

I Corinthians 1: 18-25 God Does Not Consider Man's Limited View 9/15/2024

Ex. Science theories are always changing. Views of even the early 1900's are laughable compared to the views verified by current discoveries. The generally accepted view before 1919 was that the universe was infinite, constant and in a steady state.

Ex. "Unshakeable Foundations" Norman Geisler P. 96-98, 101

Secular scientist assume that sin will not affect their objective view, but it does. No man can escape it. Sin caused man to rebel against God, and caused them to suppress the truth in unrighteousness. If a man does not think this is a factor in his objectivity he will make many wrong conclusions.

God shines through anyway through his creation. All can examine it. It verifies an intelligent beginning; and order; and detailed design, functioning and purpose.

God is also very capable of bringing men to Himself through Christ.

Text: I Corinthians 1: 18-25 today. We will read it all, I COR. 1:18-31

Until a person is transformed in their heart by meeting and knowing Christ there can be no real change in them. They may change their outside circumstances, but they know that nothing has really changed. They know that they are stuck in in the same old condition.

Ex. J. Vernon McGee- Man who stole shoes

Why? Because the problem with life is not because we don't know the right way to live; the problem is having the power to do it!

The gospel promises the power to live a different life, and be changed at the deepest level!

1: 18-21 The good news only needs to be clearly presented. Fancy speech does not make it work. It is an act of God, not by the ingenuity of men.

Ex. I Cor. 4:20 "For the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power."

Ex. II Cor. 5:14-17 A new creation

Note the progression of the journey; the trajectory. **"Those who are perishing" vs. "Those who are being saved."**

"The practical vindication; the proof that the power of God is not a false theory is the changed lives of believers, right here; and right now!"

1:19-21 What does the world have to show for its great wisdom?

More conveniences, faster communication; but unchanged hearts. The emptiness is palatable!

Ex. Star Trek- "We have learned to resolve our differences peacefully." Sure you did. Yet every this science vessel is blowing people up every week! Nobody would watch Star trek if the ship had no phasers or proton torpedoes!

What happened to the war to end all wars? The League of Nations? The United Nations? Middle East Peace Talks? Why can't we trust those self-proclaimed "Fact-Checkers?"

Why can't the wise and powerful fix our problems? Are you still trusting political solutions?

The real cry is: Why do we have to trust God! I want to be in control! I want to build my own tower of Bable!

We cannot do it because we are all infected with sin. There is no man-centered solution to our problems. It is God's world and only He has the solution! Until the human heart changes any "solutions" are temporary. Laws stop anarchy, but cannot give love, peace, joy or purpose.

1:22-25 **Jews** - Matthew 16:1-4 No matter how many miracles done; they could not see salvation as something done for them, but rather thought they could do it by themselves.

The greatest sign was right before them! His resurrection for all to see. Will they see that it was to save them? Some did.

Gentiles – Absorbed in their arrogant speculative philosophies. Their "wisdom" often degenerated into meaningless dribble; impractical, separated from real life; no power in it to transform a life and fill it with hope and meaning and eventually full eternal life, like the gospel can! To secure intimate fellowship with God? Greek philosophy need not apply for the job.

Acts 17:21 "Now the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new."

1: 24-25 You want the power of God and the wisdom of God in your life, or the next popular, and soon to be outdated and worldly, empty, powerless world view?

You are the "**called;**" the highest, and best, and most powerful, eternal identity!

Question: Why are you letting the lost world intimidate you? **Ephesians 6:18-20**

Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."