

Don't Look At Me!

(1 Corinthians 2)

Strabo preferred Tarsus to Athens or Alexandria for education

- Paul knows Aratus (Acts 17)
- Paul knows Epimenides (Titus 12)
- Paul knows Menander (1 Cor.15)

BUT he did not call on human wisdom to replace or to supplement God's wisdom

I. Paul's Subject – Not To Change, 1-5

1: Paul had no use for 'brilliant' ideas of man

We must do our best to convey truth,
but with right motive and emphasis –
Scripture, not self

Gimmicks focus on
man, not message

2: Proper focus: Christ crucified

1:23

3: power in message, not man

- Man is unworthy, 1:12-13
- Ac.15:25-26, right to encourage, wrong to exalt
- Modern churches: lighten up!

4: preaching + signs

- No display of oratory (ct. 1:22)

5: purpose: trust power of God, not wisdom of man

- Fleeting: here today, gone tomorrow
- Faulty: keep missing it
- Fails: Ph.1

I. Paul's Subject – Not To Change, 1-5

II. Paul's Source – Not A Chance,
6-13

6-8: wisdom, yes, but God's, not ours

6: fleeting (this age) ... faulty (rulers)
... fails (nothing)

7: God's wisdom (beyond us) –

- Bronze snake, Num.21?
- Water, 2 K.5?
- Water, Jn.9?
- Lord's death saves (8)?

6-8: wisdom, yes, but God's, not ours

8: Lord's death saves?

- Why follow one who could not save Himself...?
- God submitted to human need – greatest demonstration of love the world ever saw
- What Jewish conspirator knew this?

6-8: wisdom, yes, but God's, not ours

8: Lord's death saves?

- Humility does not appeal to proud
- Foolish commands do not appeal to logical minds
- Ancient book does not appeal to modern desires
- Restrictive rules do not appeal to free-thinkers

6-8: wisdom, yes, but God's, not ours

8: paradox

- Crucify Lord of glory?
- Deity dies?
- God's intentional choice, 1:26-31

This is *my* truth?

9: excludes proof based on sense perception

- True wisdom comes from God
- We could never imagine what God would do for us

10: we know by revelation
(God shared His secret)

11: cannot know what others
think unless they tell us. 1 Pt.1:12

- "I think" – Ac.26:9-11
- "I believe" – Ro.10:17

12: **we can know** (10)

3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, **4** by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) – Ep.3

18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law – Ps.119

13: these things we also speak

Verbal inspiration: Holy Spirit combines spiritual things with spiritual words

'These things' we speak (things from God, v.12)

NOT what we . . .

ASSUME

WANT

LIKE

DECIDE

I. Paul's Subject – Not To Change, 1-5

II. Paul's Subject – Not A Chance, 6-13

III. Paul's Summary – Not For
Carnal, 14-16

14: natural man

Our 'physical' (15:44).

Key word: 'foolish' (1:25, 27).

Revelation: taught (13) and caught (14).

Attitude determines knowledge.

- Jesus is deceiver, Jn.6:60; 7:47-49

21 Books You Don't
Have To Read

15-16: mind of Christ – we can understand

15: only a spiritual person can evaluate
spiritual facts.

16: mind of Christ. Ph.2:5