

Series: Word of Correction and Counsel

# PERFECTLY JOINED TOGETHER

## 1 CORINTHIANS 1

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:10

### **1 Corinthians 1:10**

*<sup>10</sup> Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

Introduction:

In this passage Paul addresses those who have trusted Christ as their personal Saviour.

I'm glad that salvation is for who so ever.

We see in this passage that God's approach is actually contrary to what men would think.

He seeks those the world would overlook and avoid and they are perfectly joined together.

Note:

# 1. THE CRITERIA IN GOD'S CALLING (VS. 26-28)

## **1 Corinthians 1:26-28**

*<sup>26</sup> For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: <sup>27</sup> 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; <sup>28</sup> 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:*

In these verses we see the criteria associated with the call of God.

He speaks of:

A. Those who are indifferent (vs. 26)

## **1 Corinthians 1:26**

*<sup>26</sup> For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:*

These people would be on a short list of those sought after by most today.

Corporations, government agencies, non-profits, and even many churches seek those who possess these characteristics.

Paul reveals that God doesn't call many who are wise after the flesh (or with worldly wisdom,) many who are mighty, or many who are noble.

This may seem difficult to understand, but many times those who possess these qualities are not interested in the ways of God.

They are depending on themselves and their own abilities.

Now before we get the wrong idea Paul says not "many" of these are called.

He doesn't say, not "any" of these are called. He doesn't imply these can't or won't be saved, but of those who are, not many are of this category.

Note not only the Indifferent but also:

#### B. The Instrument Used (vs. 27-28)

#### **1 Corinthians 1:27-28**

*<sup>27</sup> 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; <sup>28</sup> 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:*

Not only were the people not what we would consider to be on the most likely to succeed list but also the way that God worked in their lives would not be what we would consider success.

Notice:

#### A. The Foolish (vs. 27)

##### **1 Corinthians 1:27**

*<sup>27</sup> 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;*

Note:

##### **Numbers 22:22-35**

*<sup>22</sup> And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him. <sup>23</sup> And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way. <sup>24</sup> But the angel of the*

LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side. <sup>25</sup> And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again. <sup>26</sup> And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. <sup>27</sup> And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff. <sup>28</sup> And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? <sup>29</sup> And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee. <sup>30</sup> And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay. <sup>31</sup> Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face. <sup>32</sup> And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me: <sup>33</sup> And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive. <sup>34</sup> And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it

*displease thee, I will get me back again.* <sup>35</sup> *And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.*

This beast was used of God to get Balaam attention:

Note also:

### **Luke 22:54-62**

<sup>54</sup> Then took they him, and led *him*, and brought him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off. <sup>55</sup> And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup> But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, This man was also with him. <sup>57</sup> And he denied him, saying, Woman, I know him not. <sup>58</sup> And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not. <sup>59</sup> And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this *fellow* also was with him: for he is a Galilaeen. <sup>60</sup> And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. <sup>61</sup> And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crew, thou shalt deny me thrice. <sup>62</sup> And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

This rooster was used by God to teach Peter a valuable lesson – “That he wasn’t nearly as spiritual as he thought he was.

I have discovered that if God can use a donkey or a rooster He can use anyone or anything.

Not only did God use the foolish things but also:

## B. The Feeble (vs. 27)

### **1 Corinthians 1:27**

*<sup>27</sup> 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;*

Society often wants the strong and mighty.

Weak things are often avoided.

They are often viewed as insignificant.

You say this doesn’t make sense.

Remember:

### **Isaiah 55:8-11**

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup> For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: <sup>11</sup> So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Notice not only the foolish and feeble things that God uses but also:

#### C. The Forsaken (vs. 28)

### **1 Corinthians 1:28**

<sup>28</sup> **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:

Paul now speaks of the base things of the world being used to bring down the high and mighty.

Illustration:



A termite is about 3/8 of an inch long, and yet they can bring down a home that is several thousand square feet.

As we study Scripture, these are the ones God used in mighty ways. In fact, each of us was at that point prior to the Lord meeting our need. It is simply by His grace that we were lifted out of the miry clay.

Notice not only the foolish, feeble and the forsaken things that God uses but also:

#### D. The Failures (vs. 28)

##### **1 Corinthians 1:28**

<sup>28</sup> *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:*

Often the things and people that many consider complete failures God uses.

God doesn't see as the world sees things or people and we should be glad.

Notice not only the foolish, feeble and the forsaken things that God uses but also:

## E. The Forbidden (vs. 28)

### **1 Corinthians 1:28**

<sup>28</sup> *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:***

Again remember;

God doesn't look upon men as we do. He comes to the lonely and rejected. He reveals Himself to the lost and hopeless. He offers peace, hope, and joy.

These are often so overwhelmed when they realize they are loved that they jump at the chance of a relationship with a loving God.

God chooses to use the forbidden to trump those who see no value in them!

God uses things that you and I would never consider.

You may be thinking why?

The answer is found in this passage as well.

Note:

### **1 Corinthians 1:29**

<sup>29</sup> *That no flesh should glory in his presence.*

God desires for us to honor and glorify Him.

Close:

If our church is going to be a lighthouse in our community we must be:

- United (vs. 10)

### **1 Corinthians 1:10**

*<sup>10</sup> Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

### **1 Corinthians 1:13-17**

*<sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; <sup>15</sup> Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name.*

*<sup>16</sup> And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. <sup>17</sup> For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*

