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Go and make disciples!

E-votional 10

1 Corinthians 1:21-24 (ESV)

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

I have noticed a real divide in the Christian circles of today. There are some who have truly tasted and seen that God is good and as a result are pursuing Him with all they are.

And yet there are others that are only satisfied with the bare minimum. By bare minimum, I mean that they are satisfied with the level that they are experiencing God. In this satisfaction, they rarely experience God on a level that bears a testimony. They hear of other people's walks and admire them. They read of saints that have risen up through history and that have encountered God, but they themselves do not get it.

What is this all about? Well, I am convinced that God is not partial. He has the same for all His children and even tailored in such a special way so as to reveal Himself to them.

I am reminded of a quote from an A.W. Tozer book called 'The Pursuit of God' that reads,

"Why do some persons 'find' God in a way that others do not? Why does God manifest His Presence to some and let multitudes of others struggle along in the half-light of imperfect Christian experience? Of course, the will of God is the same for all. He has no favorites within His household. All He has ever done for any of His children He will do for all of His children. The difference lies not with God but with us."

However, there is a divide many times with how people seek God. Some, for the

sake of this teaching, seek God from a childlike heart filled with faith and encounter God often, while others need their powers of reason to be exercised just to believe. Another way is that some look for God primarily through the intellect. Don't get me wrong the intellect can be a powerful thing, however, intellect apart from a foundation of faith is useless. With this in mind, we must realize that we do not arrive at faith through intellect.

In fact, for today's Scripture, we see this same idea. For example, the wisdom of this world seeks to have logical and practical answers for just about everything. However, we see that in comparison to the message of the cross, this is known as foolishness.

I am not attempting to make intelligence or the human intellect out to be the enemy here. But I am trying to point out that one cannot humanly or intellectually understand faith, nor can they fully comprehend all the plans that God has, so the powers of reasoning and intellect can actually hinder a true faith that grows.

To ponder God and enlarge the idea of Him through the intellect is not wrong, but it does not save you. Nor does it increase true heart belief. In the context of the passage of scripture, we see that the Greeks were seekers of wisdom, yet God's wisdom was still foolish to them. For this reason, we must challenge ourselves to some degree to become like children who simply believe that what the Father says is true. The thing opposing this can, in fact, be the interest in using our own intellectual power of reasoning to determine what is true and what is not.

If we would simply learn to, with the heart, listen to as well as follow the leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ we would grow in the wisdom of God, which is actually foolishness to the world. This growth that we get builds our reliance upon God and actually manifests Him in our lives in such a way that causes us to really taste and see and encounter Him and to know the truth that sets us free.

"I surrender all, I surrender all. All to Jesus, blessed Savior. I surrender all."

1 Corinthians 2:1-2 (ESV)

"And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified."

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you. And give you peace, in Jesus name.

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne

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