

# SCHOLAR WORSHIP

## THE IRRELEVANCE OF BIBLE DEGREES

"Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?"

- 1 Corinthians 1:20

### 1. What is Our Authority?

- a. How do we determine God's words? – Original manuscripts? Languages? Scholars?
- b. Who interprets doctrine? – Priests? Prophets? Scholars?
- c. What is given final authority? – degrees, professors, universities, seminaries
- d. Scholarship has been entrusted with the keys God's words too long
- e. No scholar has more authority than you – Tyndale's plowboy
- f. You have the manifold wisdom of God! – Eph 3:10
- g. The scriptures are able to make you wise - 2 Tim 3:15

### 2. Should We Trust Scholarship?

- a. "What has divinity science done for the world?" – P. Cartwright
- b. The wisdom of the world is dangerous – Rom 16:17-18
  - i. Wisdom *def.* - The right use of knowledge; erudition, learning
  - ii. Degree *def.* A measure of proficiency, rank.
  - iii. Layman *def.* – Someone who is not clergy, a non-expert
  - iv. Expert *def.* – Someone who is skilled, properly experienced → Heb 5:13-14
- c. Modern scholarship is void of the knowledge of God, there is no wisdom – 1 Cor 2:13
- d. Measuring themselves by themselves they are not wise - 2 Cor 10:12
- e. "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise" - 1 Cor 1:18-21

### 3. Appealing to Man or God

- a. Knowledge puffs up, tongues are self-edifying – 1 Cor 8:1-3, 14:4
- b. Scholarship makes the Bible complicated – 1 Cor 2:4-5
- c. Our wisdom is of God! → 1 Cor 2:6-8
- d. There is no respect of persons with God – Rom 2:11
- e. Paul did not seek certification of men - Gal 1:10-11

### 4. Scriptural Knowledge

- a. Our approval is of God, not of men - 2 Tim 2:15
- b. Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him – Eph 1:17
- c. Understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ – Eph 3:4
- d. Abound in knowledge and judgment - Phil 1:9
- e. Filled with the knowledge of his will – Col 1:9
- f. We can have wisdom through the right Bible rightly divided -
- g. We need people who will make sense of the Bible, not confuse it – Neh 8:8