

## Lesson 3 – Method of Preaching

### 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

*“And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the <sup>(a)</sup>testimony of God. <sup>2</sup> For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of <sup>(b)</sup>human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*

#### A. Paul’s Method of Preaching was not with Excellence of Speech or of Wisdom (2:1)

##### 1.) What does this mean?

- The Greek word translated “excellence” here means “prominence, i.e. (figuratively) superiority (in rank or character):—authority, excellency.”

##### 2.) Paul did not come to the Corinthians with “with distinguished eloquence or wisdom,” in declaring the testimony of God.

#### B. What was Paul’s Focus (2:2-3)

##### 1.) “I determine not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.”

- This is establishing the method God chose for men to be saved – the preaching of the cross (1 Cor. 1:17-25; Rom. 1:16)

##### 2.) “I was with you in weakness, in fear, and much trembling.” (2:3)

- In weakness (1 Cor. 2:3; 2 Cor. 11:1-30; 12:7-12)
- In fear (2 Cor. 11:2; 5:10-11)
- In much trembling (Mar. 16:8; 2 Cor. 7:15; Eph. 6:5; Phil. 2:12)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians

### C. The Fruit of Paul's Method of Preaching

#### 1.) The Method was not with Persuasive Speech or Human Wisdom (2:4)

- Persuasive words (Col. 2:4; Rom. 16:18)
- Human wisdom

#### 2.) With the Demonstration of the Spirit and of Power (2:4)

- Demonstration – “I) a making manifest, a showing forth. II) a demonstration, a proof”- Strong's Greek Lexicon

#### 3.) The Result: “that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” (2:5)

### D. Wisdom which none of the princes of this world knew (2:8-11)

#### 1) We speak wisdom – a greater wisdom

#### 2) God's hidden wisdom

### E. Revealed to us by the Holy Spirit (2:12-16)