how's the car running and driving oh it's not a woman over here laughs she's like that's my husband okay I know I know okay so if you really want the car to run right what's the best thing to do go back to the factory specs go find the owner's manual and ask okay when they when they design this car and the engineers create it and they established it to run let's just go back to the factory settings odds are it's going to run great okay and what I'm telling you is this God's word is like the factory manual you're like well how does marriage work pick up the manual okay how does parenting work pick up the manual how does relationship work pick up the manual how does eternal life work pick up the manual right how does money work pick up the manual how does emotional health work pick up the manual and some people like I disagree I read another book that's what fools do if you're reading something that doesn't agree with what God has said here's what I would tell you thousands of years of proven Guaranteed Life success if you walk according to the wisdom of God just how many how many people right now even if they didn't believe in Jesus if they just read parts of the Bible and obeyed it our world and our culture would be a better place to live don't lie don't steal don't cheat don't kill anybody you know and and and don't and don't tax people um okay um more than they should be taxed which in my opinion is right around zero anyways so God is wisdom but here's what you need to know as well there's a big difference between wisdom and knowledge and wisdom and worldly wisdom okay there's a big difference and I'll show it to you here uh 1 Corinthians 8:1 knowledge puffs up but love builds up so sometimes the more knowledge you have the more arrogant you are which means the more dangerous you are because you can be smart and not wise and you can be arrogant and not humble and you could use the mind that God gave you to do great evil and Injustice it happens all the time this is the problem with the world that it values IQ above character there are brilliant people that do terrible things and it's not just about being smart but it's about mirroring reflecting Imaging the character of God if you're smart and do that praise God we're glad to have you but just because you have knowledge it can puff up and cause you to be very very arrogant and and pride is the root problem with most sins and and let me say this we're not against knowledge but knowledge that leads to arrogance rather than repentance is always dangerous okay um how about this one 1 Corinthians 1: 12-21 where is the one who is wise has God not not made foolish the wisdom of the world for since the wisdom of God the world did not know God through wisdom it pleased God through the Folly of what we preach to save those who believe what he's talking about here is worldly quote unquote wisdom let me tell you the way this works every generation a couple of fools throw out a few ideas and they fail they just fail and so let me tell you what worldly wisdom is worldly wisdom is false prophecy worldly wisdom says well if we do this here'll be the outcome I've lived long enough that I know that they're lying we we've done

this hey you know whole generation we got a bunch of Scholars let's get rid of the Southern border I'm sure that'll make things great oh yeah that sorry didn't work well let's just mask a bunch of kids and put fear in them and traumatize them when they're very little I'm sure they'll be fine oh sorry didn't work well we can't afford things let's just take out a gigantic debt and see what happens oh sorry inflation who could have seen that coming you know hey people people are not behaving you know what we need less cops you know because the people educated beyond their intelligence that live on a tightly secured campus and live at the top of some Ivory Tower they have voted that we'll be fine and we're on fire thank you very much and said the world is just stupid and they keep throwing out these ideas it's like but and what happens to you younger Generations I just let me just put my dad hat on and ramp for a moment um this will be my Father's Day present to myself is what happens is when you're young you're like they said it's going to work when you're old you're like they're dumb right they're idiots with degrees educated beyond their intelligence that's what's going on and what happens is foolish people make promises that don't happen they just don't happen and everybody thinks they're wise until they're proven wrong all right I got one more verse for this section but thank you I feel better now um for the wisdom of this world is what Folly with God Folly with God a lot of people are well here's what I think I was like that's stupid no no no no no we voted like well then for sure that's stupid you know my professor said well don't even finish the sentence I I know you're Professor they're stupid okay and so as Christians there is a point where you you can't be naive and gullible just because somebody has a degree and just because four people are saying it doesn't mean that it's true the question is are they thinking God's thoughts after him don't be conformed to the pattern of the world be transformed by the renewing of your mind let me just summarize this uh knowledge is knowing the truth wisdom is knowing what to do with it knowledge is theoretical wisdom is practical knowledge fills libraries wisdom fills lives knowledge is truthful wisdom is useful knowledge provides information wisdom provides transformation knowledge tells you what to believe wisdom tells you how to behave knowledge finds the problem wisdom finds the solution knowledge is for smart people wisdom is for humble people let me say there's a big difference there's a big difference you can only have wisdom if you're humble enough to listen to repent to learn and Obey in addition knowledge has increased but wisdom has decreased we live in a day when we have more access to more information than any generation in the history of the world and we're not wiser true do you see me walking around going I know who God is um I I know how to be married I know how to make money I know how to raise kids I know how to be sober I know how to flourish I need I know how to invest in the kingdom of God no no instead what we have is an inundation of knowledge and a complete famine for wisdom and and let me explain why this is part of this is in the Days of the New Testament God's people were under the opes of the Roman Empire the primary cultural influence on the Roman Empire for the language and the culture was Greek it was Greece and here is part of where we get the legacy of Western education um and that is it comes from our understanding of Education presently comes from the Greeks so the Greeks they were dualists get a little nerdy for a moment um and that is that we're one person two parts we have a physical body and an immaterial soul in so far as that was taught that is correct it's in accordance of the Bible where they Ed they said that the body was bad but the soul was good so the whole goal is that you would die they didn't want to resurrected body like Jesus they didn't want that and that you would instead live as an immaterial being like like an angel so what they decided was whatever you do with your body it's bad like labor right like cooking your meals or growing your food or chopping your wood the stuff that Jesus did when he took a job as a carpenter working with his hands so they came to the conclusion that only

peasants and poor people and lower class would do things that if you were truly fully Greek you would live in a world of speculation and pontification you would read philosophy and literature and you would listen to music and go to plays and you wouldn't get your hands dirty by doing things this leads to the modern University okay you're catching up okay you're catching up there are actually some universities that have more employees than students it's true when you start to think about the administrators the Mental Health Counselors the cooks the groundskeepers the people who are going to come in and clean the bathrooms and fix the roof and paint the walls and do the security all of those people sometimes the staff is bigger than the population of the student attendance what that means is it is a Perpetual baby Nanny state they secure the perimeter they cut the lawn they they cook the they get the food they cook the food they take out the trash they clean the bathroom they look after your mental health and they take care of everything so that you can live this idealistic Greek life just sit there and speculate what is gender who is God what is the meaning of life right and no wisdom whatsoever so then they graduate and how does it go they're like what I have to do things oh my gosh and I got to pay for this yeah you got to pay for it I'm going to vote for a Democrat and that's so let me just explain this it's Father's Day I get to do what I want I get to do what I want okay and that is other people will take care of me and they'll find other people to pay for it it's America it's why it sucks okay it's true let me just ask the dads am I telling the truth yep yep that's like that's my dang kid yeah I know so so so let me explain to you how this how this is just so silly because we have kids who think that they're so wise and they're ready to just tell the universe how everything should be they've never done anything cut your grass then post you know right right so I'll give you an example um so right now there's a war in Israel first time in 50 years and uh the IDF the Israeli Defense Forces they're attacking Hamas which is a terrorist group that poses as a legitimate government and is still holding civilians so what's going on on college campuses protests you're like surely it's against the terrorists no no no that would be wise okay back to my point so so now we've got like we've got like transgenders for Palestine it's like oh oh I noticed there's no transgenders in Palestine oh they were and they threw them off a building because of the oh so they're not the tolerant and diverse folk okay anyways okay uh I don't know if this will make the next sermon uh we'll see uh but so so now they're picketing and protesting and rioting for terrorists okay and here's what's amazing at one of the universities uh they took over the campus took over the they're they're protesting and riding and around noon they realized they forgot to pack a lunch it's true story okay so then they started putting out on social media demands to the university we demand our human rights we need lunch it's like this is exactly the mag magnificent and perfect illustration of modern education we are for terrorists and we forgot a sandwich that was fun um knowledge isn't wisdom worldly wisdom isn't wise can I get an amen amen okay okay some of you he you like I want wonder what political party they might be okay so so then the question goes um I've got a whole series on God versus government coming up and I've got a book I'm writing on politics so you know it's going to be it's going to be good so yeah if I'm still here so um so so then the question becomes if you want to know what wisdom looks like who do you look to you look to God you look to Jesus Christ because Jesus comes to the Earth and as I told you he perfectly mirrors reflects images the attributes of God so you're like okay God's wise what does that look like Jesus the perfect reflection of the wisdom of God this is why for us as Christians it's always about Jesus it's focused on Jesus it's dedicated to Jesus it's following Jesus it's learning from Jesus you're like he's the only person that ever got it right and so I want to follow in his example and if he perfectly mirrored imaged reflect the character of my heavenly father then I want to become like him and I want to mirror as he does and so

here's what it says uh in the New Testament Matthew 12:42 someone greater than Solomon is here but yet you refuse to listen that's see th those are people that love knowledge and worldly wisdom but but not true wisdom Solomon just you know backstory WIS this man in the Bible God said I'll give you whatever you want he's like I'll take wisdom and Jesus comes along he says I'm Wiser than Solomon now that's not arrogant that's true Jesus is wiser than anyone and I love this line in 1 Corinthians 1:24 Christ is the power of God and the the wisdom of God so if you want to know what wisdom looks like don't worry about all the experts and don't worry about all the research and don't worry about all the trends and don't worry about all the influencers maybe look at those second but first find Jesus look at Jesus learn about Jesus he is the source and he is the example of true wisdom let me let me share one more thing then we'll get into the second attribute the question then is well where does wisdom begin if you want to be wise and my question to you is do you want to be wise most people want to be rich most people want to be famous most people want to be smart most people want to be beautiful most people want to be powerful most people don't want to be wise if you ask the average person if you could be rich or wise like Rich could you be powerful or wise powerful would you like to be beautiful or wise beautiful and this explains the problem in our world it's really hard to find wise people and the question is well if you want to be wise and I hope you want to be wise I want you to be wise where do you start wisdom begins with the fear of God that's where it begins not with your self-esteem not with loving yourself not with with being true to yourself but getting to know who God is and honoring him the key to wisdom is not going into you but going up to him that's where wisdom begins I'll read it to you uh Ecclesiastes 12:13 it's a it's a wisdom book of the Bible and here's the the final statement that's the whole story here is my final conclusion What Fear God and if you fear God you'll obey him see how do you know you fear God you obey him if you don't obey him you don't fear Him for this is everyone's Duty Proverbs 1:7 the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge fools despise wisdom and instruction where does wisdom begin fear of God and sometimes when people talk about the fear of the Lord they will say things like well that doesn't mean just like Dread and Terror well it's certainly means more than he's your life coach and he's your buddy and he's your you know positive uplifting safe for the whole family inspirational verse of the stinking day it does we've just we've taken the the glory and the majesty and the magnitude and the sovereignty and the Wonder and the power and the authority out of God and we've just reduced them down to a a a very safe version for us and and and and when we we get into the Holiness of God and the justice of God and the wrath of God the fear of God does include like do not pick a fight with him he's undefeated right I mean we're talking about the God who spoke creation into existence we're talking about the God who looked in the days of Noah and said I'm done I'm I'm drowning everyone except for one family we're looking at God who in Sodom and Gomorrah was like I'm tired of seeing those flags on that month I'm Burning It All To The Ground okay it's a fearful and Dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God hell is real the wrath of God is true and God will not be mocked people will reap what they sow so at the end of the day when you read the Bible it should be like I should probably do this because he's wise and if I don't fear him I'm going to destroy my myself and so wisdom begins with a little honor a little reverence a little fear I was talking to a pastor not too long ago I said well the scripture says he's like yeah I'm not sure about that I was like whoa whoa whoa whoa whoa just just the arrogance of a three-b fallen brain going I disagree well like who are you old man to talk back to God I mean it's just silly to me it's just it's just this complete arrogance this Pride this hotess the fear of the Lord like God you're God I'm not you're right I'm wrong you're wise I'm foolish you tell me I'll do it cuz it's going to work and you're going to

bless me and you're not going to have to judge me and you're not going to have to punish me instead you can help me and you can bless me cuz I want to honor you and so if you want to grow in wisdom it begin with the fear of the Lord I'll give you some very practical things all wisdom comes through the holy spirit in Corinthians he's called the spirit of wisdom and so when you open the Bible Holy Spirit teach me give me wisdom right as you're in the scriptures you're going there looking for wisdom it comes from Listening Prayer James 1 says if any of you lacks Wisdom ask God I pray that prayer all the time God I don't know what I'm doing help God I don't know what to say tell me what to say God I don't know what to do tell me what to do you're wise I'm not tell me what you want me to do I want to do what you want me to do it's listening prayer sometimes it's experience you go through something today and let me say this everything you go through today is God preparing you for something that's coming tomorrow it is so what you need to do is Journal write it down like okay I'm learning some things I'm not sure why six months later you're like oh my gosh I've got journals that I have written down and then I type in my laptop I've got files that go back 30 years and sometimes things happens like oh back when I went through that it feels like that was a class preparing me for this I got to go find my notes and then there's wisdom through experience and then wise counsel Christian counselor Pastor Godly person and this is on you friends you got to go find these people you want to have a good marriage find people that have a good marriage you want to be a good parent go find people that their kids love Jesus and them like how do you do that you want to build a company go find somebody that's got a business how do you start a company you want to buy a house go find a realtor and a mortgage broker I've never done this tell me what to do you want to get married to a girl gentleman now we got to add the fine print but you want to get married to a girl right don't just ask a uh just don't ask your buddies go ask some dads that have awesome daughters that they have walked down the aisle and ask how to how do I love and honor and pursue a woman that that honors her family and leads to blessing it's wise counsel number two um not only is God wise we look at his second shared attribute in the little bit of time we got together God is patient okay patience is the ability to endure hardship wrong and even evil my definition without acting ungodly inviting others to come to repentance and Grace not only is our God wise we're going to deal with all of his shared attributes in the weeks to come he's patient how many of you God's been patient with you right some of you looking at me you're like not as much as you mark uh I understand okay God's been how many of you you wouldn't put up with you if you didn't have to like there's been days like Mark come on man like I can't take any more of this you know God is so patient God is so patient here's the verse so this verse Exodus 34 6-7 just so you know this is God telling Moses who he is this verse is the most quoted verse in the whole Bible so if you ask okay the Bible sometimes shares verses over and over this one gets shared the most the Lord passed before him and proclaimed the Lord the only God the Lord a merciful a god merciful and gracious what slow anger it doesn't say God never gets angry that says that God is slow to anger he doesn't start there you got to get him there and if you get him there you've earned it abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness keeping steadfast love for thousands forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin but but but but but but but but Progressive but Universalist but everybody's going to be fine person who will by no means clear the guilty next one it's interesting because uh this line gets repeated maybe throw up the next one I think it's a Nehemiah yeah Nehemiah 9:17 they refused to obey and were not mindful of the Wonders that you performed among them but they stiffen their neck that's pride and and stubbornness in Independence and appointed the leader to return to their slavery in Egypt but you it's going to quote Exodus are a god ready to forgive gracious and merciful slow to anger

abounding in steadfast love and did not forsake them there are two things that can happen when it comes to anger number one some people they're angry all the time they just start with anger they're not slow to anger they start with anger you meet some men like this they have two emotions angry and asleep dad's up you know so if you're a if you're a person that just is angry most of the time much of the time or you start with anger you're not healthy you're not well cuz you're not reflecting mirroring Imaging God's anger right it conversely if you're a person who never gets angry you're not godly because you're not like God it doesn't say God never gets angry some people are like I never get angry well then you're not paying attention right I don't know about you I look at the world and sometimes there are some things that make me angry you know why they make God angry they make God angry if God's angry then if you want to mirror reflect image him then you should be angry cuz he's angry so there are twin heirs never excuse me never angry always angry in the middle slow to anger you don't start there but you can get there that's how God is um but let me say we're all Hypocrites on this how many of us want God to be patient with us everyone okay how many of us we don't want to be patient with them all of us the point is this we need to treat those who do evil and Injustice the way that our God treats us and it doesn't mean that we never get angry but we're we're slow to anger we need to treat others the way he treats us that's what it means that we're made to ere and and let me talk a little bit about this so when it comes to God's patience patience God's patience God's patience has been weaponized by Satan by culture um and by bad religious teaching and and what it is is this the the patience of God has been wrongly presented as the tolerance of God God's patience is not for the tolerance of sin God's patience is for the repentance of sin yes okay um God doesn't let us keep doing it because he's okay with it but because he's good and long-suffering and patient and he's giving us time to own it to repent of it to stop it to end it before he has to end us okay I'll show this connection between God's patience and repentance I'll show to you it's very clear in the scriptures Romans 2:4 or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience not knowing that the kindness of God is meant to lead you to repentance see God's not okay with us but he's patient with us God is not approving of our sin but he's patient with us God isn't ignoring our sin but he's patient with us second Peter 3:9 the Lord is not slow to fulfill his promises some count slowness but is he's patient toward you not wishing that any should perish but that all should reach what repentance friends let me just say this very clearly God's patience doesn't means it does not let me say it again God's patience does not mean that he has tolerance for your sin but he's giving you opportunity for repentance of your sin that's right that's right okay this is really important especially during pride month when when we are preaching a counterfeit false Gospel of Tolerance and many pulpits are doing the same well God hasn't done anything he must be okay oh that's what they thought till it started raining in the days of Noah that's what they thought until the skies turned dark in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah God is slow to anger but you can get them there tolerance celebrates sin patience gives time for repentance of sin tolerance is about avoiding a change process patience is about working a change process tolerance encourages people to be true to themselves patience helps people to become true to their God and human tolerance has no end God's tolerance excuse me God's patience it comes to an end it comes to an end and and so let me just let me just let me just pause here and let me ask you I I just feel inclined to ask and I've asked myself this question this week so I want to say I'm I'm applying it to myself as well for those of you who are Christians where has God been patient but you've not been repentant habitual sin secret sin this can be Behavior or belief God's like hey that's not right what you're thinking what you're doing that's not right but you've you've gone from enjoying his patience to abusing his patience and he keeps talking to

you about he's like hey this isn't right this needs to change no more no more this needs to end this isn't working this is hurting our relationship this is not good for you this needs to end out of love for you I would just ask you if that if that is something that the holy spirit is convicting you like okay God's been very patient with me well then repent before it's too late repent before it gets worse tell God you're sorry and make a covenant vow to not do it anymore and if it's something that you're believing then to get rid of the lie and replace it with the truth and the truth sets you free okay for those of you who are here and you're not Christians you're like why am I here very simply this God has been so patient with you he's been so patient with you and it's not because there's nothing wrong with you it's not because he approves of you and not it's not because he celebrates you it's because he loves you and he's been pursuing you and he's been waiting for you to turn from sin and to receive Jesus Christ as your lord and savior and have forgiveness and newness of life and stop being who you were and start being who he made you to be the whole reason you're here is to become a Christian and often times people like God hasn't done anything say ah it's coming you're living in the path of the wrath of God you need to repent and change direction and change mind and return to the Lord or come to the Lord before it's too late I love you I really do I'll just say this and then I'll I'll close maybe um before God saved me God was so patient with me I look back I'm like what the heck I was um well I'll be honest with you um I was I'm not saying that I'm not arrogant but I was considerably more arrogant not like now that I'm humble put that on my LinkedIn one of my skills I'm not humble but the closer I get to Jesus the more I realize how completely arrogant and proud and stubborn I was as I get close to Jesus I see myself clearer and it's terrifying in addition when when God saved me I I was uh some of you know my story I didn't mean to say this dang it it's on the internet here we go so um I was dating a gal who was a pastor's daughter and sleeping with her you get Cuts in the line to hell for that right I mean the fact that my wife and I do marriage Ministry God's like I've been very patient right right cuz right now I should be on fire in Hell forever and ever and instead I'm married and we do marriage Ministry you know what that is the patient grace of God I'm just telling you this guys I I don't think God's just been patient with you I know God's been patient with me I know that God has been patient with all of us but could we just have as God's children just a sense of urgency like if Jesus died for it I got to put it to death if God wrote a book about it I I should listen to what the book says if this can send me to hell I should get rid of it as soon as possible if this dishonors my God and it breaks trust with him well then I don't want it in my life because God's the most important relationship that I have there's just this lack of urgency and there's this sense that God's patience is simply just tolerance and that he's just going to accept the behavior and then when we die he's going to let us into heaven and his tolerance will have no end and the truth is God is slow to anger but he does not leave the guilty unpunished um this is a very weird Father's Day talk it just dawned on me um so let me let me end with this um let me just verbal process and go a completely different direction and if it doesn't work the next service is going to be awesome you can ask them you can ask them about the sermon you be like I so much better than yours um um so let me let me pivot to to Father's Day so um God is our father father it's interesting because Jesus Christ comes to the Earth and um not only is he the perfect mirror and reflection he says if you've seen me you've seen the father so when we look at Jesus we understand the father Heart Of God Jesus picks a word for God that is his favorite and he uses that word or title for God more than any other you know what it is Father father father and so I was thinking about it as I was praying for you today way off my notes um but I just I just want to share this with the men so God is a father God's a father we're his sons if you're a man you're son we're not negating the ladies okay but just speaking to

the men here on Father's Day as a son your primary job description for life is reflect your father right show the world what your father's like Okay show so that means we need to get to know who our father is what our father's like and I was thinking about this as I was praying for you um for those of us men who are fathers are those of you men who are one day given the honor to be a father it is one of the most sacred life-changing wonderful and overwhelming experiences of your entire life okay like they hold you a baby and you're like I really get one of these I'm not sure I'm built for this I'm not sure I'm ready right um and uh and I'll never forget um I want to make this a strong word for the men um I'll never forget my firstborn our firstborn um was a little girl okay and so bring her home she's growing up at bedtime we had this routine I would sing with her pray with her read the Jesus story book Bible with her and then she'd be like Daddy tuck me in like a burrito which means take all the covers and just she liked to be you know very tucked in I never forget one day um she grabbed the cover she pulled them up to her face and she said I'm so glad I have two dads one in heaven and one on earth okay ladies like ah guys are like ah okay okay all of a sudden it dawned on me she thinks that I mirr him because we got the same title he's a father I'm a father she assumes that her father on Earth is a reflection of her father in Heaven which means if I'm a terrible Dad she thinks he's a terrible God like it it put a holy fear of God in Me and I was thinking about it as I was praying for you men so not only is God a father uh Jesus says that heaven is the father's house and so it's the father who rules the house and it's the father who sets the culture for the family and as husbands and fathers you and I men we have this wonderful opportunity to reflect to image to mirror to to the best of our broken mirrored ability to show our wives to show our kids to show our grandkids to show our world here's what our father's like yeah he's wise and he's patient he's holy and he's loving he's just and he's kind he's strong and he's humble and I just I just feel inclined to encourage all of you men that the more that we get to know that father the better fathers we become and our world knows nothing about fathering because our world knows nothing about the father and my hope in prayer and goal would be at your house and at mine that not only would we just image and mirror the character of our God but that as fathers we would go first that we would be the first to give love and to give wisdom and to give Grace and to give mercy and to give consequence and to give boundaries and to show forth the fullness of the character of our God and let me tell you as we do that we have the opportunity to create for our families a lifegiving environment that is a bit like the father's house and then our kids hopefully Lord willing they don't have to grow up with all the Brokenness and Trauma they don't need all the religious legalism and fear and hurt they don't need all of all of the sadness and the drama that comes with life in a in a broken world because they have a father who reflects the father and and the home then becomes the environment of heaven and it's not perfect but it is the beginning of the answer the prayer of the Son of God thy kingdom come thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven My Hope and prayer for all of us but especially for us fathers on this Father's Day that we would be good mirrors of our heavenly father and that the environment of our homes would be like the father's house and I'll just tell you this in closing I'm in a season of life now where I'm getting to see I'm getting to see my kids mirror God they're becoming adults and differentiating and and like oh I see I see the character of God in you now I'm getting to see my grandkids it's awesome next month I'm going to meet my granddaughter and I've just been asking this has been my prayer all week uh Lord when I'm with her let me reflect you to her when I'm around let me be a mirror that takes heaven and then sort of reflects that to this beautiful precious Priceless little girl so that she understands something of who our God is and she sees it in her Granddad I love you guys God has greatness for you it doesn't matter how bad the world gets you're the children of God you're

the children of God lord thanks for an opportunity to teach a rather awkward complicated sometimes funny irreverent slightly political with an odd conclusion sermon and uh and Lord thank you we just thank you that you're wise and and you're going to teach us what our next step is and that you're patient and Lord I Thank you for your patience with me and we thank you for your patience with us but God if we forget everything help us learn and know and remember that we were made to mirr when we're out at work when our family is gathered for dinner when we're in Conflict when we're stressed help us to look up and to reflect and to mirror your character so that others come to see that our God is good in Jesus good name amen love you guys Happy Father's Day