

CTW: Psalm 9:1-12

Reading: I Corinthians 2

AGD: Perhaps you noticed that the sun came up this morning. You say, "Of course the sun came up. The sun comes up every morning and has forever." Yes, but did you consider that the sun came up today because God is faithful?

Following on our text from last week Paul continues contrasting human wisdom/philosophy/reason with revelation. Paul reminds them to think about how he was when the first saw him (weak, fearful and trembling). Paul was not impressive and the message he gave was not cognitive/rhetorical but a demonstration of the Spirit.

(Not that Paul made the Holy Spirit do anything. Yesterday's workshop)

**It seems our efforts to understand and get our theology right sometimes means we overlook the Spirit.** We try so hard to understand and come to the right doctrine that we set God aside. We try to figure it out ourselves and overlook the Holy Spirit---You can't overlook the Holy Spirit though! That's like playing baseball without a baseball.

- The Christian life IS a Spirit-led and filled life
- It's not just letting God show you what something means it's also about letting God show you which things matter. So many times we decide ourselves what we need to know and demand God teach us!
- Paul wanted the Corinthians to remember their experience with the Holy Spirit (away from human activity and back to divine activity)

**The world has it's wisdom but that wisdom didn't help people recognize Christ as God.**

- What we have is wisdom that the Spirit reveals
- The Holy Spirit searches/knows all things ("everything about everything"). Even every purpose and secret and thought of God (for the Spirit is God)
  - In the same way our own spirit/living soul knows our thoughts, because our spirits are us
  - Paul says that it's the same thing with God. The Holy Spirit IS God and knows all things that God knows.

**There are different kinds of spirits.** (You can sometimes see them at work on the nightly news) There is the spirit of the world and the Spirit of God. What Paul is reminding us is that God gives His Spirit. (For believers God has ALREADY given His Spirit for when you are born again the Holy Spirit comes and lives within you)

- **By that Spirit we understand all the other things given to us by God. The Holy Spirit is truly the gift that keeps on giving!**
- We can share the things we receive from God with others who have the same Spirit

There is a secret language within the Church

- Perhaps you've experienced yourself but discovering a connection with a stranger because you both know God
- A person outside of the Church (That is someone still unsaved) can't comprehend, accept, believe or much less live the things the Holy Spirit teaches (or the things we are teaching through the Spirit)
- For example: Bible stories, "ears to hear"
  - Such people demand/expect God to speak on their terms. God is not going to submit to our terms!

**If we have the Holy Spirit we can judge and understand things from God's point of view** (and His point of view is peculiar!)

- Since God knows everything about everything nobody can teach God anything.
- And because God is so much different than we are we can only understand God's perspective, motives and plans if we have the Holy Spirit's help. Through the Holy Spirit we are given the mind of Christ!
- What a gift!

CLOSE Paul says in this text there is a secret and hidden wisdom of God. So what is it? What secret is hidden from the world?? What wisdom confounds the wise, intelligent, powerful and brilliant minds of the world?

1. That Jesus, the Son of God (one of the 3 Persons of the Godhead), died on a cross as an atonement for our sin.
2. That in dying Jesus suffered the righteousness condemnation of sin which is death/separation from God
3. That in raising Christ from the dead God revealed Christ as the Savior of the world.

The secret Paul is referring to is everything that God is doing (past, present, future) to save human beings from the sin that we can't save ourselves from.

**And you can't even get a peek at this secret and hidden wisdom unless the Holy Spirit is revealing it to you.**

- The most critical thing you can do is to act/build on anything that the Spirit says. But don't be afraid or intimidated He is a very giving Spirit!