

# I Corinthians 2 – 31 October 2021

## “The Drawing Of God By The Spirit Of God”

### Introduction

\*This is a very practical book, teaching us about:

- Divisions & unity (*This is where the book begins*)
- Solving Christian disputes in-house
- Christian marriage when the ideal state is lost
- Conscience issues like the eating of meats
- Proper public worship & Doctrine of the Resurrection

\*The central of the practical issues began Chap 1. We called that message “We Preach Christ Crucified” b/c that’s the answer to keep the church united & focused

\*Paul continues today w/ that emphasis, & now says, ‘how do we give ‘Christ crucified’ out to others?’

**\*So today, here are 3 factors regarding how God draws people into salvation by His Spirit**

# **1<sup>st</sup> factor for how God draws by His Spirit is that it isn't aided by physical attraction (Vs 1-5)**

Read Vs 1

1. Paul didn't try winning them into a relationship w/ Jesus by using great eloquence or deep smarts
2. Paul had confidence in the power of the msg

Read Vs 2

1. Paul kept the focus of message on Jesus' work
2. Don't get distracted preaching 'another gospel'
  - a. Some distracted w/ a pet peeve doctrine that is true but distracts from the msg of salvation
  - b. Some distracted w/ social or political issues that cannot bring relation w/ God or eternal life

Read Vs 3

1. Was this a physical ailment or spiritual concern, we don't know?
2. But the point is, there was nothing amazing or wonderful about him and his being or presence

## Read Vs 4

1. Paul's presentation wasn't terribly convincing, but they could hear the Spirit of God working thru
2. Have you ever spoken for God & thought that "you didn't say it right"?
  - a. God uses even our feeble attempts
  - b. It's that we attempted in Spirit & in truth

## Read Vs 5

1. Focus is on Jesus's works, not our words
2. Focus is on Jesus's power, not our presentation
3. When people receive Jesus thru lots of charisma of man, we're left wondering if they received Christ or received a man
4. When people receive Jesus thru simple means, we're confident that it's the power of God that won them
  - a. Now we know, it's the power of God that will keep them!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> factor for how God draws by His Spirit is that He chooses who shall receive and when (Vs 6-9)**

Read Vs 6

1. “Perfect” – complete in mental or moral character
  - a. Col 2:10 tells us that as Christians we’re “complete in Him”
  - b. B/c God sees His Son’s blood covering us granting us His Spirit within us
2. The testimony of Jesus that we preach IS the wisdom Paul’s speaking of, it’s heavenly wisdom

Read Vs 7

1. “Mystery” – as Christians we’ve been given info & truth that was previously hidden to us
  - a. Mystery like a password – not foggy/fuzzy, but hidden and then fully revealed & clear
  - b. Read Mark 4:10-12 – God’s Word is seen as true wisdom for spiritually discerning ones
2. This newly revealed wisdom is for the ones whom God has chosen since before the world began

## Read Vs 8

1. The wisdom of God wasn't known by the men in authority in Jerusalem
2. Saul of Tarsus was persecuting Christians from earthly, religious wisdom, not from spiritual wisdom
  - a. I Tim 1:12-13 – Spiritual wisdom from God changed Paul's course of life
  - b. Rom 10:2-3 – Spiritual wisdom from God is what the leaders in Jerusalem needed

## Read Vs 9

1. For those that live in a posture of loving God, God has great things ahead to reveal to them
  - a. As Isa 64:4 was written, God had yet to reveal Jesus and the work of the cross
  - b. As Disciples lived, God had yet to reveal Jesus' bride the Church (see Eph 3:1-7)
  - c. As we sit here now, God has yet to reveal Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming & His Kingdom to us!

## **3<sup>rd</sup> factor for how God draws by His Spirit is by giving powerful, spiritual wisdom (Vs 10-16)**

Read Vs 10

1. Revelation of God comes thru His Holy Spirit
2. He's within us leading us into all truth/ revelation

Read Vs 11

1. "Like is known by like"
  - a. It would be a foolish pet animal to think he knows what his master wants, unless his master tells him
  - b. Likewise, it's a foolish person to think he knows the intents of God without asking or receiving from Him

Read Vs 12

1. What spirit have we received?
  - a. Read Rom 8:15-16 – We've been adopted
  - b. As family members, we know the family's secrets but others do not know

## Read Vs 13

1. It's the wisdom of God thru the Spirit of God that now comes out of us
2. "Comparing spiritual things with spiritual"
  - a. Our goal in shared God's wisdom is to 'combine spiritual things with spiritual people'

## Read Vs 14

1. Without the Spirit of God coming alongside an unbeliever to convict them, they cannot receive God's truth and wisdom
  - a. Even before salvation occurs, unbelievers are being prompted by the Spirit of God
  - b. Read John 14:17– He's '*para*' or with them

## Read Vs 15-16

1. Natural man isn't equipped to judge spiritual man
2. He's not saying that the spiritual man cannot be criticized, much of this letter is criticism
3. We've been given a great gift (the Spirit) keep yourself living in His love (Read Jud 17-21)

## Conclusion

Only message that sets people free into eternal life is Jesus Christ's crucifixion & resurrection & God wants to use US (thru His Holy Spirit) to draw others to Him

1. **His drawing of people to Himself isn't helped by our supposed great attractiveness**
  - a. If people are "hooked" by our great personality or antics, they'll receive nothing eternal from me
  - b. If people are drawn by God's Spirit & truth, they'll receive life everlasting
2. **God chooses who shall receive His gift & when**
  - a. It's our job to give out the seed of the Word
  - b. It's God's job to draw whom He wills
    - i. I trust God to do what's right
3. **God gives powerful, spiritual wisdom to those that He draws**
  - a. As adopted children of the King, God teaches us the family business, praise God!