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## INTRODUCTION

### Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

The word "fear" in this text is translated from the Hebrew word yir-aw, which means "moral reverence". "Fear" in this text is not the type of fear you would have if you suddenly found yourself face to face with a hungry grizzly bear. When reading scripture, you must realize that scripture never contradicts scripture. So, if you see the word "fear" concerning you and God, know that God does not give us a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind. He, making us afraid of Him, is contradictory to the previous verse. It is also important that we understand our relationship with Him. He is God Almighty and we are not. He made us and not we ourselves. We should be in awe of Him, worship Him and praise Him for Who He is and for what He has done. If we can do this, we've begun to receive wisdom. By learning the character of God through His word, is understanding.

## GOD'S REVEALED WISDOM

### 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

<sup>11</sup> For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

<sup>13</sup> These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

<sup>14</sup> But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

<sup>15</sup> But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one.

<sup>16</sup> For "*who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?*" But we have the mind of Christ.

In order for us to understand what verse 10 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians is telling us, we need to review the previous verse.

### 1 Corinthians 2:9-11 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> But as it is written: "*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*"

<sup>10</sup> But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

<sup>11</sup> For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Even the prophet Isaiah didn't know the entire salvation plan for man as we do. When Christ walked the earth, He asked the disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ; the Son of the living God!" Jesus said, "Flesh and blood didn't reveal this to you only my Father in heaven." (Matt 16:15-16). So the only way we can know the things of God is when God reveals them to us.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

<sup>13</sup> These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

The reason the unbeliever scoffs at the things of the Spirit and believes these things to be foolish is because he is attempting to use fleshly wisdom to understand the things of the Spirit. (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 2:14) So, there's no need to get into an argument with a non-believer over the things of the spirit. When we declare to our "old Friends" how we've been able to secure our sobriety or our ability not to use foul language, or not participate in any of the old ways is because of the gift of freedom from Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, they think it foolishness. They simply can't grasp the things of the spirit while they live and think and believe in the flesh. Don't attempt to argue this point with them, just plant the seed and God will give the increase.

#### **1 Corinthians 2:15-16 (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one.

<sup>16</sup> For "*who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?*" But we have the mind of Christ.

Vs. 15 We, as Christians are able to discern things of the spirit and the flesh, which is in contrast to the natural man. "*rightly* judged by no one" means that we as faithful believers don't have to concern ourselves with what the world thinks of us.

Vs. 16 We know that there is no way we can know all that Christ knows, but we have enough of the mind of Christ to reveal to others the things of the Spirit as they are revealed to us.

Believers today must rely not on their own strength but on the power and wisdom of God. In that way the message, and not the messenger, will offer the bright beacon of light to a lost world.

#### **1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;