

Become A Fool For Jesus

1 Corinthians 1:17-25

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17For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

18For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

19For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

20Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?
21For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

22For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

23But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

24But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

25Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

SERMON NOTES

Become a Fool for Jesus | 1 Corinthians 1:17-25

Everyone is a _____ in someone's eyes. The question is: In whose eyes will you be foolish?

1. The Point of Contention

- A. The issue: "The _____ of the cross" (v. 18)
- B. The message of the cross divides people—some see it as _____, others as the _____ of God.
- C. Preaching isn't just from a pulpit; it's every believer _____ the Gospel.

2. Three Types of Fools

A. Fool #1 – The Unbeliever

- a. "The preaching of the cross is to them that _____ foolishness."
- b. Trusts in _____ wisdom rather than God.
- c. Psalm 14:1 – "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.'"
- d. Rejects the message that can _____.

B. Fool #2 – The Believer

- a. "But unto us which are saved it is the _____ of God."
- b. The world calls us _____, but God calls us wise.
- c. 1 Cor. 4:10 – "We are fools for _____'s sake."
- d. Lives for what is _____, not what is _____ (2 Cor. 4:18).

C. Fool #3 – The Fearful Christian

- a. Saved, but _____ to share the Gospel.
- b. Controlled by _____ rather than faith.
- c. 2 Tim. 1:7 – "God hath not given us the spirit of fear..."
- d. Proverbs 29:25 – "The fear of man bringeth a _____."

"The Gospel is only good news if it gets there in time"
– Carl Henry

D. Decide Whose Opinion Matters

- a. All of these "fools" view the others as foolish.
- b. We must choose: Foolish in the eyes of _____ or foolish in the eyes of _____.

3. One Good Reason to Be a Fool for Jesus

- A. **Because it pleases God!** 1 Cor. 1:21 – "It pleased God by the foolishness of _____ to save them that believe."
- B. Romans 10:13-15 – "How shall they hear without a _____?"

Conclusion: The cross demands a response. Choose to be foolish in the world's eyes but wise in God's. Surrender your _____, your _____, and your _____ to Jesus.

Big Takeaway: "It's better to be called a fool by the world than to be found unfaithful by God."