

THE WISDOMS OF SCRIPTURE

Part 7

The Wisdom From God

Part 2

The Content of God's Wisdom

1st Co. 2:9-13

INTRODUCTION

- I. GOD'S WISDOM PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO ARE LOVING HIM. 1st Co. 2:9
 - A. Paul quotes a Scripture that was initially written to those among the nation Israel.
 1. God's wisdom is evidenced in the multiple ways He fulfills Scripture.
 2. The Holy Spirit gave New Testament application to the Scripture.
 - B. The recipients of the promise are similar to the one made to Israel.
 1. The promise made to Israel pertained to those among the nation who were obedient to
 2. The promise as applied to the Church pertained to those who are "loving" God.
 - a) "It stands written" is a quote from Is. 64:4
 - (1) The initial quotation was made with reference to the things God had prepared for those among Israel who waited the return of Jehovah. There are many Old Testament Scriptures referred to by "as it stands given a New Testament sense revealing the actual and the potential of God's decree."
 - (a) Acts 15:15 (originally focused upon the return of the Messiah in when the Gentiles would be visited. Amos 9:11; given an New Testament sense with the inclusion of the Gentiles in this dispensation)
 - (b) 1st Co. 1:31 (concerning those who among Israel who are warned not to glory in their own might or wisdom Jer. 9:23 -- to the New Testament sense of those who might glory in their salvation)
 - (2) With the rejection of Israel, God provided provisions for those maturing in the church
 - (a) "Those that love Him" is the present act. Part. of agapo which can be translated the ones loving Him (The Father)

(b) All things work together for the good for those who are loving God (the Father). Rom. 8:28 cf. 1st John 4:11

(c) They will receive a crown of life. Ja. 1:12 cf.

II. "THE THINGS" AS APPLIED TO THE BELIEVER TODAY RELATE TO THE BENEFITS THE BELIEVER HAS AS A RESULT OF BEING "IN CHRIST".

A. The translation of "things" from a Greek pronoun and "article". 1st Co. 2:9

1. Is the neuter Greek pronoun "hos" and can be translate: "that which" God has prepared.
2. The neuter Greek article reflects the content of "the things" later in the 2nd Chapter. 1st Co. 2:11, 12
3. The use of the neuter article is used elsewhere in Scripture to describe the content of a thing. Cf. 1st Co. 7:33 (of the things of the world); 1st Co. 10:20 (of things Gentiles sacrifice); 2 Co. 4:18 (of things seen) Phil. 2:21 (of the affairs of men)

B. God prepared these things in the past. 1st Co. 2:9

1. The word "prepared" is the Greek word hetoimazo which denotes "to make ready." -- Joseph Thayer
2. It is used of thing that God prepared in eternity past.
 - a) The Millennial Kingdom is seen as being prepared before the foundation of the world. Matt. 25:34
 - b) The "riches of God's glory" was prepared in eternity past. Rom. 9:23

C. "The things" from God are illustrated with "the things" of a man. 1st Co. 2:11

1. The things of a man can be understood as the depths of a man, the content of a man that operate in a man's spirit.
2. The things of God are revealed by the Spirit from God. 1st Co. 2:10
 - a) "Revealed" is apokalupto which means **to unveil something with the result of providing an understanding for that thing revealed**. Cf. Rom. 8:18 (glory that will be revealed in the future); 1st Co. 3:13 (of works at the bema seat judgment); 2 Thess. 1:7 (of the Lord at the end of the Tribulation Period)
 - b) These things were revealed initially to the apostles ("us"). Cf. Eph. 3:5

D. The content of "the things" prepared by God are those things "freely" given. 1st Co. 2:12

1. "Freely" given is the Greek word *charizomai* (aor. Pas. par.) -- from *charis* -- that which God has provided to the believer apart from any quality of work.
2. The believer can intuitively know the facts about the things given.
 - a) The word "know" is *eidomen* which is to know the facts about things based upon that which God has revealed as truth. Cf. Heb. 8:11 (of every man in the Millennial Kingdom knowing the facts about the Lord); 1st John 5:19 (about the whole world lying in the hands of the evil one)
 - b) Intuitive knowledge comes by illumination. Cf. Eph. 1:18
 - c) Intuitive knowledge can lead to proper behavior. cf. Gal. 2:16 (one can know the facts that a man is justified by faith, but not act accordingly)

III. THE ARTICULATION OF GOD'S WISDOM IS UNLIKE THAT OF MAN'S WISDOM. 1st Co. 2:13

A. "The things" from God are not articulated in the speech of "man's wisdom". 1st Co. 3:13

1. The word "speak" is *laleo* which focuses upon the articulation over content. Cf. 1st Co. 13:1 (of different types of languages); 2:6-7 (used of the wisdom from God)
2. "Teacheth" is *didaktos* which looks at "**precepts, instruction**". -- Strong's lexicon cf. John 6:45

B. "The things" from God are taught by means of the Holy Spirit. 1st Co. 3:13

1. The articulation of "things from God" is through precepts from the Holy Spirit.
2. The result of the teaching from the Spirit is that the believer is able to "compare spiritual things with spiritual". 1st Co. 2:13
 - a) The phrase "compare spiritual things with spiritual" is from *sugkrinontes*
 - (1) *Su* -- together
 - (2) *Krinontes* -- to discern
 - b) *Sugkrinontes* is used of taking two things and comparing them together for the sake of ascertaining the value of one over another.
 - (1) It is used in a negative sense of men comparing themselves to others. Cf. 2 Co. 10:12
 - (2) It is used in this contest of comparing things pertaining to the Spirit with other things pertaining to the Spirit. 1st Co. 2:13 cf. Rom. 8:1 (no condemnation in Christ); 2 Co. 5:21 (made righteous); Eph. 2:12 (part of the new creation)

CONCLUSION