


WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS IDENTIFIES “WORLDLY WISDOM”
AND GOD’S WISDOM COUNSELING HOLY LIVING.

- ◆ Seeking “change” to the established pattern.
My son...do not get involved with those who are given to change (Proverbs 24:21).
- ◆ Impugning/scoffing biblical practices as “useless traditions.”
“So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold on to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us” (2 Thessalonians 2:15).
- ◆ Removal of time-tested practices that make the Church strong.
“Do not move the ancient boundary” (Proverbs 23:10).
“(Y)ou shall set boundaries for the people all around” (Exodus 19:12).
- ◆ A damning pride boasting of discovering “new insights” to God’s will.
“Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new” (Acts 17:21).



TAKE-HOME LESSONS

1. THE BIBLE communicates God’s wisdom but many are unsatisfied!
2. THE BIBLE cautions Christians NOT to trust in worldly wisdom!
3. THE BIBLE reveals words that are important and must be obeyed!
4. THE BIBLE can be cunningly replaced by man’s prideful “intelligence”!



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CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

First Corinthians 2:6-13 discusses the utter ignorance of worldly wisdom. “Worldly wisdom” is the thought process that focuses on the “world’s standards and philosophy.” When mankind places more trust in mortal wisdom and ignores God’s wisdom, he has “educated himself into ignorance”! It may sound scholarly. It may be presented with smooth speech. It may seem like a reasoned conclusion. But it is still “*vain worldly wisdom.*”

- It entices humans to think the answers to life’s situations is in their own thinking. They elevate mortal thinking over divine thinking. (“What the mind can conceive, man can achieve.”)
- It scoffs at those who are old fashioned and trust in the “old” ways. Especially is this evident in religious matters—some are always looking for the “new” meaning and a “new” approach.
- It is “ever searching,” “always learning” BUT never able to come to the knowledge of the truth (2 Timothy 3:7). They are unwilling to accept the “old paths” (Jeremiah 6:16-17).

These think that mortal wisdom can replace the wisdom from God. These think they possess a wisdom that is greater than God’s wisdom!

This is mankind’s greatest challenge—the tempting thought that I

have “discovered” a better way to God’s truth!

The Word of God constantly faces this challenge from Satan. Satan’s delusion is that man has an alternative in faith.

- Paul reminds us that his own preaching was reckoned as foolishness (2:1-5).
- Paul teaches that the revelation (Scripture) embodies the very wisdom of God (2:6-9).
- Paul states that this wisdom of God is revealed through *words* of the Spirit (2:10-13). The very words are significant!

Worldly wisdom rejects Inspiration (2:1-5).

Sadly, many refuse to believe the wisdom of God is revealed through words of the Spirit (2:10-13). They are convinced their “new” way is better than any “old” way.

Paul uses the word “mystery.” This refers to that which would have remained forever unknowable if God had chosen NOT to reveal it. This mystery is God’s plan for redeeming man (Ephesians 3:3-6; 1 Peter 1:10-12).

This text (1 Corinthians 2:6-13) explains the profound truth concerning the manner and extent of inspiration.

- *The manner of inspiration* has to do with who, why, and how of the process of inspiration.
- *The extent of inspiration* has to do with the efficacy of the process.

A DISCUSSION OF THE MANNER OF INSPIRATION

Why was it necessary for God to inspire men to write the Bible?

The Bible was inspired so we could *fully* know God without “special” revelation. Only through the Bible can we come to

know God’s love, mercy, and kindness (1 Corinthians 2:7; 1 Peter 1:9-12).

Perfect inspiration could come only through the “wisdom of God.” Any manner chosen by God to reveal this mystery had to be joined with the wisdom of God. The Holy Spirit was the One who imparted this wisdom to writers (verse 10, 11; 2 Peter 1:21).

A most crucial aspect concerning the manner of inspiration is found in the fact that the revelations were committed to writing. A written record would be preserved from the variations, additions, and errors of oral transmission. The written message is mobile. It does not depend upon an orator, and works quite independently of its writer (Isaiah 40:6-9). The written account may be read, reread, and studied a number of times.

A DISCUSSION ON THE EXTENT OF INSPIRATION

Everything we need has been given to us (verse 10, 13; 2 Peter 1:3). There are some things which God has chosen NOT to reveal (Deuteronomy 29:29; 1 Corinthians 15:35). There is not now, nor will there ever be a time in our day when God will directly reveal a spiritual concept or command to us. It is ALL written down!

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS...

God, seeing a great need for revelation, provided the most secure way of revelation via inspiration.

Proper revelation was given to mankind by the wisdom of God, through the Holy Spirit and committed to writing. The extent of inspiration is complete and cannot be denied by any honest student. The words of the Bible are deliberate! God’s Word is a wonderful Book. Let us wholeheartedly accept its teachings and completely obey its commands.

THE CHOICE PRESENTED TO MODERN MAN IS THE SAME THAT HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN OFFERED TO MANKIND—ACCEPT GOD’S WAY OR MAN’S WAY (JEREMIAH 6:16-17).