

1 Corinthians 1:17 – 31

New American Standard Version

- ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize,
but to preach the gospel,
not in cleverness of speech,
so that the cross of Christ would not be made void.
- ¹⁸ For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- ¹⁹ For it is written,
“I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.”
- ²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?
Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
- ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not *come to know* God,
God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.
- ²² For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom;
²³ but we preach Christ crucified,
to Jews a stumbling block and
to Gentiles foolishness,
²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God
and the wisdom of God.
²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and
the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- ²⁶ For consider your calling, brethren,
that there were
not many wise according to the flesh,
not many mighty,
not many noble;
²⁷ but God has chosen
the foolish things of the world
to shame the wise,
and God has chosen
the weak things of the world
to shame the things which are strong,
²⁸ and the base things of the world and
the despised God has chosen,
the things that are not,
so that He may nullify the things that are,
²⁹ so that no man may boast before God.
- ³⁰ But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us
wisdom from God, and
righteousness and
sanctification, and
redemption,
³¹ so that, just as it is written, “LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.”