

Letters to the church in...



Corinth

Focus: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Lesson 2-Spiritual Revelation

- In demonstration of the “Spirit and of power” (v.1-5)
 - “For I determined not to know anything among you, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified” (v.2) –**the knowledge that was above all knowledge. (John 17:3; Romans 6:23)** There is/was nothing more profound, life-saving, or important than the true knowledge of Jesus Christ, and Him crucified for our sins.
 - **Not in the pleasing words, knowledge, or wisdom of man, “but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power”** (v.4) There was a SPECIAL POWER that attended the preaching of the gospel!! And it attends the true preaching of the gospel in any age. It is a SPIRITUAL POWER that Jesus himself promised (Matthew 28:18-20). It affects our hearts, as we hear the words of life, brought to life by the Spirit of God (not by anything of man).
 - (v.3) **When we are weak, then He is strong!** His power is made perfect in our weakness. **God wants us to know, the power is not of us or of men, but, it is of God! We are dependent upon Him.** (See examples of Moses and Gideon; **Exodus 17:9-12; Judges 7:2,7**) Our faith should “not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God” (v.5).
- Spiritual and heavenly Wisdom (v.6-10)
 - (v.6) “...not the wisdom of this world...which comes to nothing.” Worldly wisdom is foolishness. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...” (See **Proverbs 9:10**). **To have true wisdom for life, we must start from the right premise!** If we start from the wrong place, we’ll be all off. God is God, the eternal God and ruler of the heavens. He sees all and knows all. He created this world and everything in it. **If we want to invest our time rightly, in proper wisdom, we must understand the true condition of human kind, and the reality of God’s sovereign power! “So teach us to number our days...” (Psalm 90:12).** We must be sure that we are truly putting first things first!
 - Heavenly realities, God’s secrets, and heaven’s truth are revealed by the Spirit of God.
 - (v.8-10) **“Had the rulers of this world only known...”** the power, the grace, and the glory of Jesus Christ, they would never have crucified him....(quite the words coming from Paul’s mouth as well, a man who had previously persecuted the church beyond measure in his own ignorance—ref. Galatians 1:12-15).
 - **And to think of all the things that people walk around today, not even knowing, of the grace, and the love, and the peace of God “which passes all understanding.”** The Lord has so many blessings to share with us all, and yet so many are still missing out!
 - **The Holy Spirit has revealed the “Deep things of God.”** Many “deep truths of God” have been especially revealed for us in His word through the prophets (2 Peter 1:20,21; 2 Tim. 3:16).

- **Spiritual things are revealed by God's Spirit and are "spiritually discerned" (v.11-16)**
 - **(v.13) The Spirit of God is to be our instructor. Jesus told us his Spirit would be our teacher (John 14:17,18,26; 16:13,14) "Spiritual truth is spiritually discerned" ...That's way many who have attempted to study the Bible, coming at it with their own earthly, worldly methods, in the pride of their own knowledge and ability have failed to understand the blessed truths of God's word. "I thank you Father....that you have hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and have revealed them unto babes" (ref. Luke 10:21). –This is why we must humbly seek God in prayer, asking for His Spirit to guide; "For God resists the proud, but He gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6).**
 - **"...the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him..." (v.14). We must have a converted heart...transformed and renewed by the Spirit of God so that we may truly understand the depths of God's Spiritual truth. (notice John 3:3-8) Nicodemus had experienced this. He had failed to understand the deeper Spiritual truths, though he did have a previous knowledge of Spiritual things. He needed the converting power of God to work a transformation in his heart, for him to grasp the full goodness, blessing, and saving power of God in His life!**

Question (s) for the Heart:

Would you like to experience God's spiritual power and peace in your life through His Spirit? _____