

# *I Corinthians*

## (5) God's Secret Wisdom Revealed

1 Cor 2:6-16 (NIV)

6 We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 However, as it is written:

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" — 10 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment. 16 "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

### One reason God hid His Wisdom...2:6-10

What is Paul saying in 2:6? 2:6-7; Mk.4:11; **Col.1:24-27**; **Heb.10:11-18**

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God's secret (mystery) wisdom is in contrast to...? 2:6b-2:7; **Eph.2:2**; **James 3:13-18**

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And what was one *specific* reason God kept this wisdom secret for ages? **2:8**; Eph.3:1-9, **10**.

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How is this truth emphasized in 2:9-10?; **Eph.3:10**. The church *teaches* Angels! **IPet.1:10-12**

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### How do believers get so smart??...2:11-16

What illustration does Paul use to show how God kept these mysteries (secrets)? 2:11; Gen.1:26

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So what is Paul's astounding truth about all believers? 2:12; **IJn.4:1-6**

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What does Paul confirm about his teaching? 2:13; IPet.1:16; Eph.3:1-10

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When God's wisdom is taught to an unsaved man, what's the result? 2:14; Rom.8:5-8

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What is a spiritual man (a believer) able to do? 2:15; IThess.5:21; Heb.5:14; IJn.4:1

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The unsaved (without the Spirit) can't evaluate spiritual truth. Also can't evaluate... 2:15b

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What is the spiritual truth that explains this behavior? 2:16; Isa.40:13-14; **Jn.16:12-15**

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### One reason God hid His Wisdom...2:6-10

What is Paul saying in 2:6? 2:6-7; Mk.4:11; Col.1:24-27; Heb.10:11-18

**Paul is speaking God's secret wisdom among the mature (all believers, perfect in Him).**

God's secret (mystery) wisdom is in contrast to...? 2:6b-2:7; Eph.2:2; James 3:13-18

**In contrast to the wisdom of this age and the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.**

And what was one specific reason God kept this wisdom secret for ages? 2:8; Eph.3:1-9, 10.

**It was so that Satan/demons (rulers of this age) would crucify the Lord of glory (Christ)!**

How is this truth emphasized in 2:9-10?; Eph.3:10. The church teaches Angels! IPet.1:10-12

**NO eye has seen, NO ear heard, NO mind conceived God's wisdom, now revealed to us!**

### How do believers get so smart??...2:11-16

What illustration does Paul use to show how God kept these mysteries (secrets)? 2:11; Gen.1:26

**No one knows your thoughts except you. So too, only the Spirit knows God's thoughts!**

So what is Paul's astounding truth about all believers? 2:12; IJn.4:1-6

**We have received the Spirit of God, so that we may understand what God has given us.**

What does Paul confirm about his teaching? 2:13; IPet.1:16; Eph.3:1-10

**God's wisdom (in mysteries), spiritual truths in spiritual words, is what we teach!**

When God's wisdom is taught to an unsaved man, what's the result? 2:14; Rom.8:5-8

**He doesn't accept them, can't understand them, it's foolishness because it's spiritual.**

What is a spiritual man (a believer) able to do? 2:15; IThess.5:21; Heb.5:14; IJn.4:1

**A true believer is capable of judgment (evaluation) of all things. Some wisdom takes study!**

The unsaved (without the Spirit) can't evaluate spiritual truth. Also can't evaluate... 2:15b

**The unsaved can't even evaluate a believer. He doesn't understand us, or value us.**

What is the spiritual truth that explains this behavior? 2:16; Isa.40:13-14; Jn.16:12-15

**The unsaved (no Spirit) cannot know the mind of God. But believers have the mind of God**