

Correction to Perfection: 1 Corinthians

God's Foolishness vs. Man's Wisdom; God's Wisdom vs. Man's Foolishness

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

I. Why do those who are perishing reject the 'word of the cross?'

A. They reject the 'word of the cross' because of their condition. [Verse 18]
2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Romans 1:18-25

B. They reject the 'word of the cross' because it's not rational. [Verse 18]

1. *The reason it's stupidity to them, is not only because of their condition, but because of their own own thinking—human wisdom.*

C. They reject the 'word of the cross' because it's not attainable. [Verse 19-20]

1. *God's wisdom was to make sure that man in his wisdom would not bring him into a relationship with God.*

2. *It is only when we proclaim the gospel and only when people respond by faith, through the enabling grace of the Holy Spirit, that they ever come to know God.*

D. They reject the 'word of the cross' because it's not believable. [Verse 22]

1. *Jews want to be convinced miraculously.
[Verse 22a]*

2. *Greeks wanted to be convinced mentally.
[Verse 22b]*

3. *The outcome for the Jew is that 'Christ-crucified' is a scandal. [Verse 23]*

4. *The outcome for the Greek or Gentile is that 'Christ-crucified' is foolishness. [Verse 23]*

II. Why is the 'word of the cross' the 'power of God' to us who are being saved?

A. The 'word of the cross' is the power of God to us who are being saved because it alone raised us from spiritual death unto spiritual life. *Ephesians 2:1-9*

B. The 'word of the cross' is the power of God to us who are being saved because it alone is the only message that we have to give to others so that they might be saved.
Romans 1:16

