

Dr. Rich Wilkerson  
presents

WISE  
LIVING  
/// A

Discover God's Wisdom  
for Today's Challenges

FOOLISH  
WORLD

January 18, 2026

Today's  
Wisdom  
Thought is: **WHEN I OBEY,  
GOD PROTECTS ME!**

**Genesis 35:5** — Then they set out, and the terror of God fell on the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.

**Genesis 35:1-4** —Then God said to Jacob, “Go up to Bethel and settle there, and build an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you were fleeing from your brother Esau.”

<sup>2</sup> So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes.” <sup>3</sup> Then come, let us go up to Bethel, where I will build an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me wherever I have gone.” <sup>4</sup> So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods they had and the rings in their ears, and Jacob buried them under the oak at Shechem.

**FIRST, THE MAN OF GOD, JACOB, CALLED  
FOR COMPLETE ALLEGIANCE TO GOD!**

**Genesis 35:2** — So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes.”

**2 Corinthians 6:16-18** — What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, “Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.”

<sup>18</sup> And, “I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

**Romans 12:1-2** —Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**Proverbs 23:7** KJV — For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he!

**BETHEL MEANS — “HOUSE OF GOD”**

**WHEN I OBEY, GOD PROTECTS ME!**

**Genesis 35:5** —Then they set out, and the terror of God fell on the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.

**“GOD DIDN'T SHOUT — HE DIDN'T EXPLAIN  
— HE JUST ASKED ME TO OBEY SOMETHING  
SMALL”**