**Wisdom From God**

*1 Corinthians 2*

**Introduction**

* Greeks – Had a strong interest in philosophy. They were disinterested in the apostolic gospel because of the simplicity of the message. They were more interested in the philosophy of the time. However, their interest was in the delivery of the message, not the message itself. (1:22)
* Paul, most likely, could have used their same colorful language against them. He was familiar with the rhetoric and poetry (Acts 17:28).
	+ However the power of the message is the content received from the Holy Spirit. Paul did not need to use eloquent speech. (2 Cor. 10:10 – Corinthians recognized the simplicity of the message Paul brought. The power is not in the quality of the delivery but in the message itself.)
* God didn’t intend for the faith of man to be based on feelings and emotion. That’s why Paul preached “Christ and Him crucified.” It was the plain and simple truth. Backed up by historical facts. This is where true conviction is found, not in the flowery, and persuasive words of human reasoning. (1:25)
1. Manner in which the message is to be proclaimed. (v. 1-5)
* *Power of message is not in crafty, enticing speech. Power is in message from God.*
* *Greeks interested in the way in which the message was spoken, not the message itself.*
1. In simplicity (v. 1-2).
2. In power [v. 3 – Acts 18:9-11 – Christ told Paul to not be afraid (fear for his life because of past experience). v. 4-5 – power of God.]
3. From whom does the message originate? (v. 6-9)
* *The wisdom of the message brought must be of God (by his word). Not earthly wisdom.*
* *Must have faith in the power of God’s wisdom seen in the Word. Using philosophy of man/wisdom of man does not show this faith.*
1. Speak wisdom (v. 6).
* “those who are mature?” – 1:18-25
1. Wisdom of GOD (v. 7).
* Mystery – unrevealed.
	+ Since before time (v. 7).
* Wisdom that the rulers didn’t know (v. 8-9)
1. Then how do we know? 🡪
2. Where and how do we receive the message? (v. 10-16)
* *Apostles were inspired by God through the giving of the Holy Spirit.*
* *Their message is from God. It is GOD’S MESSAGE.*
* *Nobody is inspired today. (we have no right to stray from God’s word in any way.)*
1. Through the apostolic gospel (v. 10).
* Subject in verses 1-5 (‘I’) was Paul.
* Changes to we in verse 6.
* “God revealed them to us through His Spirit (*Holy Spirit*).” (v. 10).
	+ Apostles received the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4).
1. Not through ideas of man, but of God (v. 11-12).
* Only way they know is through the Holy Spirit.
* Not spirit of the world (philosophy and reasoning) but of God.
1. Through the things the apostles speak (v. 13).
* They (apostles) received through Holy Spirit (v. 14-16).
	+ (v. 16) “instruct” *symbibazo* – knit together. That he may be of the same mind?
	+ Apostles have mind of Christ through Holy Spirit, the revealed that to us in the word.
* *The apostle’s message didn’t need human wisdom and philosophy to make the message powerful. We don’t either!*

**Conclusion**

* (3:4-7) – The power is not in the person bringing the message. It is not in the style or format that the message is brought. The power is in the word of God given by His holy spirit. All glory and credit goes to God!