

1 Corinthians 1:10

10/28/18

Sunday Morning

Review:

1. God has imputed to us the righteousness of Christ
  - a. We will stand before Him blameless (positional standing)
 

**V.8** who shall also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. He has also called to live in fellowship w/ Christ
  - a. We are to live in **partnership & participation** w/ Him
 

**V.9** God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

V.10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you.

12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."

13 Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

V.10 Now *I exhort you, brethren*, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, *that you all agree, and there be no divisions among you, but you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

1. "I exhort you, brethren"
  - a. "exhort" is not a very good translation
    - i. It is more of a pleading w/

**V.10 (NIV)** I appeal to you, brothers...

**V.10 (ESV)** I appeal to you, brothers...

- ii. Paul saw disunity is being bad enough to plead to stop it

2. "that you all **agree**, and there be **no divisions** among you"
  - a. "that you all agree" – literally – say the same thing
    - i. That doesn't mean to think or speak just alike
    - ii. It means to have the same goals
  - b. "no divisions" – no rent, tear,
    - i. This is speaking of having animosity b/c of disagreements

3. "you be **made complete** in the **same mind** and in the **same judgment**"
  - a. "made complete" – perfect, passive, participle
    - i. Perfect tense – completed action – a heart of unity
    - ii. Passive voice – God wants to accomplish this in our lives
    - iii. Word used to describe mending broken bone
  - b. "same mind" – state of mind (desire to live for Christ)
    - i. With same judgment call **within reason** – opinion / sentiment (based on wealth of knowledge)
    - ii. **Not** uniformity but being in unity
    - iii. Cults want you to walk lockstep
    - iv. This is a picture of having a desire to walk w/ Christ in truth
    - v. We shouldn't tolerant every kind of false doctrine – but we should give people room to grow

V.11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, *that there are quarrels among you.*

1. "I have been informed...that there are **quarrels** among you"
  - a. "quarrels" – Literally: contention, debate, variance, strife, wrangling
  - b. Same word used in Galatians
 

**Galatians 5:19** Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, **strife**, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,<sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
  - c. Their disputes were the work of their flesh
  - d. **V.12 gives** root cause of discord –

V.12 Now I mean this, that *each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."*

V.13 Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

1. "each...is saying, "I am of Paul" & "I of Apollos" & "I of Cephas" & "I of Christ" (**V.12**)
  - a. They were looking at men & not Christ
  - b. This is common – especially when gifted men are looked up to
    - i. This is especially true among preachers & "professional" Christians
    - ii. If God gives a man charisma, knowledge, oratory skills – so what? He is still just a servant of God – Christ is the issue!
  - c. They became enamored w/ other men – Look at what they were saying:
    - i. "I am of Paul" – a great intellect
    - ii. "I am of Apollos" – a great orator
    - iii. "I am of Cephas" – the prominent of "The Twelve"
    - iv. "I am of Christ" – not said in a good way – the super pious crowd
  - d. Paul doesn't mince words **V.14**

V.14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,

V.15 that no man should say you were baptized in my name.

V.16 Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.

V.17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.

V.14 *I thank God that I baptized none of you except* Crispus and Gaius,

1. "I thank God that I baptized none of you except..."

a. Paul isn't minimizing baptism

- i. He is saying that he is glad that he didn't baptize many
- ii. Some would make more of his baptizing than they should

**V.15** that no man should say you were baptized in my name.

V.17 *For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.*

1. "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel"

a. This passage disproves baptismal regeneration

- i. Paul wouldn't be bragging about **not** leading people to salvation if baptism was the means of salvation

2. "not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void"
  - a. The approach that we need to make the gospel as appealing as possible is not found in Scripture
  - b. The Madison Avenue approach is the reason the Church is so pathetic
    - i. We are not to be selling anything
    - ii. Trying to make the gospel fashionable takes away God's power & leaves man trying to make a sales pitch
    - iii. Paul states why we can't "glamorize" in the gospel **V.18**

V.18 *For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

1. "the word of the cross is to those...perishing foolishness, but to us...being saved...the power of God"
  - a. **The cross divides men** – the **lost** & the **saved**
  - b. Everyone who comes to mental maturity is forced make a decision about the cross of Christ
    - i. One question must be answered by everyone
 

**Mark 8:27** Jesus went out, along with His disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way He questioned His disciples, saying to them, "Who do people say that I am?"
    - ii. Even the person who doesn't hear the gospel is given the chance to answer that question
 

**Psalm 19:1** The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

**Romans 1:19** because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been **clearly seen**, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

**John 1:8** He<sup>(John Baptist)</sup> was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.

<sup>9</sup> There was the true Light<sup>(Christ)</sup> which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

- c. The cross is foolishness to the perishing because it doesn't make sense
- i. Christ being obedient to God to the point of death – for us?
  - ii. How can one man's death bring life to the world?
  - iii. The **precepts** of Christianity don't make sense to the world  
**Matthew 20:25** But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and *their* great men exercise authority over them.  
<sup>26</sup> "It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant,  
<sup>27</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave;  
<sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."
  - iv. The **principles** of Christianity sure don't make sense  
**2 Corinthians 6:8** by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; regarded as deceivers and yet true;  
<sup>9</sup> as unknown yet well-known, as dying yet behold, we live; as punished yet not put to death,  
<sup>10</sup> as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing yet possessing all things.
- d. All of that is foolishness to the lost man
- i. If believers aren't careful we get caught in world's philosophy
- e. Do you know what God's ways prove? – how foolish the world is!  
**V.19**

V.19 For it is written, "*I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.*"

1. "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and the cleaverness of the clever...set aside"
  - a. Because man, in his wisdom, rejected Christ – God has rejected human wisdom

**Romans 1:18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, <sup>19</sup> because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been **clearly seen**, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

<sup>21</sup> For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

<sup>22</sup> **Professing to be wise, they became fools,**

b.

V.20 x *Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?*

1. "Where is the wise man...the scribe...the debater of this age"
  - a. "the wise man" – Philosopher – learned, cultivated
    - i. He is sure he is smarter than most & has it reasoned out in his head
  - b. "the scribe" – the Jewish lawyer, religious legal expert – hair splitter
    - i. This man believes technicalities will deliver him
  - c. "the debater of this age" – Greek, rhetorical debater – disputer; fallacious, deceptive
    - i. He is a "wordsmith" – can make anything sound good – therefore it must be good!
2. "has not God made **foolish** the wisdom of the world?"
  - a. "foolish" – we get our word **moron** from this word

V.21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

V.22 For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom;

1. "God was well-pleased through...foolishness of...message preached to save those who believe" (V.21)

a. The idea that man would be saved by simply believing the message is outrageous to Jews & Gentiles alike

2. "For indeed Jews ask for signs" (V.22)

a. The Jews want a miraculous sign

**John 6:9** "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?"

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the **men** sat down, in number about five thousand.

<sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted.

<sup>12</sup> When they were filled, He \*said to His disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments so that nothing will be lost."

<sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten.

**V.30** So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform?

<sup>31</sup> "Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.'"

**V.35** Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.

**V.38** "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

**V.41** Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because **He said**, "I am the bread that came down out of heaven."

<sup>42</sup> They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? **How does He now say**, 'I have come down out of heaven'?""

### 3. "Greeks search for wisdom" (V.22)

- a. The Greeks searched for wisdom to answer life's questions
  - i. They took pride in their self-centered wisdom
- b. Man has taken pride in his science – thinks all answers are there
- c. But science is turning into the enemy of the atheist
  - i. **DNA** has proven that there is another person inside the body of a pregnant woman
  - ii. **DNA** has proven the existence of an Intelligent Designer – 3 billion bits of info in one strand
  - iii. **Hubble** telescope has proven that time & space & matter had a beginning
- d. So now man says what science says doesn't matter
  - i. IF I say I'm a woman but **DNA** says I'm a man – then I'm what I want to be
  - ii. If I say I'm a certain race – but DNA says otherwise – it doesn't matter – science doesn't mean as much as how I feel!
  - iii. Do you see how God has **exposed** the foolishness of man?
  - iv. Don't be shocked at all this silliness – it is God exposing man for what he is!!

V.23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,

V.24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

V.25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

**How simple** it is that God saves those who believe what He says about His Son – in that **non meritorious** act – **the power of God** to give new life



