

# WISDOM OR GOLD?

for 3-part mixed voices and piano

Words by

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN**

From *Poor Richard's Almanac*, 1746

Music by

**JERRY ESTES**

Simply (♩ = ca. 88-96)

PIANO

Musical score for the piano introduction, consisting of two staves in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Simply (♩ = ca. 88-96)' and the dynamics are 'mp'. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

Musical score for three vocal parts (PART I, PART II, PART III) and piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in 4/4 time, marked 'mp', and feature the lyrics: "Can - gold col - our pas - sion, - or make rea - son". A measure rest of 4 is shown for PART I, and a measure rest of 5 is shown for PART II. The piano accompaniment is shown below the vocal parts.

Musical score for the piano accompaniment, consisting of two staves in 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

A note about the text: Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) was an American writer, printer, publisher, philosopher, scientist, diplomat, and leader of the American revolution. Born in Boston, Mr. Franklin moved to Philadelphia, where from 1723 through 1757 he published *Poor Richard's Almanac*, an annual collection of his innovative and sometimes humorous writings. *Wisdom or Gold?*, from the 1746 edition of *Poor Richard's Almanac*, asks a question as valid today as it was then: which is more important, wisdom or money?

8

shine, can we dig peace or wis-dom from the mine?

shine, can we dig peace or wis-dom from the mine?

shine, can we dig peace or wis-dom from the mine?

12

13

Wis-dom wis-dom or gold?

Wis-dom, wis-dom or gold?

Wis - dom, wis-dom or gold? Is it

16

Wis-dom, wis-dom or gold?

Wis-dom, wis-dom or gold?

wis-dom or gold, wis-dom, wis-dom or gold?

20

21

Can gold colour passion, or

Can gold colour passion, or

Can gold colour passion,

23

make rea - son shine, can we dig peace or

make rea - son shine, can we dig peace or

or — make it shine, can we dig — peace or

26

wis - dom from the mine? *cresc.* *mf* 3

Wis-dom to

wis - dom from the mine? *cresc.* *mf* 3

Wis-dom to

wis - dom from the mine? *cresc.* *mf* 3

Wis-dom to

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*cresc.* *mf* 3

29

gold pre - fer, for 'tis much less

gold pre - fer, for 'tis much less

gold pre - fer, for 'tis much less

32

to make our for - tune, than our hap - pi - ness. 1.

to make our for - tune, than our hap - pi - ness. 1.

to make our for - tune, than our hap - pi - ness. 1.

36 39 *mp*

Wis-dom to ness. *decresc.* Wis-dom, *mp*

Wis-dom to ness. *decresc.* Wis-dom, *mp*

Wis-dom to ness. *decresc.* Wis-dom, *mp*

Wis-dom to ness. *decresc.* Wis-dom, *mp*

2. *decresc.* *mp*

40

wis-dom or gold? Wis-dom,

wis-dom or gold? Wis-dom,

wis-dom or gold? Is it wis-dom or gold, wis-dom,

44

wis-dom or gold? Can gold col-our

wis-dom or gold? Can gold col-our

— wis-dom or gold?

48 *rit.*

pas-sion, or make rea-son shine? \_\_\_\_\_

pas-sion, or make rea-son shine? \_\_\_\_\_

or make rea-son shine? \_\_\_\_\_

*rit.*

