



## MESSAGE/SERIES:

**1 Corinthians 1/RESTORATION** “Glory in Christ Alone”

**DATE:** June 30, 2019

## SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

**1 Corinthians 1:26-31**, Matthew 11:25, Jeremiah 9:23-24, James 2:5, Romans 9:11, Ephesians 2:8-9, Colossians 2:1-3, **Galatians 6:14**, 1 Corinthians 4:7-10, Philippians 3:3, 8-11, **2 Corinthians 10:17**, Matthew 16:17, Romans 11:36, **2 Corinthians 5:17**

## OPENING SCRIPTURE:

**[1 Corinthians 1:26-31]**

*<sup>26</sup> For **consider your calling**, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And **because of him you are in Christ Jesus**, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts. boast in the Lord.”*

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 1:26–31.*

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HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT  
WHY GOD CALLED YOU TO HIMSELF...  
Because you are WISE? STRONG? NOBLE BIRTH?

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## BACKGROUND:

“**Roman social class was based on birth** (“nobility”) rather than on wealth; but by either criterion, most of the Corinthian Christians derived from the lower ranks of society, which made up the vast majority of ancient society. Paul’s guarded language here (“not many”—NIV) suggests that some, however, were of higher status, no doubt including the owners of the homes in which the churches met.”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 1:26–29.

“Both **Jewish and Greek literature sometimes personified wisdom**. Christ as divine Wisdom (8:6; cf. Jn 1:1–18) functions as righteousness, sanctification and redemption, changing the person completely for God. The law was considered both wisdom (Deut 4:6) and righteousness (Deut 6:25).”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 1:30.

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## OUTLINE:

**Last week** Paul introduced us to the Wisdom of God that is Jesus Christ crucified and risen again. In order for us to understand the message of the Cross God must awaken our spirit and give us eyes to see the truth of Jesus otherwise it is nonsense to us... By God’s Grace we understand and come to a God given faith in Jesus.

**(1 Corinthians 1v23-25)** Paul said, “***we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,*** <sup>24</sup> ***but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*** <sup>25</sup> ***For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.***”

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 1:23–25.

Today we will explore the Glory man seeks as believers...Christ is our Wisdom and the source of all blessedness the Glory of God in us...

## I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CALL (v26)

(1 Corinthians 1:26) <sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were **wise** according to worldly standards, not many were **powerful**, not many were of **noble birth**.”

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 1:26.

- Paul calls the Corinthian people to reflect on who they were when He called them to salvation.
  - *Not all were of lowly status but most were of lowly status as indicated by the “not many” phrasing...*
- Paul was drawing great emphasis on the state from which they were called to take their eyes off of themselves and **place them on the one calling them...**
  - *he says “Consider” meaning =**think long and hard about who and where you were.***
- These Corinthians were not deserving of this personal calling to salvation (no rights).
- These Corinthians had no merit in themselves when it comes to salvation and redemption...

### Paul says....

- A. Not many were “wise” (Skillful or Cleverness or Educated)
  - 1. *The Culture of the day valued learned Wisdom and they had none*
- B. Not many were “powerful” (Authority or Influential)
  - 1. *The Culture viewed earned Authority or Influence in high regard and they had none*
- C. Not many were of “Noble Birth” (High Status)
  - 1. *The Culture really valued those born to Nobility and these people were commoners*

=Most of The Corinthians **were worthless in the eyes of the Culture they lived in...**

(1 Corinthians 1:27-28) <sup>27</sup> But **God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;** <sup>28</sup> **God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,**

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 1:27–28.*

## II. THE INVERSION OF THE CHOSEN (v30)

(1 Corinthians 1:29-30) <sup>29</sup> *so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.* <sup>30</sup> *And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,”*

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 1:29–30.*

- Paul is stating in this section that the cross turned the world upside down to what they had believed. Jesus and the cross transforms the importance of certain things and places the importance on eternal things and on Jesus alone... a **new Value System** for those who believe and follow Christ alone.
  - A. The Chosen in (v26-31) become by **transformation**... (God's view)
    1. *The **Righteous** in Christ (Now accepted because of Jesus)*
    2. *The **Holy** in Christ (Now able to enter into the Holy of Holies)*
    3. *The **Redeemed** in Christ (Now Free)*

*= As believers and followers of Christ we must only be concerned with the things that concern our God.*

***The things man values cannot be our goal and ambition anymore as these things become a roadblock for the Christian.***

= *Cultural differences of Corinth versus Christian culture is that they greatly valued the public opinion and outward status as many still do today, but believers and **followers of Christ value forgiveness and inner peace...***

*because we have been given spiritual understanding through the Word and His Spirit*

- B. (v30) The Chosen experience a new standing and status IN CHRIST
  - 1. Belonging to Christ as the

### III. THE BOASTING OF THE REDEEMED (v30-31)

- Paul was addressing the
- A. The Redeemed are those who were once the possession of Sin & Satan
  - 1. *Of no value/nothing to the slave owner (Satan)*
- B. The Redeemed are those who have been chosen of God to be redeemed (by the Fathers own good pleasure)
- C. The Redeemed are those who have been bought with a price from the slave master of Sin & Satan (
- D. The Redeemed are purchased with the blood of Christ
  - 1. *Freed from the state of bondage we once lived in*
  - 2. *Freed to know our new master*
  - 3. *Freed to serve our new master (Bond servant/ freed to serve out of Love)*
- E. The Redeemed are made valuable as the payment that was made
  - 1. *Priceless*
  - 2. *As shown by His promises to us that are anchored in Christ*

**Jeremiah 9:23-24** *“Thus says the Lord: **“Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches,** <sup>24</sup> **but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord.”***

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Je 9:23–24.*

**When we think of the wisdom of God as it relates to Salvation we can see God’s character on Display...**

#### **The Lord is:**

- **Love** (*Sending His Son to die for those who will believe*)
- **Just** (*Judging the sin of the world*)
- **Righteous** (*the state of always doing what is required according to His Holy standard*)

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Salvation in Christ is not a human self-improvement scheme, but *a radical rescue from a form of slavery* out of which one cannot earn or buy one's way.

Alan F. Johnson, *1 Corinthians*, vol. 7, The IVP New Testament Commentary Series (Westmont, IL: IVP Academic, 2004), 60.

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## OTHER STUDY HELPS:

- **Redemption-** (Culturally) A term that is closely tied with the slave market of Greco-Roman culture in which the slave owned by one party has to be purchased by another in order to be freed from the first master. However the slave now becomes indebted to the new master and answerable to him. If the slave was purchased (money paid) in the temple the slave could be freed and protected by deity in the view of the people of that day.

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----  
Church,

In this passage today we have learned that we are undeserving and fallen creatures who God in His goodness and for His own good pleasure has not only given us Spiritual Understanding, but also a new identity IN CHRIST. We are valuable only in Him. We please God only in Him. We are not much in the world's view as they see Christians as weak and full of nonsense, but in Christ we have the wisdom and power of God in us. We have purpose because of Him. We have been freed from the power of Sin and Satan to serve God with the rest of our lives... as Paul stated for these reasons Let Us Boast In Christ Alone!

Love in Christ,  
*Pastor Michael*

