

I CORINTHIANS | "THE FOOLISHNESS OF GOD P. 3" | LESSON 24 | 1 COR. 1:17-31

① Intro / Review:

- The remedy for divisions is the wisdom of God
- Divisions result from the wisdom of the world that is,
 - earthly }
 - sensual } "envying & strife" = confusion & every evil work
 - devilish }
- :17 - "partiality", "hypocrisy" - egotistic, selfish, admiration
- Christ sent not to baptize (identification)
- Preach the gospel → exclusive, stand alone Rom. 3:11
- Preaching of the gospel foolishness to those perishing - Why follow them
View eternal not temporal, wisdom from above, not earthly
- The wisdom of God
 - ① Saved us
 - ② Is our power
- God will judge the wisdom of the world

② Review:

- ① The Judgment of the Wise & their Wisdom (:19)
- ② Marvelous Work of Making Foolish the Wisdom of the World (:20)
- ③ The Means of Marvelous Work (:21-25)
 - : Preaching Christ Crucified

③ Sermon:

[:19] "For it is written" - Isa. 29:14

- "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise"
- ③ Ex. Dan 4:19-37
- ② Ex. Job 40:1-14, (Job 38:1-3)
- ② Ex. Jer. 18:18-23

• "and will bring to nought the understanding of the prudent" - Pro. 18:1ff

• "prudent" - acting with or showing care and thought for the future

① Isa. 25:7-8

• Isa. 57:1-21

②

- There prudence is temporary, earthly, and self-centered
- There prudence is future, but not future enough
- There prudence has good in view, but fleshly good
 - Some way can mix the wisdom of the world w/the wisdom of God

• Ex Luke 12:13-21

(:20-21 Tim. 6 - food/trapment)

• Luke 21:33-35

→ James 1:10-11 (Isa. 40)

• Rev. 18:1ff

• Paul is developing the eyes of their understanding (Eph. 1)

• To see their inheritance is a better, lasting, enduring one, that fades not away

[:20] "Where is the wise?" - question of provocation / taunt

• Elijah Mt. Carmel

• Isa. 50:4-11

• Intelligent

• Isa. 19:12 (Isa. 24:1ff)

• "Where is the scribe?"

• Writer

• Isa 33:18 (number counters - "books" (Ecc 12:12))

• "Where is the disputer?"

• Paul's world → in Corinth

rank

• Orator - "this world", Debater, Arguer

influence

wisdom

• They all will be brought to nought

• hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

• the wise, the scribe, the disputer do not have power

- Their wisdom is limited, fleshly, lustful
- Their wisdom is temporary does not answer life's biggest questions
 - gather the intelligent, gather the writers & knowledge dispensers, gather the great orators, speakers, gather them from all the ages past and what do they have
 - Can not tell you where you come from
 - The best is evolution
 - The worst is aliens
 - Can not tell you what your purpose is
 - The best live your best life
 - Love others because it's the right thing to do
(can't prove love with science beyond chemical reactions)
 - The worst - live life to the fullest
 - Accumulate
 - Be free, do what you want
 - Eat, Drink, & Be Merry
 - Cannot tell you where you're going
 - The best 6 ft under - no life after death, this is it
 - The worst - reincarnation, whatever you want (extension of this life)
 - God hath made foolish their wisdom

[1:21] "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God."

- "the world by wisdom knew not God"
- Rom. 1:18-32; Eph. 4:17-19 (Ecc.
- Acts 14:14-17
- Acts 17:29-31

• "it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe"

(4)

- Rom. 3 - "the law of faith"
- Matt. 12:41 - Jones preaching
- 1 Cor. 15:14
- 2 Tim. 4:17
- Tit. 1:3

• God's chosen method of delivery isn't through the wisdom of men

- Doesn't come from the elite scholars
- Doesn't come from the best scientists
- Doesn't come from the master politicians
- Doesn't come from the professional prognosticators
- Doesn't come from the admire YouTubers, TikTokers, Facebookers
- Doesn't come from the noble actors & actresses

• It comes from preaching

• Preaching is in a class of its own, a field of its own

• Preaching affects the whole person

instruct spirit -	• mind	- lecturer (not just information (regeneration))
ignite soul -	• emotions/affections	- devotional speaker, motivation, life coach
invite body -	• will	- manipulator (legalist)

• Preaching is a foolish thing to the world

- What? → the Word of God
- for whom → God
- No previous experience (can get more experienced)

• Saying things not popular
• Vulnerable

• God chose it to be that way

→ Matt. 12:39

→ Acts 17:21
→ Rom. 3 - seek not God by the wisdom of this world
things of God apart from God

- [22] "For the Jews require a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom: " / apart from God
- The world began to measure by power & wisdom apart from God
 - These signs and wisdom blinds (1 Tim. 4; 2 Cor. 4)
 - require & seek - preaching doesn't aim to meet the requirements of others

(5)

Sign - see

Wisdom - hear

Preaching - call to believe

Jn. 3

"preaching doesn't fulfill that which they seek"

[1:23] "But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;" (Plato "what is truth")

- "But we preach Christ crucified" (declarative)

Paul

- But - adverse
- we - Paul, Cephas, Apollo
- preach - foolish to the world (method)
- crucified - foolish to the world (message)

• What the Corinthians believed & called to share & live from is a stumblingblock for the Jews & foolishness to the Greeks

• For us it isn't our stumblingblock but our foundation - cross ^{need no sight}

• For us, it isn't foolishness but our wisdom

[1:24] "But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." [Regeneration & Renewing]

us

- Out of these many are called
- Calling them into the fellowship of Christ (1:9)
- Enriched in all utterance & knowledge

Conclusion:

- We don't need man's intervention of human philosophy
- Salvation is by a man crucified on a tree
- Man is just as bad as they have ever been
 - Man seeks for temporary salvation to make this life a little more comfortable and none of it deals with real problems