

Last time, in our study of 1 Corinthians, we made it to (V11): Since we missed a week in our study, we will do a quick review of (C2).

The hidden wisdom of God revealed to those that love God! Paul began by writing about what he DID NOT come to do. I DID NOT COME with excellency of speech or by human wisdom to declare unto you the testimony of God. I did NOT try to help the message of God by my own wisdom. THIS is God's message; He knows how to effect it to the hearts of those that will hear it and obey it;

We are not to be concerned with the results of the preaching of the Word of God, that's God's business!
Isaiah 55:10-11

Next, Paul wrote, I DETERMINED NOT to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. That was my primary business in Corinth; that was the ONLY reason that I came to your city!

That's a good ONE and ONLY reason! Your determination for everyone that you know ought to be the same as Paul's determination for the Corinthians; that your family and friends would know Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

Paul: My preaching WAS NOT filled with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of (His) power; SO THAT your faith SHOULD NOT stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Paul determined: If you would know the One true God of the Holy Scriptures & the One true way of salvation, I am determined that I am NOT going to get in the way of the work of God, or use my own methods and human wisdom to convince you of the truth of the gospel of Christ!

Paul: And I did NOT try and be an excellent speaker, in my presentation of the gospel, and I did NOT try to persuade sinners of the truth by using enticing words of man's wisdom.

But I DID come to you as I am; in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling; that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God

What we DID come to do among you who believe that Christ is the Promised Messiah and Son of the living God!

We came to speak the wisdom of God to you, specifically of God's plan to save sinners! To open blind eyes and to give light and understanding of God's eternal plan to send His only begotten Son into the world to suffer and die for the sins of the world. This is the wisdom of God, and it cannot be known to natural men unless God reveals it to them.

To many today, this heavenly wisdom remains hidden, but NOT to you, Corinthians, this secret wisdom has been revealed in the gospel!

We (the apostles) speak of the wisdom of God, among (or in the midst of them) that are perfect; that is, in the church, to the spiritually alive and born-again; to those who are (and ought to be) mature in Christ. Among those that believe and live the gospel by faith, who study the scriptures and

practice it by obedience to it every day in their lives!

As we will see in (C3), the Corinthians were not spiritually mature as a church, but carnal and babes in Christ.

They were carnal and immature was because they still lived and behaved according to the wisdom of the world; but also, and with many Grecians of Paul's day, they thought they could discover God on their own, without God, and by their own wisdom; which is what we have in the world today in so much false teaching about God.

Instead of going to the Word of God to find out God, by the wisdom and Word of God, many today invent a god of their own imagination, who behaves in ways that please them; a god who allows them to go on comfortably in their sins; he is a compromising god; the god of the 21st century! This false god is formed, fashioned, and made up in the hearts of the religious lost; but he is NOT the God of the Bible.

We, saith Paul, speak the wisdom of God, which is not discoverable to the human mind, and not understood unless God reveals it.

Romans 16:25, Ephesians 1:7-10

(V8): THIS wisdom from God (in the gospel) was hidden from the princes of this world; the religious leaders of Jesus's day. For had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. Acts 3:13-18

The wisdom of God in the gospel is STILL hidden from the hearts and minds of so many today. If it wasn't hidden from the minds of the lost, they would behave radically different! 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

(V9-16): We see the ministry of the Spirit of God in revealing the wonderful things that God has prepared for them (for us) who love God!

The THINGS of God cannot be found out or discovered by human wisdom, understanding, or by the natural mind. For anyone to truly KNOW God, He must reveal Himself to them. If you and I, Christian, would KNOW God more, we need Him to reveal MORE of Himself to us! We should NOT want to simply know about God; many there are who know about God, but few who actually KNOW God! You must desire to be among the FEW!

This is why God's Word is so necessary; the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to reveal God and to open the eyes of our understanding and our minds to the wonderful truths of God!

Our natural eyes cannot see these things:

(V10): But God has revealed these things (the wonderful things of God) to us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God

Just as ONLY YOU know what you're thinking at this very moment, and ONLY YOU are able to reveal what you're thinking!

(V11): For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so, the things of God no man knows, except the Spirit of God!

But there is another spirit that exists in the world! Now we have

received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of (or by) God

Christian, we have received the Spirit, which is of God, WE OUGHT TO KNOW, understand, and perceive the things that are freely given to us by God; these are the THINGS that God has prepared for US who love Him!

You want to talk about what it means to be privileged? Well, here it is Christian; you are the privileged. When God saved you from your sins, you did absolutely NOTHING to deserve it. If God hadn't revealed Himself to you, you would still be dead in your trespasses and sins! John 1:12-13

Now Christian, the more God is revealed to you in His Word, the more you will KNOW the things that have been freely given to you by God!

You were saved from your sins, saved from the world, saved from the captivity of the devil, you will be saved from death (in the resurrection), and you will be saved from eternal damnation. God PREPARED this great salvation for you, PERSONALLY, from the foundation of the world!

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

LISTEN TO ME; this is HOW we, believers in Christ are to live in this world! We cannot let ourselves get caught up in all of the chaos/confusion that's going on in the world; if we are truly saved, then we are risen with Christ!

Colossians 3:1-2: If ye then be risen with Christ, see THOSE THINGS which are above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God. Set your affection ON THINGS ABOVE, not on THINGS on the earth

Christian, we must live, in this world, as citizens of that upper/heavenly world. Christian, HOLD FAST to the profession of your faith without wavering; look to those precious THINGS that have been freely given to you by God! If you need some help in KNOWING some of those things!

Matthew 25:31-34, Colossians 1:5, 3:4, Hebrews 11:13-16, 1 Peter 1:3-5

How can we NOT be excited and full of joy KNOWING these THINGS? I'll tell you why? Because we get entangled/entrenched in the world!

1 John 2:15-17

A Christian who has lost their joy is a Christian who has ceased to seek those things that are above; whose heads are nailed to the earth like Sisera's, when Jael nailed his head to the ground. Don't allow the world to nail your head to the ground! (Softly)

(V13-16): These truths will NOT be revealed to any but by the Spirit of God teaching/revealing what is written in the Word of God!

These truths are spiritually discerned and understood.

We talked a lot about how the Spirit of God must reveal the truth of the gospel to every sinner who will understand and believe it. So, what are you to do if you're lost and not a Christian: Well, you're not to just sit still and wait:

Turn from your sins to Christ NOW; believe what has been revealed to you in the gospel! John 3:16-17 ~ Believe the gospel now! John 6:37.
Turn from your sins to Christ! And God will reveal Himself to you!

Proverbs 1:23