

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

True Wisdom – God’s Wisdom is Greater

Reading of Scripture – Isaiah 29:13-16

1 Corinthians 1:18-19 – God’s Wisdom is Superior

*¹⁸For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved. ¹⁹For it is written, **will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the intelligence of the intelligent.***

There is a difference between God’s wisdom and man’s wisdom. Why? Isaiah 55:8-9.

To a world that is at odds with God...God appears to be foolish. John 17:14-17.

The cross is the power of God. Romans 10:9.

1 Corinthians 1:20-21 – God was Pleased to Save

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the debater of this age? Hasn’t God made the world’s wisdom foolish? ²¹For since, in God’s wisdom, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of what is preached.

Throughout history man has been really good at pride. From philosophers to generals to world leaders, man has always over valued his abilities.

Romans 1:18-23 (CSB): *¹⁸For God’s wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth, ¹⁹since what can be known about*

God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, that is, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being understood through what he has made. As a result, people are without excuse. ²¹For though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles.

Left to ourselves, we will always fall to sin. We are incapable of rising above sin on our own. Which is why we need the gospel.

And even though the world sees the gospel as foolishness, God was pleased to save those that believe. John 3:16.

1 Corinthians 1:22-25 – Christ is Power and Wisdom

²²For the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles. ²⁴Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, ²⁵because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Is Jesus enough? The Jews wanted signs and the Greeks wanted philosophy. Do you simply want Jesus? The gospel is a call to a relationship. If we are not careful, we'll find ourselves making the gospel about having an experience, having a blessing, having a privilege or having a future location to live. Galatians 2:20. Matthew 16:24-26.

The gospel is about a personal relationship with the Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
