

The World By Wisdom Knew Not God

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1 Corinthians 1:18–25 (NKJV)

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.” ²⁰Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²²For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

foolishness:ridiculous thought - a wildly mistaken or unfounded opinion or idea.

the message of the cross is outside the wisdom of man/the world; it is foreign and in conflict with their nature; their minds are blinded to it, being ignorant of it.

James 3:13–18 (NKJV)

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.

¹⁵ This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

sensual: finitely natural - characterized by the created, finite, and fallen world; perhaps also of the nature that humanity shares with animals.

Isaiah 29:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work Among this people, A marvelous work and a wonder; For the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, And the understanding of their prudent men shall be hidden.”

Acts 13:26–28 (NKJV)

²⁶“Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent.

²⁷For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, **because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets, which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him.**

²⁸And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death.

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Acts 13:36–41 (NKJV)

³⁶“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;

³⁷but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.

³⁸Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that **through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;**

³⁹and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

justified:to be or become judicially vindicated as having complied with the requirements of the law (of God)

Romans 8:4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁴⁰Beware therefore, lest what has been spoken in the prophets come upon you:

⁴¹‘Behold, you despisers, Marvel and perish! For I work a work in your days, A work which you will by no means believe, Though one were to declare it to you.’ ”

Marvel: to wonder or marvel at some event or object—‘to wonder, to be amazed, to marvel’ (whether the reaction is favorable or unfavorable depends on the context). ‘the whole earth marveled and followed the beast’ Re 13:3; ‘Moses was amazed by what he saw’ Ac 7:31.

Acts 7:30–34 (NKJV)

³⁰“And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai.

³¹When Moses saw it, he **marveled** at the sight; and as he drew near to observe, the voice of the Lord came to him,

³²saying, ‘I am the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses trembled and dared not look.

³³Then the Lord said to him, “Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

³⁴I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt; I have heard their groaning and have come down to deliver them. And now, come; I will send you to Egypt.”’

Acts 13:12 Then the proconsul **believed**, when he saw what had been done, being **astonished** at the teaching of the Lord.

Jude 14–21 (NKJV)

¹⁴Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

¹⁵to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

¹⁶These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.

¹⁷But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:

¹⁸how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.

¹⁹These are **sensual** persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

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Romans 1:22–27 (NKJV)

²²Professing to be wise, they became fools,

²³and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

²⁵ **who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator**, who is blessed forever. Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

Psalms 107:42 (NKJV)

⁴² The righteous see it and rejoice; And all iniquity stops its mouth.

1 Samuel 2:1–3 (NKJV)

¹And Hannah prayed and said: “My heart rejoices in the Lord; My horn is exalted in the Lord. I smile at my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation.

²“No one is holy like the Lord, For there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God.

³“Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the Lord is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.

Job 29:9 (NKJV)

⁹ The princes refrained from talking, And put their hand on their mouth;

Hosea 10:12–13 (NKJV)

¹²Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground; For it is time to seek the Lord, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

¹³ You have plowed wickedness; You have reaped iniquity. **You have eaten the fruit of lies, Because you trusted in your own way, In the multitude of your mighty men.**

Hosea 10:1–2 (NKJV)

¹ Israel empties his vine; He brings forth fruit for himself. According to the multitude of his fruit He has increased the altars; According to the bounty of his land, They have embellished his sacred pillars.

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2 Their heart is divided; Now they are held guilty. He will break down their altars; He will ruin their sacred pillars.

In the abundance of their bounty, they forsook God, who caused them to prosper as they were obedient, and began compromise what made them wise.

Deuteronomy 4:1–9 (NKJV)

1 “Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you.

2 You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

3 Your eyes have seen what the Lord did at Baal Peor; for the Lord your God has destroyed from among you all the men who followed Baal of Peor.

4 But you who held fast to the Lord your God are alive today, every one of you.

5 “Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess.

6 Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’

7 “For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the Lord our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him?

8 And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?

9 Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren,

Ephesians 1: Ephesians 1:7–8 (NKJV)

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself

