

GLORY IN THE LORD

I COR. 1:26-31

Introduction:

- A. People rarely believe that God does not put a premium on the successful.
 - 1. The disciples of Jesus.
 - 2. Mark 10:23-27.

- B. The Corinthians had become suspicious of Paul's manner of preaching.
 - 1. They were turning toward sophistication.
 - 2. v17-25, are his defense.

- C. Paul reveals and emphasizes why man's wisdom is rejected
 - 1. v29.
 - 2. v31.

I. THE CORINTHIANS WERE TO VIEW THEMSELVES AS AN EXAMPLE. V26

- A. "My, brethers, think what sort of people you are whom God has called."
 - 1. Look at your membership!

- B. The minority of the membership. v26.
 - 1. "not many wise men after the flesh."
 - 2. "not many mighty." "not many in power."
 - 3. "not many noble." "persons of noble birth."

- C. Those who are called and why. v27
 - 1. "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise."
 - a. The worlds simpletons to shame the wise.
 - 2. "God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the mighty."
 - a. weak = infirm, feeble, wanting in strength or power.

- (1) We can imagine how quickly the early church would have become powerless had it catered to the rich and the famous.
- b. confound = to make ashamed.
 - c. mighty = physically strong, naturally powerful.
3. "and base things, of the world."
- a. base - unborn, of no family, low born, nobodies.
4. "and things which are despised."
- a. despised = treated with contempt.
5. "hath God chosen." [We wouldn't, but God does!]
6. "and things which are not."
- a. And what it thinks does not exist.
7. "to bring to nought things that are."
- a. nought = to cause to cease, render inactive, to overthrow the existing order.

II. MAN'S POSITION BEFORE GOD. V29

- A. The flesh of the context.
 - 1. Wise, Scribe, Debater, Jews, Greeks, Wisdom, high born, powerful, mighty.
- B. The flesh cannot glory in God's presence.
 - 1. May glory in my presence.
 - 2. May glory in parents presence.
 - 3. May glory in church's presence.
- C. This is any man, (no man).
 - 1. Saved man has flesh!
 - 2. Lost men.

III. WHAT GOD HAD MADE OF THEM IN CHRIST.

- A. "So you owe it all to Him through union with Christ Jesus."
 - 1. The people were in union with Christ.

- B. Some things they had in Christ. 4 things.
 - 1. "God is made unto us wisdom."
 - a. wisdom = right application of knowledge.
 - 2. "God is made unto us righteousness."
 - a. righteousness = It signifies the sum total of all that God approves and commands. As such it is not only what God demands but what He gives to us and is appropriated by flesh.
 - 3. "God is made unto us sanctification."
 - a. sanctification = to put into a state corresponding to the nature of God.
 - b. God imparts His nature, we don't acquire God's nature!
 - 4. "God is made unto us redemption."
 - a. redemption = releasing on receipt of a ransom; deliverance from the guilt and punishment of sin
 - b. The redemption was Christ's blood.

IV. THE PLACE FOR MAN TO GLORY. V31

A. Old Testament.

- 1. Jeremiah 9:23-24.

B. New Testament.

- 1. Eph. 2:8-9.
- 2. Rom. 3:27.
- 3. Gal. 6:14.

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."