



I Corinthians

Lesson Two

1 Corinthians 2:1 – 3:15

The continuing theme: Unity in the church.

Review of Chapter 1: Paul emphasized

- Christians' common identity by their sanctification and calling in Jesus;
- That the Corinthians should seek unity and avoid division;
- That Christians share faith in Jesus as the wisdom and power of God;
- That the Corinthians shared the same condition—they all have Jesus as the source of their life and sanctification so their identity should only be in Him.

In Chapter Two Paul shows that Christians are called by the gospel—which is the power of God. All of the Corinthians received “wisdom from the Spirit” through the revelation given in Paul’s teaching. Paul continues into Chapter 3 showing the common foundation of all gospel teaching and its benefit to the Church.

- (1) How does Paul describe the manner in which he taught the Corinthians in verses 2: 1, 3, 4? What effect would Paul’s reminder of how he taught them have on the Corinthians who were in the “I am of Paul” faction?
- (2) What confidence can Christians have in their faith based on Paul’s statement in 2:4-5? Why is that important?
- (3) What is the relationship of the Spirit to the Father and Son? 2:10-12. *See* John 15:13-15. Why is it important to the Church that the gospel comes from the Holy Spirit?
- (4) What type of “mind” is needed to accept the Spirit’s teachings? vv. 2:15-16.
- (5) How would recognizing the power of the Holy Spirit in Paul’s teaching help the Corinthians to be united? *See* 1 Cor 12:13.
- (6) If a church is divided, what does that indicate about its spiritual condition? 3: 2-3.
- (7) Who gives growth and builds up Christians? 3:6-7. What then is the purpose of the gospel? 3: 8-9
- (8) What foundation must we build on to have a strong church? 3: 11. What knowledge does that require? 1 Cor. 2:15-16.