

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 1:1-31

Singing 261:1-3 – 135:1-5 – 366:1-3 – 230:5-7

Intro: We face a dilemma of divine proportions: *How to be just with God?*

A. None can redeem himself or his brother (Ps. 49:7)

B. Where man's wisdom failed, God's wisdom supplied: 1 Cor. 1:29-31

The Wisdom of God in Jesus Christ (1)

I. How is Jesus Christ the wisdom of God?

II. What is the wisdom of God in Jesus Christ?

I. How is Jesus Christ the wisdom of God?

A. Paul's main task: preaching the Gospel as the *wisdom & power of God* (vs. 17)

B. This message was despised & rejected by Jew and Gentile (19, 22-23)

1. both considered it *foolishness*

a. to Jews Jesus was *stumbling block* (*lit: a deathtrap*)

b. to Greeks Jesus' cross was *foolishness*

C. Paul's preaching of the Gospel *proved superior to all world's wisdom* (18-25)

1. The worldly wise came up with endless varieties of solutions: *all failed!*

a. learn from this humankind's failure: *cease from man!*

D. Paul preached the **wisdom of Gospel of Jesus Christ** (vs. 17)

1. What is the Gospel?

a. it is not a *task for us to do* – *good & sound advice*

b. it is the *Divine news story of the crucified Jesus Christ*

c. it is the *revelation of the wisdom of God* (vs. 24; 2:6-9; Col. 2:3, 9)

2. Gospel of the crucified Jesus answers *all* the vital questions we face
a. What are the vital questions you face?

b. All the world's wisdom has failed to answer any of these question!

Concluding Reflection: *Face you/man's failures!*

A. How are you dealing with *emptiness, pain, fear, bad things, brokenness?*

1. Which of the world's wisdom's ways work?

B. Consider God's wisdom of dealing with our brokenness: *in the crucified Jesus
Divine wisdom provided all the answers*

1. through Him WE can be *reconciled – accepted – pleasing* to God

2. through His sacrifice, *everyone's sins can be pardoned*

3. through Him our holy God can embrace a filthy sinners to welcome them
home in His eternal fellowship

4. through Him also we can experience the *power of God* to a full redemption

What is your only comfort in life and death?