

ONCE UPON A TIME: GOD GAVE US THE GOSPEL

1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-16

We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived—

the things God has prepared for those who love him—

¹⁰ these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹ For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. ¹⁴ The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. ¹⁵ The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, ¹⁶ for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

**The better you get to know the Word of God-
The closer you become to the God of the Word!**

Paul wrote his letter to the Corinthians to try to get them to cut the cords of their former worldly life, both philosophically and in terms of moral behavior.

Your example for Christianity needs to be Jesus...

We don't have an answer to everything as Christians.

Who are you going to when it comes to answering your deepest questions?

Paul illustrates the fact that he doesn't believe in the necessity of being backed up by the popular Corinthian philosophies of the day. **1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

Paul made no apology by saying- I am coming to you behind JESUS!

The gospel does not need any help!

Read Peter's sermon in Acts!

When was the last time you saw 3000 people come to Jesus?

Now look closely at verse 6: *We do, however, speak a message of wisdom...*

Paul calls it “God’s wisdom,” “the thoughts of God,” “the things of the Spirit,” and “the mind of Christ” (1 Corinthians 2:7,11,14,16).

The wisdom of the Gospel is a mystery.

The Greek word for “mystery” is **mystērion**, which refers to something previously hidden that now has been revealed.

The wisdom of the gospel is not understood without the Spirit.

The mystery of the gospel has been made clear to believers, but the wisdom of the gospel is not understood by unbelievers (1 Cor. 2:8)

The Greek word Paul uses for “understand” is **ginōskō**, which refers to a knowledge born of deep personal understanding. This depth of understanding can come only as a gift by the assistance of the Holy Spirit. By grace through faith...

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 says, *“And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God”*

Revealing a mystery and discovering a mystery are two different things.

Paul responds by paraphrasing **Isaiah 64:4**, describing the hidden mystery of the gospel as *“things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him”* (1 Cor. 2:9).

What God Himself reveals in His own time and in His own way cannot be discovered through observation, investigation, direct intuition, or human logic.

Yet these empirical means can never discover the depths of God’s mystery, which can be revealed only by the Holy Spirit through faith.

The Gospel is a Love Story, A Mystery, A Thriller, An Epic Adventure...

We got facts with not a whole lot of life left in it...

Have we dissected the Bible to the point that we have lost the Story of it all?

God speaks to us in stories. We live our life as a story.

The Gospel also begins Once Upon a Time...

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR SPIRITUAL IMAGINATION?

DID YOU EVER HAVE IT IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Will you allow God to open your eyes to the real Good News today?