

1. **Review** of the past three weeks:

- The Christ born for all Humanity
 - Humble birth circumstances
 - Compared to Herod the Great (human King)
 - Compared to Caesar Augustus (a human King)
- Meister Eckhart – metaphorically that the ‘Christ-child’ is born in us
 - We are to mature to become a Christian – a ‘little king.’
- Conceptualizing what it means to be a “**little Christ**”- a “**little king.**”

2. **Freedom:**

“and the truth will set you free ” (John 8:32)
“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom ” (1 Cor. 3:17)
“Live as people who are free ...” (1 Peter 2:16)

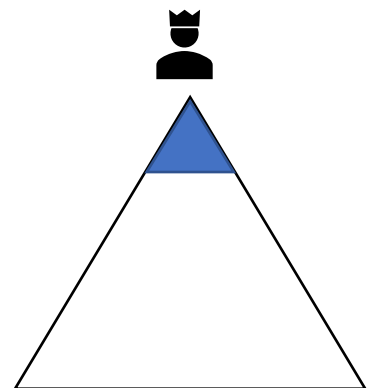
3. **Christ:**

Hebrew	<i>Messiah</i>	The anointed one (in particular a King – 1 Sam. 16:13)
Greek	<i>Christos</i>	The anointed one (in particular a king)

- If Jesus is THE Christ – or THE King and we are Christians, then we are ‘little kings.’
- We are to become like the King.

4. **A King** – conceptually:

- The freest individual in the hierarchy.
- **Sovereign:** free to rule himself. The full right and power of a governing body over itself, without interference from outside sources or bodies.¹
- Only God lives above you (a paradox)
- We are called to be **Free** with only God above us
- It is not to be confused with an earthly kingdom, which is about power, control, wealth, and resources.
- God gives us Free Will – but we must act adequately to attain freedom.



¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereignty>

5. Confirmed by Quantum Physics –

- The quantum world cannot be predicted deterministically.
- A world of probability.
- Quantum particles have **Free Will**.
 - The fundamental particles of God’s cosmos have **Free Will** to act.

6. We have **Free Will** moment by moment, but **Freedom** happens across time:

- The genuinely free one can maintain freedom across time.
- In our bodies, we exist across time
- We have a past and a future, and both are affected by how we act in the moment.

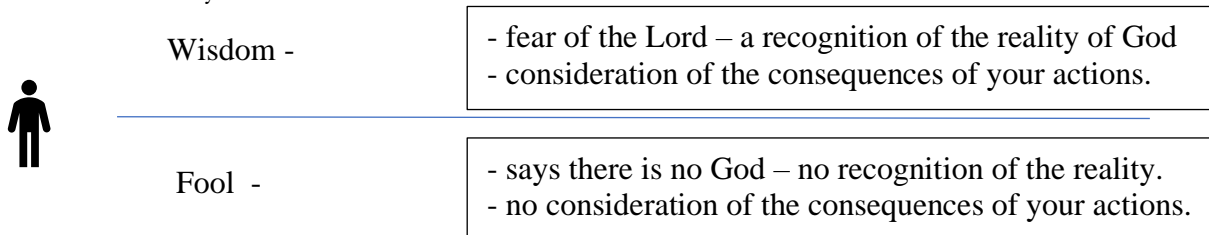


7. Our actions (sin) binds us up across time



- “do not lie” (Lev. 19:11)
 - “do not steal” (Lev. 19:11)
 - “do not murder” (Ex. 20:13) } No Longer Free

8. Wisdom v. Folly:



9. **Freedom** on Multiple Levels:

- **Behavior/Commandments:** Freedom from the negative consequences of our actions.
- **Relationship to God:** We can seek forgiveness and restoration from God through the process of confession, repentance, and the acceptance of Jesus as our atoning sacrifice.
- **Relation to others:** requires forgiveness. This is the most difficult today

11. **All Humanity** can be Free –

- Only the King was thought to be in the “image of God” and Free (Sovereign) in the Ancient world.
- The birth of Jesus at the lowest rung of society – which is Good News for the whole world – conveys the idea that ALL Humanity is made in the “image of God” and can live Free.

10. **Paradox:** to become Free, you must become a servant (slave) to Christ (THE King).

“But now that you have been set **free** from sin and have become **slaves to God**, the fruit you reap leads to holiness, and the outcome is eternal life.” (Romans 6:)