

- V13 – in words not taught by human wisdom
 - Inspiration: 2 Tim 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21, 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:12-13
 - *Mere Apologetics* by Alistair McGrath
- V14 – The Natural person. Speaks of “the man without the Spirit.” This is the person who sees nothing beyond this present physical life.” Traits of a natural person:
 - Does not accept the things of God for they are foolish to them
 - The natural person is not able to understand the things of God for the things of God are only able to be fully known through the Spirit of God. Romans 1:16-23, 8:7-8; Ephesians 4:17-18
- V15 – The Spiritual person. Traits of a spiritual person:
 - Judges/appraises/examines/evaluates all things
 - Paul here is referring to spiritual things, keeping in line with v14. “All things” does not literally mean everything and anything, but refers to things that are spiritual in nature, and therefore is not subject to spiritual judgments by a natural person, that is, a person who does not have the Spirit of God in them. 1 Cor. 5:9-12, 12:3; Gal 1:8

1 CORINTHIANS 2 – WISDOM FROM THE SPIRIT OF GOD

2:1-5 – Demonstration of the Spirit and of Power

- V1 – not in superiority of speech
 - “In rhetoric, ‘demonstration’ was a form of argument proved from certain and undisputed premises; Paul does not offer a mere syllogism (a form that was logical but might be based on inadequate premises or dialectic which Plato treated as defining and classifying data) or rhetorical trick. Here ‘power’ is God’s power resident in the preaching of the weakness of the cross.” 2 Tim 4:3-4
- V3 – fear and trembling.
 - “Each [use of the phrase] have to do with deep concern over an important, urgent issue.” One commentator rewords it this way, “I came preaching, simply as a frail insufficient human being; I came with fear and a great deal of trembling as I realized the importance of preaching the eternal gospel.” “Paul is not interested in seeing people come to Christ because of his persuasiveness; instead, he wants to see the Spirit working among them.” 2 Cor. 10:10
- V4 – Not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power
 - “Paul did not want them to have a new philosophy but a new life.” 1 Corinthians 4:20; Romans 15:18-19; Hebrews 12:2.

2:6-26 – Wisdom from the Spirit of God

Only God’s Spirit knows what is in his heart, but because believers have God’s Spirit, they too can know his heart.

- V7 – secret and hidden wisdom. Paul is not proposing Gnosticism. He is speaking about a wisdom which, “can be understood only through revelation from God’s Spirit.” The mystery of the gospel revealed: Gentiles are fellow heirs – Ephesians 3:1-12
- V9 – a paraphrase of Isaiah 64:4
- V10 – The spirit searches everything. Hebrews 4:12-13. The ministry of the Holy Spirit - John 14:15-17, 25-26; 16:7-15