

Sermon Notes

Never Stop Preaching Our Message

I Corinthians 1:18-25

I. Introduction.

A. Definition of “foolish”

1. Webster’s Dictionary –
2. Greek Biblical terms for “fool”

B. Pastor Don’s testimony

1. Story from the distant past.

C. We are all fools in the eyes of the world.

1. In the world’s view, all three Greek terms apply to us.
 - a. Aphrōn – w_____ r_____
 - b. Anoētos – no use of the m_____
 - c. Mōros – s_____ or dull m_____, s_____

D. Here is how Paul raised the matter.

1. I Corinthians 1:18-25

II. Corinth (A city much like our day.)

A. Fast facts.

1. Prominence
2. Population
3. Strategic location
4. Wealth
5. Sports
6. Pagan gods
7. Gordon Fee’s remark

B. The Corinthian problem

1. There is a long list of trouble spots for this church.
 - a. Division
 - b. Asceticism
 - c. Hedonism
 - d. Lawsuits
 - e. Jettisoning Social conventions

f. Competition

g. Disbelief of the resurrection.

III. Exposition.

A. Three points.

1. The Foolish Message.

a. Verse 18

1. Lloyd-Jones – The ‘buts’ of Scripture.

b. Verses 19-20

1. The wisdom of the world ends in insanity.
 - a. Romans 1:16-33

2. The Foolish Method

a. Verse 21

b. It is the only message that will fill the need.

c. Why is it so hard for us to get to the point?

1. The need to preach.
2. The difference between *euangelizo* and *kērussō*.

3. The Foolish Message

a. Verses 22-23

b. We appear as unsophisticated simpletons.

c. The first century was no different than our own in this respect.

1. Signs?
2. Wonders?

B. One more point.

1. Verse 24

a. Note the divine summons.

b. There is a difference between the general call and the effectual call.

1. Mark 4:10-12

2. Our job is the general call while the effectual call is the Holy Spirit’s work.

III. Point for Reflection.

- ##### A. The world may marginalize the messenger, but our method and message must remain the same.

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