

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In this country, why might we be afraid to proclaim the gospel?
2. If we experience no opposition in our lives, could this indicate that we are not faithfully witnessing for Christ?
3. Does fear of persecution hinder the spread of the gospel?
4. What might be some good results of persecution?
5. Which is worse, actual suffering and persecution for Christ, or fear of possible persecution?
6. What does “they opposed themselves” mean?

SUMMARY:

Having had a first-rate education at the feet of Gamaliel, Paul counted all that but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ (Philippians 3:8). His mission was to preach Christ’s atoning sacrifice which avails salvation to all men: [\[SoF:4\]](#) “*The Jew first, and also to the Greek.*” (Romans 1:16) Paul’s self-sacrificial service for God was unwavering through physical hardships and suffering; under threats and punishments from the authorities in persecutions from those he sought to enlighten; and through a host of perilous experiences. His purpose remained; to preach Christ, and Him crucified.

[\[SoF:15\]](#) (1 Corinthians 2:2)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:4\]](#) We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life. He died on the cross for us. His shed blood is the atonement for our sins. [\[SoF:15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout "all the world to every creature".

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #9

November 29, 2026

Fourth Quarter

CONQUESTS AT CORINTH

LESSON TEXT: *Acts 18:1-17*

LESSON SETTING: Paul ministers to the Gentiles at Corinth.

TIME: Approximately 54 A.D.

- I. PAUL’S TENTMAKING.** Acts 18:1-3
 - A. Paul’s Livelihood and Trade (vs. 3)
 - B. Example in Providing Needs Honestly. Acts 20:33-35
 - C. Reason for Self-sufficiency. 2 Thessalonians 3:8-12
 - D. Apology for Independence. 2 Corinthians 12:13-15
 - E. Support Gratefully Accepted. Philippians 4:14-18
- II. PAUL’S TESTIMONY.** Acts 18:4-11
 - A. Obedient to Spirit’s Prompting (vs. 4-5)
 - B. Opposed in the Synagogue (vs. 6)
 - C. Fruitful Witnessing Elsewhere (vs. 8)
 - D. The Lord’s Approving Reassurance (vs. 9-11)
- III. PAUL’S TRIAL.** Acts 18:12-17
 - A. Unbelieving Jews Accuse Paul (vs. 13)
 - B. Roman Proconsul’s Answer (vs. 14-16)
 - C. Greeks Avenge Themselves (vs. 17)

GOLDEN TEXT: *BE NOT AFRAID, BUT SPEAK, AND HOLD NOT THY PEACE.* [\[SoF:15\]](#)

Acts 18:9b

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:17-31; 2:1-5

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Proverbs 8:1-36

QUARTERLY THEME: Life and Writings of Paul

TOPIC: TRUE WISDOM AND POWER

INTRODUCTION:

In Proverbs 9:10 we read “*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*” On this basis we conclude that the wisdom of this world—that which ignores God—must be regarded as unreliable, often misleading, and sometimes dangerous. Worldly wisdom is often founded on wrong values, and wrong ultimate goals, because it does not regard the eternal values, neither does it consider the overall plan of the One who designed and created us. Naturally, worldly wisdom looks upon the plan of salvation as foolishness, primarily because the solutions offered by God seem too simple and basic for the “great thinkers” of our day.

Let's thank God for His “simple” solutions; let's follow His advice, and we will never go astray.

CENTRAL TRUTH: In comparison with God, man's wisdom is foolishness and man's strength is weakness.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BUT GOD HATH CHOSEN THE FOOLISH THINGS OF THE WORLD TO CONFOUND THE WISE; AND GOD HATH CHOSEN THE WEAK THINGS OF THE WORLD TO CONFOUND THE THINGS WHICH ARE MIGHTY;*
1 Corinthians 1:27

These are days when men are very proud of their accomplishments, both with new inventions and vast breakthroughs in scientific knowledge.

As the manifold wonders of the universe and the great mysteries of life unfold themselves before the scientific advances, this generation more than any other should marvel at the greatness and glory of God's creation. One would hope the “great” men of our day would come to recognize the superior “greatness” of God; that the wise man would see that God is ALL wise; that the mighty man could see that God is ALL mighty.

Truly the prince of the power of this world has blinded the eyes of most of our great thinkers, so that they honor the creation, and deny the Creator.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Nov. 30 – Dec. 6

Mon. The Position of the Believer. 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Tue. The Basis for Unity. 1 Corinthians 1:10-16
Wed. *The Weakness of Human Wisdom. 1 Corinthians 1:17-31
Thu. *Access to Spiritual Wisdom. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Fri. Availability of Spiritual Gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Sat. The Constraining Love of Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:14-21
Sun. The Triumphant Power of Christ. 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

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