

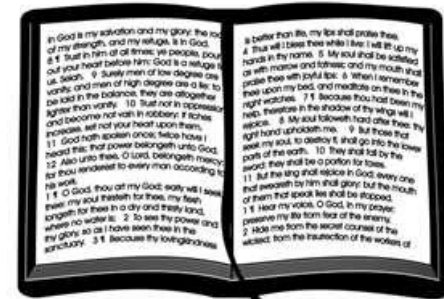
The Church and God's Wisdom

**Ephesians
3:10-11**



The Church...

- ... has been much maligned, inside & out.
- **MALIGNED**: spoke harmful untruths about; spoke evil of; slandered; defamed; ridiculed
- ...in Scripture presents a different view.
- **Ephesians 1:22-23**, “(God) *hath put all things under his feet, and gave him (Jesus) to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.”*
- **Ephesians 3:10**, “*the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God”*



HOLY BIBLE

Man Needed Salvation

- **Genesis 3:1-24**, From the beginning, man sinned & needed salvation from its penalty
- **1 Peter 1:10-12**, Prophets & the angels sought to see how God's would justify man
- **Romans 3:23**, *"All have sinned, and have come short of the glory of God"*
- **Romans 6:23**, *"the wages of sin is death"*
- **Isaiah 59:2**, *"...your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **God Had a Plan of Redemption**

- **Isaiah 2:2-3**, *“...it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house ...shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it...many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **Gods' Plan of Redemption**

- **1 Corinthians 1:19-21**, *For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. (Isaiah 19:4)' Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.'*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **1 Corinthians 1:25-29**, *“the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.”*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **Entrance into the Lord's Church**

- **John 3:5**, *“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”*
- **Matthew 16:18**, *“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”...“That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven”*
- **Acts 2:14-36**, *“Peter standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said...*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

• Entrance into the Lord's Church

- **Acts 2:37-38**, *“they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins”*

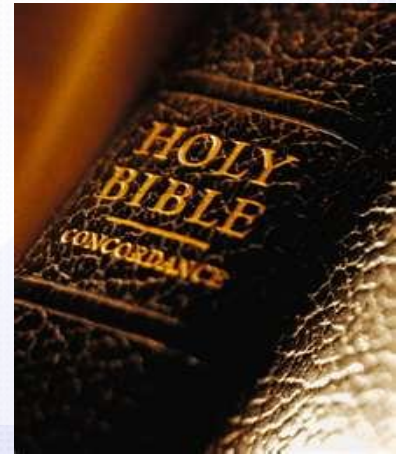
- **Romans 6:17-18**, *“...ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **Nature of the Church**

- **Galatians 3:27-28**, *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek....bond nor free, ...male nor female...all one in Christ Jesus.”*
- **Ephesians 1:22-23**, *“hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body...”*
- **Ephesians 4:4**, *“There is one body...”*
- **Ephesians 5:27**, *a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle...holy and without blemish.”*



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **Worship of the Church**

- **John 4:23-24**, “...true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

- **Hebrews 10:24-25**, “...let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **Worship of the Church**

- **Singing**

- **Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16**

- **Praying**

- **Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 14:15**

- **Teaching**

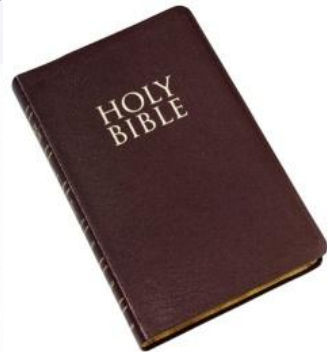
- **Acts 2:42; 20:7**

- **Communing**

- **Acts 2:42; 20:7**

- **Giving**

- **1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

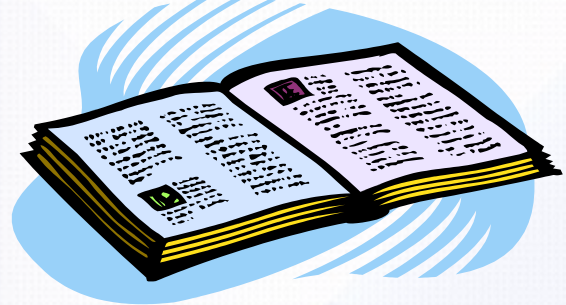


**Isaiah 6:1-8,
Isaiah was filled
with awe &
humility !**

God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

• Organization of the Church

- **Philippians 1:1**, “...to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons”
- **1 Timothy 3:1-7**, “If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be...”
- **1 Timothy 3:8-13**, “Likewise must the deacons be...”
- **Titus 1:5-9**, “...thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: If any be...”



God's Wisdom **vs.** Man's Wisdom

- **High Moral Standard of the Church**
 - **Matthew 5:3-12**, Jesus set standard
 - **Titus 2:11-12**, *“the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world”*
 - **Galatians 5:22-23**, *“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*



The Church and God's Wisdom

- **Man sinned and needed salvation**
- **God's plan of redemption**
- **Entrance into the Lord's church**
- **Nature of the Lord's church**
- **Worship of the Lord's church**
- **Organization of the Lord's church**
- **Moral standard of the Lord's church**