

1 Corinthians 2:6-13 ⁶ We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"— ¹⁰ but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹ For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.

Maturity Come from God's Wisdom

1. It is revealed by the Spirit
2. And it results in our salvation

Jacob was close to death. He showed all the signs of old age. He had trouble seeing. He moved with great difficulty. He knew it wouldn't be all that long and he would be with his Father in heaven. He remembered the struggles of his youth that had brought him grief and separation from his family. His wild spirit was all but spent and now he sat quietly with his family and talked to his boys. Many would say that maturity came from his life of trying all the wrong ways. But such peace was only given to him as he learned more about the peace of God. As he wrestled with God Jacob's maturity came from God's wisdom. It had been revealed to him by God throughout his life as God trained him. And it resulted in Jacob being sure about his salvation and at peace with God.

The same is true for believers. There is a maturity of faith that comes from having been brought to trial by God. As he leads a Christian to the place of peace along the trail are plenty of rest stops to see the wonders of the forgiveness of sins. At each waypoint God imparts more of what he does for sinners. Some are peaceful places. Others are wrestling matches that lead to greater strength. But just because someone has reached a greater age does not mean that they are mature in their faith.

God brings his believer to such a maturity by revealing his wisdom. People yearn for wisdom. The Corinthians valued it above all else. They wanted whatever would make them truly wise. Therefore, right after Paul told them about the simple message of Christ and him crucified for the sins of the world, he explained how this was the only wisdom that make you truly wise. **We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.** ⁷ **No, we speak of God's secret wisdom.**

Paul was letting them in on a secret. He really did have a secret wisdom from God that he could share. Now this wisdom didn't come from the efforts of Paul, or the Corinthians but was revealed by the Spirit.

Up to this time Paul had been describing the Gospel as view by sinners who are perishing. To them, the message of a Savior who shows his love by giving his live for theirs sounds foolish. That good news of Christ speaks **a message of wisdom among the mature.**

The mature in Christ know that wisdom. They recognize that they hold onto spiritual intelligence and experience power and peace. These mature people don't have to be advanced in age or even adults. Anyone who knows and believes that they are a sinner for whom Jesus shed his blood on the cross is among the mature and wiser than the greatest of the worldly leaders.

Have you ever thought about how wise you are in comparison to others? That's what Paul does here. He lets you know that with your faith in the Savior you are wise beyond many great leaders and rulers of this world. In Christ, you are wiser than the deep thinkers who are coming to nothing in spite of all they have learned.

They struggle and study to find wisdom and what do they come up with? They come up with plans for peace and prosperity that just fall apart. Take for example their plan to make sure everyone is happy and has what they want. The plan that comes forth is to get people to have all the stuff they desire. To have a job that will be an endless source of money so that no one has to be in want and can get whatever they want when they want it without having to think about cost. They will study and struggle to be just like people who display such knowledge but never end up with true peace because their efforts do not find true wisdom.

The best minds can't find God's wisdom because it is a "secret wisdom." There is no amount of searching that can find God. God's saving wisdom is the oldest wisdom, how God decided to save people by faith in his Son. But this amazing fact, this glorious truth, remained a secret until his Spirit open our minds and hearts to it. The world's best minds could show us many discoveries but have never come across the Savior who brings peace. They have filled the internet with facts but have never dreamed that God would bring his personal touch to care for his lost creatures.

No one besides God, not even your spouse or a sibling, knows what you're thinking right now. You would have to enlighten us. In the same way, there is no way for us to know what God is thinking unless he tells us. Thankfully he does that through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit hasn't spoken directly to us but he did communicate with people like the Apostle Paul who then wrote these words down in the Bible. Do you want to gain real wisdom? Real wisdom comes from the Spirit. And the Spirit speaks to us through the pages of the Bible. This is why we treat the Bible with such respect. When we come together to hear and study the Bible we're not just examining an ancient text; we're reading God's mind! Imagine if you could read the mind of a successful investor like Warren Buffett. What would that mean for you? Wouldn't it mean that you too could make smart investing choices and earn lots of money? Well we have something even better in the Bible. Reading and studying it leads to an eternally secure future.

Those who are prominent in promoting human wisdom, those who pride themselves on worldly positions of authority and prestige, blind themselves to the genuine wisdom of God encased in the gospel. They disdain it and therefore cannot really understand it. Never was this more apparent than when the Jewish and Roman leaders "crucified the Lord of glory." Had they comprehended the identity of Jesus as well as his purpose on earth, they would never have acted as they did.

There are many things people would not do (including "crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace" by lack of godly repentance) if they would grasp the wisdom of God in Christ. Yet today billions remain blind, not knowing the truth and not wanting to know it. And included among these are many who, like the Jewish leaders who sought to slay Christ, possess the Scriptures externally but refuse to take them at face value. "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him" (Jn 1:11).

God gives us maturity in his wisdom to believe the crucified Jesus is the Lord of glory. He is the deepest picture of disgrace as he suffers on the cross for our sins but also reveals his greatest glory shown in his mercy to sinners. This Jesus is the very one that the world rejects.

This message of our Savior God has freely given to us. **No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.** Everything we know about sinners being condemned and our salvation has been recorded and registered in us because God placed it there.

We need constant encouragement to concentrate on Christ because we're like Jesus' first disciples. It takes only minutes for us to become drowsy, spiritually cool, careless. We forget how extraordinary it is that God has miraculously invaded our world to speak to us and so we don't honor the Word with our full attention when it is spoken. To do so it like trying to text and drive at the same time; it's a good way to get killed. It may seem boring to keep your eyes on the road and you may think you are able to both at the same time. But focusing on one and not the other insures that you should make it to your destination safely. It is the wise thing to do.

Likewise that's how God brings us safely to heaven, by putting our concentration on Christ which results in our salvation. Concentrating on Christ when others talk about distractions is not easy. No is it easy to concentrate on Christ when our own foolish sinful self gets in the way. But there is wisdom in staying away from the sinful actions that we want to do. That is wisdom. **A wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began...words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.**

God still hides his glorious wisdom. He meets us in the message of law that points out our sins, and in the gospel that declares how Christ removed those sins. This message is proclaimed on the pages of a book and through the words of a feeble preacher. It's hidden in a handful of water, and in pennies' worth of bread and wine. The world doesn't see wisdom there. But by the Holy Spirit's gracious working you do. Believing what God has to say about our sin and what Jesus has done for us to take those sins away will result in our salvation. Don't despise this wisdom.

This wisdom brings maturity to not give into the sinner inside as it whines about things being unfair and how you haven't gotten what you deserved. This wisdom brings maturity to see you prepared and how by the Holy Spirit you are preserved.