

As we study this section, we should keep in mind that it follows the pattern of the previous section. In the first chapter Paul told the Corinthians that they are leaning on the wrong kind of wisdom, meaning they have not broken free from the mindset of the culture in which they live. Their factious behavior shows they are carnally minded. In chapter two he reminded them that when he first came to them his simple presentation was not an eloquent oration, for he did not trust in man's ability, but instead he trusted in the power of God. He believed the Holy Spirit would reveal the truth of the message and touch hearts to receive it. His faith was not in the wisdom of man or man's ability.

*<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away.* 1 Corinthians 2:6 There are two kinds of wisdom. There is the wisdom of man and that of God. There is earthly, carnal, and demonic wisdom which is accompanied with jealousy and selfish ambition. <sup>17</sup> *But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.* James 3:17

Have you ever tried to reason with someone and found they were not open, nor was their response gentle, or impartial? There was no willingness to even consider what you were saying, but merely an effort to remain in their belief. That response is symptomatic of earthly wisdom. It is what we should expect from those with a worldview that this life is all there is. To expect otherwise is unreasonable. God must open their eyes to the realm of the spirit, and that can only take place when one is born again and their spirit is brought to life in Christ. (See verse 14.)

Consider the battle between Moses and Pharaoh. Pharaoh had earthly wisdom. He wanted to hold on to his labor force. He said, "Who is the Lord that I should obey Him (Exodus 5:2<sup>i</sup>)?" He instinctively knew that if he caved to God's demands he would not keep the Israelites as laborers. That was earthly wisdom. It is so determined to have its way that it will charge between walls of water to its own demise.

But the wisdom from above says you can't fight God. You will suffer greater loss if you do. Your gods have no power, but the Creator is all-powerful. The immature Christian has the same struggle of trying to follow Jesus while holding on to things that God says must go. Be wise fellow believer. You lose more by holding on to the world. Moses knew God's ways, but the people only knew His acts (Psalm 103:7<sup>ii</sup>). That exemplifies two kinds of wisdom. Everyone can see His acts. But to discern His ways from the acts we witness takes wisdom that God imparts. That wisdom is what those gifted to teach convey to the mature believers who have an ear to hear.

It is foolish to think that with our limited intelligence and five senses we can compare our wisdom to that of our eternal God. The wisdom of the world is bound by time and man's limitations. Those who think they don't need anything outside themselves are doomed to pass away. Their pride keeps them from receiving the wisdom that comes from above, wisdom that applies not only to this age but also to the age to come.

*<sup>7</sup> But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.* 1 Corinthians 2:7 The nature of God and His ways are plainly seen in creation (Romans 1:20<sup>iii</sup>). They are even more clearly revealed in Scripture. But this hidden wisdom is more than natural man perceives. Notice in this verse and the previous one that this secret wisdom is beyond time as it is not a wisdom of this age. But it has

now been imparted by the decree of God. **The reason that it has been imparted to us is "for our glory!"** That wisdom is that Jesus, the incarnation of the Word (John 1:14<sup>iv</sup>), has paid our sin penalty so that we could be right with God, filled with the Holy Spirit, sanctified, and become the bride of Christ (Romans 16:25,26<sup>v</sup>; 2 Timothy 1:9<sup>vi</sup>; Colossians 1:28<sup>vii</sup>). The glory that will be revealed in us at Jesus' appearing is the outcome of His revelations, the church adorned as a bride for her husband (Revelation 21:2<sup>viii</sup>), for the bride is the glory of her husband (1 Corinthians 11:7<sup>ix</sup>).

From another perspective, we are the body of Christ and share His glory, for the two shall be one (Genesis 2:24<sup>x</sup>). The word one is the Hebrew word *ehad*. It speaks of two combined together making something more than the two separated. In its first use in Genesis chapter one the evening and the morning were *ehad*. Jesus prayed about this marvel in John 17:23. *I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one...* (also see John 14:20<sup>xi</sup>). That is indeed a mystery. It is not only our present experience in Christ and He in us, but it is our future hope when the outworking of our sanctification is complete (1 John 3:2<sup>xii</sup>; Mark 10:8<sup>xiii</sup>).

*<sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.* 1 Corinthians 2:8 Wisdom of both the Jewish and Roman earthly rulers missed the purpose of life and creation. It shows how their wisdom is nothing compared to spiritual wisdom. They missed the Savior of the world and condemned the One who came to save them through a painful, sacrificial death. To be a king with everything you could desire is utter poverty compared to being a child of God. Who in their right mind would value momentary pleasure over eternal glory? Who would cling to temporal glory of this world if they perceived the eternal cost they would incur for rebellion against their Creator (Matthew 4:8-10<sup>xiv</sup>)? Crucifying the Lord of glory is the clearest demonstration of man's limited understanding and lack of eternal wisdom.

Paul writes here that they didn't know, but it seems to me some in the Sanhedrin at least may have suspected Jesus was the Messiah, for Nicodemus said to Jesus, "We know you are a prophet come from God" (John 3:2<sup>xv</sup>). Had they carefully read the Scriptures they would have known the Messiah is Mighty God and Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6<sup>xvi</sup>). Surely, they read it, but the fact that they didn't understand it demonstrates that difference between worldly wisdom and the wisdom that comes from God. Remember that the scribes told Herod the city in which the Messiah would be born (Matthew 2:3-6<sup>xvii</sup>). And still, Herod tried to have Jesus murdered (Matthew 2:16<sup>xviii</sup>). They leaders tried to disprove His signs of healing, such as the sight of the man born blind, because it was a Messianic sign (John 9:16<sup>xix</sup>).

What does it mean that the rulers of that age did not understand? Perhaps it means that they did not know that the Messiah was God incarnate and by condemning Him they were sealing their own fate. The following verse indicates that they did not understand what God offers those who love Him. In that sense, they were unable to have that heavenly wisdom that sees that **what this world offers is nothing compared to the coming Kingdom life in the presence of the glorified Christ.**

Paul calls Jesus the Lord of glory in this verse, alluding to Psalm 24:10<sup>xx</sup>, the title of *YHWH Saba*, which is to say the Lord of angel armies. It is only used here in the New Testament. By using a verse that refers to YHWH and applying it to Jesus we see that Paul saw them as one. Paul had personally experienced Jesus and lived in a relationship with Him. The wisdom decreed before the ages was to a degree imparted to Him in the

Word and prayer. He knew the insanity of trying to resist God, for he had done it before Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus.

<sup>9</sup> *But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"* — 1 Corinthians 2:9 Paul is paraphrasing Isaiah 64:4. What God prepared for those who love Him is that the Son would be incarnated and sacrifice Himself for our salvation. The culmination for us who are the bride of Jesus is the glory that awaits us. Jesus will share His own glory with us (2 Thessalonians 2:14<sup>xxi</sup>; Romans 8:17<sup>xxii</sup>)! We can't imagine how wonderful that will be. Try as we may, nothing in our experiences comes close. **If we really believe this and glimpse it in our spirit, the world will have a lot less pull on our lives.** We need a greater vision of what Jesus has in-store for us, which is the wisdom before the ages! We know it includes the greatest thing of all, experiencing His loving presence unhindered by our old nature. We will finally be all we were created to be in a kingdom prepared for us before the foundation of the world (Matthew 25:34<sup>xxiii</sup>). Jesus has been working on our special place since He ascended (John 14:2<sup>xxiv</sup>). If it took seven days to create this incredible world, what must heaven be like? No wonder Paul wrote that the heart of man could not imagine how wonderful it will be!

<sup>10</sup> *these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.* 1 Corinthians 2:10 The "us" in this passage probably refers to the Apostles and prophets, as "us" is in the emphatic form in the Greek, also see (Ephesians 3:2-5<sup>xxv</sup>). They were all proclaiming the same good news, the same revelation. Salvation comes through a revelation given from God. It is grace not works. The new mindset of the truly mature believer is to serve one another in love, not to exalt ourselves over others (1 Peter 4:10<sup>xxvi</sup>; Philippians 2:3<sup>xxvii</sup>). How different from worldly wisdom!

Applied to the Corinthians and all who have the tendency of exalting themselves over others, Paul is communicating that the wisdom of God is expressed in Christlikeness, humility, and service - not elitism and putting oneself above others as being more spiritual. The Corinthians were exalting themselves by claiming they had the best teacher. Remember that Jesus said the greatest is the servant of all (Mark 10:43-45<sup>xxviii</sup>). Paul is going to speak of the mature and infants in the opening of the next chapter applying the lesson of this passage. The word mature is not used in the way they might have applied it as exalted above others, but rather in humility.

<sup>11</sup> *For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.* 1 Corinthians 2:11 You may think you know a person, but unless they share their deepest longings and thoughts, you really only know what he or she presents to others. We all know some people who are one way in private and another in public. I think it is true of most of us to some degree. Paul is using that universal experience to say you don't really know God unless you let the Spirit of God reveal God's heart to you. That wisdom Paul has been talking about comes by revelation during our intimate times with Jesus. Our heart must be open, not just our mind.

As I write this the Supreme Court is weighing what to do with Roe versus Wade. They mentioned that since that decision was made 62 million abortions had taken place. You can hear that as a statistic, a bite of information, or you can feel the pain in the heart of God that so many innocent lives were exterminated. Tears came to my eyes and my heart ached. How barbaric! But how the heart of God aches over the hardness of the heart

of mankind that we allow such a tragic thing to take place. Are we intimate with Jesus so that we share to some degree that pain that He feels or is it just a number?

In a Bible study someone asked about suffering with Christ. In Romans 8 we are promised that if we suffer with Him, we will be glorified with Him (Romans 8:17<sup>xxxix</sup>). Here in America, we rarely experience suffering for our faith. But the Spirit of God revealed a wisdom that wasn't from my mind. It came in a flash. The heart of God suffers with those who are suffering. When we intercede for those whom we know are suffering and bring them to the throne of God, am I willing to feel His heart for them? Am I willing to weep over them? I'm sure Jesus does for He would not tell us to weep with those who weep if He did not do so (Romans 12:15<sup>xxx</sup>). He tells us that He sympathizes with us in our weakness (Hebrews 4:15<sup>xxxi</sup>). The word sympathize means to feel with. He feels with us in our weakness. Are we willing to do that in prayer, to suffer with Him in prayer?

The world asks why we would ever consider such a thing? Worldly wisdom says to not bother yourself. The wisdom of God draws us to do so, compels us in love, and is compensated with eternal reward.

*<sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.* 1 Corinthians 2:12 This wisdom from God is not just memorizing Scripture and using it with your mind. It is the life of Christ in us, revealing things to us, often through the Scriptures, but sometimes simply directing us in the right way or giving us the right words. Recall the account of the Pharisees asking Jesus about the woman they had caught in the act of adultery. Jesus didn't rattle off a Scripture. He certainly could have. As our perfect example, He stooped down and wrote on the ground while He heard from the Holy Spirit. Only then did He speak those words of heavenly wisdom, "*Let he who is without sin among you cast the first stone*" (John 8:7<sup>xxxii</sup>).

Another example is the time they tried to trap Jesus by flattering Him and then asking if they should pay taxes to Caesar. "Show me a coin," Jesus said. "Whose inscription is on it?" There is no verse in the Scriptures that directly answered the question or that revealed the trap they had set for Him. But the Spirit of God gave Him the solution. "*Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.*" Wisdom came from the Father through the Holy Spirit. There were principles in the prophets, but the wording had to be exactly as it was. You can give Caesar the taxes government demands but your very life belongs to God.

*<sup>13</sup> And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.* 1 Corinthians 2:13 We refers to all believers as opposed to those who operate out of worldly wisdom. The Spirit gives us insight into the Word and experiences in life and we share those spiritual truths with one another in words taught to us by the Spirit. He helps us with the expression of those spiritual truths He reveals to us. That is what fellowship is all about. We share what the Holy Spirit is teaching us. That builds one another up and helps us all grow in that wisdom that is so contrary to that of the world (Ephesians 4:15,16<sup>xxxiii</sup>).

We need to realize that we are strangers in a foreign land. The Bible so clearly tells us that this world is not our home (1 Peter 2:11<sup>xxxiv</sup>). Like Abraham we seek a city whose builder and maker is God (Hebrews 11:10<sup>xxxv</sup>). We just don't fit in here. Our values, desires, and vision are so different from that of the world.

God's solution is for people to enter the Kingdom of God. The world's solution is more laws or more government control. But history has taught us that giving more power to the state ends in catastrophe. Giving more power to the people will only help if the people are godly. So where do we turn? What is the answer? It is to make disciples of all nations and continue to build that kingdom that is here in our hearts now and will one day be over the earth when our King returns (Matthew 28:19,20<sup>xxxvi</sup>). *<sup>15</sup> Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."* Revelation 11:15 Therefore, while we live here in a world as a minority, constantly bombarded with the distractions and temptations of the world, let us focus on building one another up in love and advancing the kingdom in the hearts of men and women. Let us impart to one another in words given to us by the Spirit, the things freely given us by God. Let us bring the light of Jesus to all who are seeking. Amen?

*<sup>14</sup> The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.* 1 Corinthians 2:14 It is fascinating to see how worldly people take what seems obvious to us, even things of the natural world, data, and history, but the way we interpret these are completely different. We see the wonder of God's variety, beauty, and design. They see accidental order that happened through billions of chances. We see the Son who loved us and gave Himself for us. They see an enlightened man killed because He was ahead of His time. We see contradictions in their concepts and their blindness to truth, while they claim that is what they see in us. There is one difference between us. The Spirit living in us has taken off our blinders. We are no longer desperate to interpret things in the way that would give us the freedom to indulge in the flesh and be significant to the world.

*<sup>15</sup> The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one.* 1 Corinthians 1:15 The spiritual person sees things as they truly are because we have the mind of Christ (v 16). The world can and does judge us, but their judgment is foolishness in the eyes of God. Immature believers will judge mature ones because they do not yet know the Word of God. What matters is God's judgment, not man's. Consider how many people were offended by Jesus and harshly judged Him as a blasphemer and leading people astray. But God judged Him as righteous and exalted Him to the highest place. Don't let the opinions of people affect your soul. Be concerned about God's judgment above all else, for His judgment is truth.

*<sup>16</sup> "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.* 1 Corinthians 2:16 Paul is not saying we can instruct the Lord. He is saying that when we are in the Spirit, our thoughts are in accord with Jesus and His eternal truth. The world will argue with us, but the mind of Christ is unchanging truth. Their textbooks will change on a yearly basis. Our textbook has never changed and will never need to be changed. Not one dot will fail. Not one promise will lack its mate.

Our only problem as believers is understanding it correctly. That cannot come from mere study, though study is helpful. It must come from rightly handling the Word of Truth (2 Timothy 2:15<sup>xxxvii</sup>). We need the Holy Spirit to show us and bring the Word to life in our minds. Which verses explain the one I am studying? We must ask ourselves if we are seeking to hear from God or affirm something we want it to say? We must come to the Word with a heart that is open to hear whatever God has declared.

## Questions:

- 1 What are the two kinds of wisdom?
- 2 How did Moses and Pharaoh demonstrate the two?
- 3 Why is God's wisdom timeless?
- 4 Why was the secret wisdom imparted to us?
- 5 What did the rulers of this age not understand?
- 6 How can verse 9 help us when facing temptation?
- 7 How is humility different from worldly wisdom?
- 8 How can we suffer with Christ?
- 9 What are two examples of Jesus sharing spiritual words?
- 10 How can we build one another up and advance the kingdom?

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### <sup>i</sup> **Exodus 5:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go."

### <sup>ii</sup> **Psalms 103:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

### <sup>iii</sup> **Romans 1:20 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

### <sup>iv</sup> **John 1:14 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### <sup>v</sup> **Romans 16:25-26 (ESV)**

<sup>25</sup> Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup> but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—

### <sup>vi</sup> **2 Timothy 1:9 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

### <sup>vii</sup> **Colossians 1:28 (ESV)**

<sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

### <sup>viii</sup> **Revelation 21:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

### <sup>ix</sup> **1 Corinthians 11:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.

### <sup>x</sup> **Revelation 21:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

### <sup>xi</sup> **John 14:20 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

### <sup>xii</sup> **1 John 3:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

<sup>xiii</sup> **Mark 10:8** <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.

<sup>xiv</sup> **Matthew 4:8-10** <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, " 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

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<sup>xv</sup> **John 3:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.”

<sup>xvi</sup> **Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>xvii</sup> **Matthew 2:3-6 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>xviii</sup> **Matthew 2:16 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

<sup>xix</sup> **John 9:16 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

<sup>xx</sup> **Psalms 24:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! Selah

<sup>xxi</sup> **2 Thessalonians 2:14 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>xxii</sup> **Romans 8:17 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>xxiii</sup> **Matthew 25:34 (ESV)**

<sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

<sup>xxiv</sup> **John 14:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

<sup>xxv</sup> **Ephesians 3:2-5 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

<sup>xxvi</sup> **1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace:

<sup>xxvii</sup> **Philippians 2:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

<sup>xxviii</sup> **Mark 10:43-45 (ESV)**

<sup>43</sup> But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

<sup>xxix</sup> **Romans 8:17 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>xxx</sup> **Romans 12:15 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

<sup>xxxi</sup> **Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

<sup>xxxii</sup> **John 8:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.”

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<sup>xxxiii</sup> **Ephesians 4:15-16** <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> **1 Peter 2:11** <sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

<sup>xxxv</sup> **Hebrews 11:10** <sup>10</sup> For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

<sup>xxxvi</sup> **Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

<sup>xxxvii</sup> **2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.