

First Corinthians 2:6-16

Two wisdoms contrasted—2:6-10 ⁶ *Now, we do speak wisdom among the mature,*

- 1) Negatively—2:6 *yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are being nullified (by God),*
- 2) Positively—2:7-8 ⁷ *but we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery,*
 - a) *that (wisdom) which is hidden,*
 - b) *which God has predetermined before the ages for our glory;*
 - c) ⁸ *which none of the rulers (the best they have to offer) of this age have understood;*
 - i) *for if they had understood, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. (cf. James 2:1)*
- 3) The authority of Scripture—2:9-10 ⁹ *But just as it is written, (cf. Isaiah 64:4; 65:17)*
 - a) Negatively; no human ability or reason—*“Things that no eye has seen, or ear has heard, or entered into (occurred to) the heart of man,*
 - b) Positively; only God’s grace—*things God has prepared for those characterized by loving Him (the mature of 2:6).”*
 - c) ¹⁰ *But God has revealed these (things) to us (emphatic) through His Spirit;*
 - i) *Why? for the Spirit (thoroughly) investigates all things, even the depths of God.*

Comparison and application—2:11-13

- 1) Comparison of spirits—2:11
 - a) People—¹¹ *For who among people knows the things of a person except the spirit of the person which is in him?*
 - b) God—*So too no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of (proceeds from) God.*
- 2) Practical application—2:12-13
 - a) Negatively—¹² *Now **we** (emphatic) have not received the spirit of the world,*
 - b) Positively—*but (we have received) the Spirit who is from God,*
 - i) *Why did God give us the Spirit? so that we may know the things that have been graciously given to us by God,*
 - (1) ¹³ *which things we also speak,*
 - (a) *Negatively—not in words taught in human wisdom,*
 - (b) *Positively—but in those taught by the Holy Spirit,*
 - (i) *explaining (interpreting) spiritual things to spiritual people.*

Why won’t unsaved people respond positively to God’s Word?—2:14-16

- 1) Unsaved—2:14
 - a) Unwillingness—¹⁴ *Now the natural (soulish) person does not welcome the things of the Spirit of God,*
 - i) *Why? for they are foolishness to him;*
 - ii) *cf. 1st Thessalonians 1:6; 2:13; 2nd Thessalonians 2:10; James 1:21*
 - b) Culpable inability—*and he is not able to understand them*
 - i) *Why? because they are evaluated spiritually.*
- 2) Saved—2:15-16
 - a) Positively—¹⁵ *But the one who is spiritual (on the one hand) evaluates all things,*
 - b) Negatively—*but (on the other hand) he himself is evaluated by no (unsaved) one.*
 - i) *Why? Negatively “for whom has known the mindset of the Lord that he may instruct him?” (cf. Isaiah 40:13 LXX)*
 - ii) *Why? Positively But **we** (emphatic) have the mindset of Christ. (by the Spirit)*