

The Wisdom of God – 1 Cor 2:6-12

Introduction – “*The Wisdom of God.*” Now, there is a topic that would have to be studied for an infinite eternity. But with regard to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God finds its center. The story of all of Creation finds its theme. The Father tells the story by means of the Word, His Son, and the Spirit is the Living, Personal Interpreter. Hear the Word of God by means of the Spirit of God and you will come to understand the story of Jesus – and the story of the world.

The Gospel is Wisdom (vv6) – We are jumping into the middle of an argument. Paul has been showing that the foolishness of God is wiser than the wisdom of man (1:25). He is referring to the foolishness of “Christ crucified” which was all he determined to know among the Corinthians (2:2). Jesus walked into Jerusalem and was betrayed, arrested, mocked by Jew and Gentile alike, stripped, flogged and publicly crucified. That is foolishness and weakness to the natural man. But to the “mature,” it all makes perfect sense. Augustine said that one must believe in order to understand. Faith comes and then the beginning of true knowledge follows. Until then, it’s all blathering idiocy.

Speak the Gospel Anyway (vv7-8) – But Paul persisted in preaching the gospel, the wisdom of God. This wisdom was hidden in a mystery. It had been ordained before the ages – it had always been God’s “Plan A.” It was the perfect mystery, for no one was able to know, even though it had been declared in the prophetic words and deeds of the Judaic age. We know that the rulers of this age (both human and their angelic powers behind them) did not know, for if they had, they never would have crucified “*the Lord of glory*” which brought their power down to nothing (Col 2:15).

Eye Has Not Seen (vv9) – Isaiah had declared this; “you will never guess what He is going to do.” No man would ever have come up with this plan. The story of Jesus, of His birth, death and resurrection, of His atoning, substitutionary sacrifice, of our spiritual union with Him in that death and resurrection, of His ascension and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, of the New Creation now in principle here in the kingdom of God. No one saw it coming. And Paul is not applying this only to our final resurrection. God has prepared a glorious fruition in the course of our history prior to the resurrection.

The Spirit Reveals (vv10-12) – Only a man knows what his spirit is thinking. And only the Spirit knows the deep things of God. We cannot contain all of the deep things of God – but the Spirit is revealing to us “*the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*” And these things are quite different, even opposite, what the spirit of the world, that old age, tries to speak.

And to what does the Spirit testify? Is it not that Jesus died and rose again with power (Rom 1:4)? Is it not that we are His, sealed by that Spirit with a glorious inheritance (Eph 1:13-14)? Is it not that we can cry out, “Abba, Father” from our hearts knowing that we are His children (Rom 8:15-16)? And to the extent that we still groan with all of creation in the midst of sufferings, this Spirit testifies with us in these sufferings of a glory that will come of it all (Rom 8:18, 26). This Spirit testifies of Jesus’ authority over all heaven and earth (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8).

A Spirit-Testimony of the Resurrection – Eye has not seen. And so many who saw Jesus, saw His miracles, and even saw the empty tomb, refused to believe. But God uses His Spirit to open eyes and hearts to His Son. There is an intellectual, evidential argument to be made for the existence of God, for the historicity of Jesus and His resurrection. But more importantly, there is a spiritual, a Personal argument. God is a Person – not an argument. The resurrection is a doctrine, but it is a story to be told of real events of a Person in time and space on this earth, not in an alternative universe.

Wisdom from God Comes from Walking in the Spirit – Through faith we come to the knowledge of God. Through faithfulness we come to a greater knowledge. Through loving others, we come to know God in deeper ways, because we become like Him. Through the discipline of our loving Father we come to know that we are His children. Through sufferings and trials we come to know of the character of the One Who suffered for us. Through worship we come to know God at His throne.

After a Good Mystery Has Been Revealed – Don’t you love to go back and read/watch it again, revisiting the clues that were right there. We can become almost giddy going over the story again and again. All the more so the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus. But even more, what happens when you find out *you* were in the story (“I saw you on the news...”). We hurry back to see ourselves in that story. All the more so the mystery...

What if the story of the death and resurrection is not only a perfect mystery God told in time and space – what if that story was about you? What if Jesus died on the cross for you, to pay for your sins in full, to provide forgiveness for you? What if you were “in” the resurrection? There you are – raised to new life. Would you go back and revisit the mystery over and over again?

“*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*” Do you love Him? Do you know His love for you? Look for it all in the resurrection of Jesus Christ; the Spirit will show you.