WISDOM FROM ABOVE: Creation & New Creation

Text: Prov. 8:22-36 / 1 Corinthians 1:18ff

That your faith would not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God

- 1. Some laws cannot be broken... Ex. GRAVITY is a physical law of the universe
 - a. Gravity applies to everyone regardless of their opinion or their feelings.
 - b. As Ben Shapiro says: 'Facts don't care about your feelings.'
- 2. Some things are transcendent and eternal because they are from God...
 - a. For Example: TRUTH is Transcendent...Truth is from God—not from us...
 - b. Feelings and focus groups cannot alter that.
- 3. The entire created order is from God—and just as there are physical and material laws there are also spiritual and moral laws built into the entire created order

I. THE WISDOM OF GOD IN CREATING THE WORLD (8:22-36)

(1) WISDOM IS FROM GOD (v.22-26)

- 1. Wisdom is from God and it existed before we were created...
 - a) Wisdom Does Not Originate From Us... it not derived from our inner self
 - b) It is not some esoteric knowledge or secret mysticism from your inner-self
 - c) Wisdom exists outside of us—it was before, outside of us and above us
- Since Wisdom is from God—it is Transcendent...
 - a) Like Truth is Transcendent...
 - b) It must be learned and accepted and put into practice.

(2) <u>WISDOM WORKS (v.27-30)</u>

- 1. God created the world with His divine wisdom...
 - a) It is woven into the fabric of the physical & moral universe.
- 2. The universe is not an accident or random chaos—it is cosmos...
 - a) It has created order & intelligent design!
- 3. It is a Fine-Tuned universe with parameters and purpose...
 - If the strong nuclear force were 2% stronger or weaker, stars couldn't form properly.
 - If the ratio of neutrons & protons were any different then stable atoms could not form
 - If the universe expanded any slower or faster then galaxies could not form
 - If any of these were off then carbon couldn't form & carbon based life could not exist.
 - If the earth's orbit was just 5% closer to the sun it would be a burning desert planet unable to support human life.
 - If the orbit was only 5% further from the sun it would be a barren ice-planet unable to support life.
 - If the moon was any closer or further away the ocean tides would be so radical it would cause chaos or there would be world-wide flooding.
 - If the Earth's tilt axis was any different the seasons would be to fast or too slow
 - The Earth's Magnetic field would not protect us from massive solar radiation and Solar storms that would kill all life.

(3) WISDOM REJOICES (v.30-31)

- 1. Wisdom rejoices over all of God's Works!
 - a) Rejoicing in His inhabited world
 - b) Rejoices when people make wise choices for a better life
 - c) Rejoices over human beings created in the image of God
- 2. The world is not an accident and you are not an accident!
- 3. Sometimes we think Human Beings are the flaw in the created system... but the created system was designed for Human Beings! (Is 45:18)
 - a) The heavens declare the Glory of God... (Psalm 19:1)
 - b) Showing His power and intelligent design (Col. 1:16; Heb. 11:3; Rom. 1:20)

His works are so majestic and His created world so good that wisdom rejoices

(4) WISDOM IS FROM GOD AND LEADS US BACK TO GOD (v.32–36)

- 1. The whole created order is founded on God's divine wisdom—
- 2. THEREFORE: IF we live with the wisdom from God...
 - a) then we are working in harmony with the grain and flow of the physical and moral universe... Life is better, more joyful and rewarding.
- 3. BUT If we live with Worldly Wisdom in Rebellion to God's will...
 - a) then we are working against the flow and grain of the physical and moral universe.... and Life is Harder and More Frustrating.
- 4. Chasing the Wisdom of the World is like Chasing the Wind...

 But Seeking True Wisdom from God leads us back to God.

II. THE WISDOM OF GOD IN SAVING THE WORLD (1 Cor. 1:18-29)

(1) GOD DID NOT USE HUMAN WISDOM TO CREATE THE WORLD— AND HE DID NOT USE HUMAN WISDOM TO SAVE THE WORLD (1 Corinthians 1:18–25)

- 1. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? the Disputer & skeptic of this age?
 - a) They're all talk—because they love themselves more than they love the truth
 - b) There is no wise man, or scribe, debater or skeptic, who can do what God has done.
- 2. Do you remember when Job questioned God about the way God was running the universe? (Job 38:1–7 NIV)
 - a) Where were you when God created Space and Time?
 - b) Where were you When God created Galaxies and stars of burning nuclear fusion?
 - c) When God created the Atom, the Cell, the intelligent language of Life DNA?
- 3. God Did <u>Not</u> Use Human Wisdom to Create the World—
 and He Did <u>Not</u> Use Human Wisdom to Save the World!

(2) THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD REJECTS THE WISDOM OF GOD—THE WISDOM OF GOD REJECTS THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD (1:26-29)

- 1. Some want to be dazzled by miracles and signs and wonders
 - a) Others want their ears ticked by philosophers
 - b) Others want their ego inflated by intellectuals
- 2. God Chose to save us in the most horrible and cruel death ever devised by evil man—the death of Crucifixion as a criminal on a Cross
 - a) So everyone would know our complete inability to save ourselves.
 - b) So everyone would know His eternal love for us
- 3. The Horrible Death of Jesus humbles our Pride-but lifts our hearts in love!
- (3) OUR FAITH SHOULD NOT BE IN THE WISDOM OF MAN—BUT IN THE POWER OF GOD (2:1-5)
 - 1. Some don't want to give God the glory—they want glory for themselves
 - 2. This is why the church in Corinth was divided! (1:12)

"each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul" (1:12)

- 3. Paul did not go there to impress them as a great speaker...
 - a) **EX:** Like the two men asked to give a speech about George Washington...
 - b) The first gave a great speech and when he stepped down all the people said, "Wow what an incredible speaker!"
 - c) The second man gave his speech and when he stepped down the people said, "Wow, what an incredible man George Washington was!"
- Our Faith should be in the greatness of God—not the wisdom of man

(4) GOD CHOSE ONE WAY—HIS WAY—TO SAVE THE WORLD (2:6-9)

- 1. The gospel is God's Plan to Save Man from Before Time Began
 - a) No one could've ever Imagined that God the Son would leave the glory of heaven and come to earth in human form to die for the sins of the world.
 - b) and then be raised from the Dead so He could be our eternal High Priest and we could live forever!
- GENESIS REVELATION [CHART] But something profound had to happen
 —The Cross: The Death, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus
 - 2. Who could've imagined God would save us—by sacrificing Himself!
 - a) His eternal plan was inconceivable to man—
 - b) And his eternal reward is inconceivable to man!
 - 3. Don't put your faith in the Wisdom of this age or the rulers of this age
 Put your Faith in God—who alone can save!

CONCLUSION:

1. 1 Corinthians 2:9