

God's Wisdom

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Corinthians 2:1-10.
- B. Psalm 119 also deals with the wisdom of God as found in this text.
- C. We need wisdom today over knowledge.

II. Paul wanted to know nothing among them but Christ crucified.

- A. This means he would not attempt to impress the Corinthians with Christian living but instead the negative note of the cross.
- B. The problem is that the wisdom of the world always sounds impressive.
 - 1. Human wisdom is not bad, but it is not the ultimate solution.
 - 2. Paul refused to give into human philosophy in this regard.

III. The cross of Christ is a judgment upon the wisdom of man.

- A. The wisdom of the world rejects and denies Christ.
- B. Christ threatens people because the cross confronts the world with the ways of God.
- C. The world today wants to make Jesus safe, but in reality, He was dangerous, threatening kings, insulting tradesman, curing diseases with any means handy, etc.
- D. The gospel starts with the sin of man that demands the cross—this wipes out the impressiveness of man in every way.
- E. The results of Paul's preaching the cross.
 - 1. He felt fear, rejection, culture shock and futility.
 - 2. He felt a demonstration of the power of the Spirit in his need.
 - a. The power of God comes across in personal witness.
 - b. Mass evangelism is not needed if the church is living in the power of the Spirit.
- F. Paul preaching the cross does not mean that he was coming down with condemnation but instead the open statement of the truth commending him to the consciences of men.
 - 1. People do not need to be told they are sinners.

2. Life can be found in Christ alone.

3. Paul simply used truth, and this was all that was required.

G. The Word reveals the missing truths about ourselves without which we are unable to function.

1. They are permanent.

2. They are intended for our glorification.

3. They are not discoverable by natural processes.

E. If you are involved in Bible study you are beginning to probe the deepest knowledge of human life, which will lead to fulfillment of which you never dreamed.

Application questions:

1. Where does the gospel start and what effect does this have on man's understanding of himself?

2. Why might not mass evangelism be the most effective form?

3. What missing truths about yourself has the Scripture revealed to you? Describe your experience.
