



“Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

©Naomi’s Table. All Rights Reserved.

Lesson 3: True Wisdom and Righteous Boasting

1 Corinthians 1:17-31

Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8. What does Moses tell the people they are? Why is this their identity? Why didn’t God choose these people? Why did God choose these people?

Read Deuteronomy 9:4-8. What were the people potentially boasting about? Why is God giving them this land? What characteristics do we see attached to these people?

Read Romans 11:33-36. How does Paul describe God here? Paul quotes from Job 41:11 here in verse 35 and verse 36 is in line with Job 38:1-2 where God first answers Job. What is the implication of the question in verse 34? What is the implication of the question in verse 35? How does Paul answer these (mostly) rhetorical questions in verse 36? What does this tell us about the character of God?

Read Proverbs 1:1-7. Contrast what is described as wisdom or wise here with what would be the opposite (foolishness). Looking at that comparison/contrast, what are potential sources of foolishness? How does Solomon sum up this introduction?

Knowing that Proverbs is NOT a book of promises but of general wise teachings and guidance, what might we be able to infer was likely at least part of the problem for the church in Corinth, that their wisdom was so far from true wisdom? What application can we make for our own lives, in light of this?

Read Psalm 119:97-104. What does the psalmist LOVE? Think about that for a moment. Can you say the same thing to God? What is the result of the psalmists meditating on the commandments of God? Because the psalmist delights in God’s law and commandments, what practical benefits does the psalmist receive? Look at how the psalmist describes his delight in the law of God in verse 103. Can you say the same thing?

Read James 1:5-8. What does James tell us that God will give generously? How, though, should we ask? Who should not expect to receive anything from the Lord? Why not?

As you spend time in prayer today, ask God to help you to love His Word with the type of love the psalmist has for it, and ask Him to help you to grow in your wisdom of the things of God, knowing that He will give generously to those who ask.

Don't be discouraged today if you feel that you aren't as wise as you should be; if there is sin that is preventing you from growing in wisdom, ask God to reveal that to you so you can repent of it and move forward. Ask God to help you to treasure and value the things that He treasures and values, and ask Him to provide whatever you need, today, to grow in love, grace, and wisdom toward God.