

I CORINTHIANS | "THE FOOLISHNESS OF GOD Pt 5" | LESSON 26 | 1 Cor 1:17-31

① INTRO / REVIEW

- :17 - the preaching of the cross of Christ is of effect on its own
- :18 - the preaching of the cross is ironically foolish to the perishing
- :19 - the world's wisdom doesn't save and will be "destroyed" and "brought to nothing"
- :20 - the intellects, the writers, the debaters, the prognosticators, the political figureheads with all their wisdom of words have been made foolish by God
 - The remedy & salvation of sin & death would come by the weakness of God against the strength of man to defeat & have victory over it
- :21 - The history of man's wisdom is rooted deep into ages past and in God's wisdom & judgment to save them that believe the foolishness of preaching.

② PREVIEW:

- ① The Alluring Appeal of the Eye that Blinds (Sign)
- ② The Tickling Tempt of the Ear that Deafens (Wisdom)

③ SERMON: [1:22]

- Paul further explains why it pleased God to save them that believe
 - Rom. 3:27 - "the law of faith"
 - Explanation in view of the Jews & the Greeks
- Eye ① The Jews → require
↳ to render necessary; to need
- ① Ex. 34:10; Judges 6:13; Ps. 74:9 } didn't lead them to believe, need another one, or question more
 - ② Matt. 16:1-4
- a sign is just that it points to the substance, the ~~destination~~

- The sign the Jews would get is death, burial, resurrection
- That sign is weak, obscure

EAR ② The Greeks → seek

↳ in search or quest of; to endeavor to make discovery (Ro. 18:2)

• Acts 17:16-31 (1:20; 21)

:27 - not to seek their own heart, but w/ the heart seek God

• Rom. 3:9-18

Thus, preaching would be foolish and the cross foolish to those "requiring" & "seeking" "signs" and "wisdom".

- Yet it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching (no sign, no wisdom of the world) to save them that believe:
 - Not some power ^(without) that is absent of truth but benefits the recipient
 - Not some wisdom from within that is absent of truth but benefits the hearers
 - Eph. 2:8 - "not of yourselves"

[23] - "But we preach Christ crucified"

• Paul shifts focus to & in contrast of the Jews & Greeks what has been given him, what he was sent to do

① Preach

② Christ crucified

} the method & message that pleases God to make foolish
the wisdom of the world

① Preaching

• The chosen method of delivery (not what they require & seek after)

• Preaching isn't requiring something from someone

• Preaching isn't seek after that which you don't possess

• Preaching entails the possession of something that which others don't have

• Doesn't come from the elite scholars

the chief scientists

the master politicians

the skilled prognosticators

the admirable YouTubers, TikTokers, Facebookers

the noble actors & actresses

- Today we live in a social media driven culture
 - Although certain professional fields still exist
 - Now, put together short video's, with all the graphics that are pleasant to the eyes, the music that inspires, have enough subscribers and you are worthy to be heard.
 - Our social media, bite-sized culture is part of the course of the world that is and will become intolerant of the truth via preaching.

• Preaching & truth are so closely linked you may have had someone tell you, you were preaching to them when you were simply communicating truth.

• All these ways along with the internet and its mediums of propagation have blinded the masses.

- Preaching is in a class of its own.
 - Preaching isn't just affecting the mind like a good lecturer
 - Preaching isn't just playing with the emotions like a good life coach or motivational speaker
 - Preaching isn't just manipulating the will like the legalist

• Preaching is the only thing that affects the whole-person
As one preacher said,

"preaching comes with a full deck of cards"

- ① instructs the mind (spirit)
- ② ignites the affections (soul)
- ③ invites the will (body)

• Therefore, preaching is what it is, not because of what it is, but because it is that which delivers the truths of God to the one's whom God made, "MAN!"

• "we preach Christ crucified"

• not Christ the mighty warrior, not Christ the great Rabbi, not Christ the dynamic politician

• "But we preach Christ crucified"

• "unto the Jews a stumbling block"

• They saw the Christ in view of His second advent, that which they could see.

• Rom. 9:30-33

• Ps. 118:22

• 1 Pet. 2:6-8

• Isa. 8:14

• Isa. 28:16

• "unto the Greeks foolishness;"

• It is "a stumbling block" and "foolishness" because of what they "required" that God did not and "seek after" what they weren't suppose to that resulted as such to them.

① This is what Paul preaches (:23)

② This is what Christ is to the called (:24)

[:24] - "Christ the power of God"

- salvation from the wages of sin
- sever us from sin, Satan, the law, and world
- the conqueror of death (Heb 2:14-18)

[Regeneration]

- "the wisdom of God"

- the instruction
- doctrine
- the knowledge of Christ

[Renewing]

[:25] - "Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

• Why is Christ the power & wisdom of God to the called?

• Although the world views Christ crucified foolishness, the called see that is wiser than men.

• Compare that which the world has and what Christ has

• Although the world views Christ crucified weak, the called see Him stronger than men