



## Today: “Wisdom and Folly: Two Views”

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**I Corinthians 1:18-31**

## First View: The world's way, or the wisdom of the age

The cross is **FOLLY**.

Wisdom comes from **INTELLECT**, shaped by **DEBATE** and academia.

There is nothing supernatural because it cannot be "**PROVEN** in a petri dish."

*"Show me!"*

We'll only believe what the **SMARTEST** intellectuals have taught us. Or the **SAGES**.

We boast of **OURSELVES**, our accomplishments, our brilliance, our prowess.

## Second View: The Wisdom of **GOD**

The word of the **CROSS**, the gospel, is the power of God for salvation.

God's way is **WISER** and more discerning than man's way.

Compared with God's wisdom the wisdom of the age is **FOOLISHNESS**.

God is not known through intellect or **HUMAN REASON** but the cross.

Christ **CRUCIFIED!** The **POWER** and wisdom of God for our salvation.

God uses the "*not many*" – that's **US!** (Note: but some!)

God's way turns the world's way on its head.

Our only **BOAST** is Christ! The wisdom of God

Righteousness and **SANCTIFICATION** and redemption

*Which view do you choose?*