

## I. The Power of God

### A. Paul's Preaching (I Corinthians 2:1)

#### 1. Paul's approach

- a. The audience was Brethren, meaning spiritually.
- b. The time of address. "I came to you." (Acts 18:1-4) During Paul's second missionary journey (Acts 15:36-18:22)
  - 1) We see this is directly after preaching in Athens on Mars Hill (Acts 17:16-34) (Mars Hill- "Areopagus.")
  - 2) We see the company he was with (Acts 18:2) (Aquila and Priscilla.)
    - a). They were refugees (Acts 18:2) "lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; because that (Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome.)"
    - b). They became witnesses (Acts 18:24-26) and helpers of Paul (Romans 16:3-4).
    - c). They ended up in Ephesus (1 Corinthians 16:3-4; Romans 16:5)
  - 3) We see the rejection of Jews and the turning to Gentiles (Acts 18:4-6)
  - 4) Goes to Justus' house (Acts 18: 7-17)

#### 2. Paul's oration

- a. "Not with excellency of speech or wisdom."
- b. Declared the testimony of Christ.

### B. Paul: not a philosopher (1 Corinthians 2:2) Paul's determination of approach.

#### 1. Wouldn't know anything among them.

- a. He was not a proof or philosophy seeker. (1 Corinthians 1:22-25)
- b. All other things besides Christ is continued but lost (Philippians 3:8-10)

#### 2. Would only know Jesus Christ and Him crucified

- a. Jesus Christ sent by the Father (John 17:3)
- b. Jesus crucified, not the law (Galatians 1:1-4 Romans 7:4)
- c. We are to glory only in the cross (Galatians 6:14)

### C. The Power Supply of Paul's preaching (1 Corinthians 2:3-4)

#### 1. His disposition among them

- a. Weakness
- b. Fear
- c. Much trembling

#### 2. His discourse

- a. Not with enticing words of man's wisdom. (2 Samuel 14:17-20)
- b. "Demonstration of the Spirit and of power."
  - 1) Shows the source (1 Corinthians 4:20)
  - 2) Shows the Apostolic signs (Romans 15:19)
  - 3) Through the Holy Ghost (1 Thessalonians 1:5 1 Peter 1:12)

### D. Paul's Purpose in Preaching (1 Corinthians 2:5) Their confidence of faith

1. Were not in the confidence of the wisdom of man
2. Power of God