

Outline: “We Have the Mind of Christ” Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 2:6–16

Date: June 1, 2025 (Worship Service)

Introduction

The Mystery of Paul’s Apparently Contradictory Statements

- Previous Assertion: “I did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God’s mystery.” (1:1)

- Current Assertion: “However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature.” (2:6)

Question Raised: What is the difference between these two types of wisdom? How can one obtain the latter wisdom?

1) The Wisdom That Paul and His Companions Proclaim — God’s Mystery Appointed from the Very Beginning Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 2:6–9

- Who Are “Those Who Are Mature”?

- Not merely spiritual veterans, but those who have been saved
- Those who can receive “the word of the cross” as God’s power

- Characteristics of God’s Wisdom (v.7):

1. The wisdom of God, which was hidden as a mystery
2. Appointed before the world began

- The True Identity of God’s Wisdom:

- Christ Himself (cf. 1:24)
- Righteousness, sanctification, and redemption in Christ (cf. 1:30)
- In other words, “salvation through Christ”

- The Ignorance of the Rulers of This Age (vv.8–9):

- They did not understand God’s wisdom, and thus crucified the glorious Lord
- Because God’s plan of salvation surpassed human imagination

Point 1: God’s salvation is given from outside the bounds of human understanding.

2) The Revelation of Wisdom by the Spirit — Only the Spirit Knows the Things of God Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 2:10–11

- How to Know True Wisdom:

- It is revealed by the Spirit (v.10)
- The Spirit searches all things
- Just as “no one knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him,” so also “no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.” (v.11)

Point 2: The things of God cannot be known apart from the Holy Spirit’s revelation.

Practical Application:

- Even Bible study has its limits without the work of the Holy Spirit.
- When reading Scripture, we must pray for the Spirit’s guidance.

3) The Way to Speak God’s Wisdom — Having Received the Spirit, Speak in Words Taught by the Spirit Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 2:12–13

- Understanding as a Gift (v.12):

- We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit from God
- We understand the things freely given by God

- Principle of Speaking (v.13):

- Not in words taught by human wisdom
- But in words taught by the Spirit
- Explaining spiritual things with spiritual words

Point 3: When testifying or teaching Scripture, it is paramount to first rely on the Holy Spirit.

- Encouragement for Family Worship:

- For passing on faith and faith education
- To teach God's plan to one's family, the Spirit's guidance is indispensable

4) Characteristics of the Natural Man — Unspiritual, Cannot Understand the Words of the Spirit Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 2:14–16 (first half)

- Condition of the Natural Man (v.14):

- Does not accept the things of the Spirit of God
- Considers them foolishness and cannot understand them
- Spiritual things are judged by the Spirit

- Characteristics of the Man Who Has Received the Spirit (v.15):

- He discerns all things
- Yet he himself is not judged by anyone

Practical Insight:

- Choosing to suffer loss for the Lord may look foolish to the world.
- The value of worship and service cannot be understood without the Spirit's leading.
- It is natural that the world will not understand.

Point 4: Belonging to the Spirit is judged by the Spirit.

Conclusion "We Have the Mind of Christ" (2:16, latter half)

- Privileges Given:

1. The mind of Christ = the Holy Spirit = God's wisdom
2. A great gift not given to the natural man
3. The Triune God's work is at work within us

Invitation to Respond:

1. Give thanks for this great gift.
2. Walk relying on the Holy Spirit.
3. Through the Holy Spirit, know, worship, and obey the Lord more.
4. Continue to proclaim the gospel of Christ and the truth of Scripture by the Spirit.

Four Main Points for Today

1. God's salvation is given from outside the bounds of human understanding.
2. The things of God cannot be known apart from the Holy Spirit's revelation.
3. When testifying or teaching Scripture, it is paramount to first rely on the Holy Spirit.
4. Belonging to the Spirit is judged by the Spirit.