

HEAVEN'S STOREHOUSE

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

A brief review of an 'expectant' heart:

- God is pleased with an expectant heart.
 - Some of us are filled with expectancy concerning God's activity among us. Terrific! Be encouraged!
 - Some of us have been filled with expectancy about God's moving in our life, but we lost our edge.
 - What are you looking for? What do you long for God to do for you, for us, for others?
- We found several reasons for an expectant heart in Scripture today:
 - Based on a promise from God's Word.
 - Based on a need.
 - Based on a prophetic encounter.
 - Based on a well-developed eternal perspective.
 - Based on a revelation from God.
 - Based on being stirred up by the way of reminder. (**2 Peter 1:12-13**)
- NOTE: In every instance we viewed in Scripture, expectancy always resulted in the same thing...remarkable change!

So, who has an expectation or an anticipation of being healed, or empowered, or of seeing 'breakthrough?' God loves that expectancy in your heart and prayers...and He delights in bringing fulfillment!

And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. ²For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. **1 Corinthians 2:1-3 NASB**

As for myself, brethren, when I came to you, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony *and evidence or mystery and secret* of God [concerning what He has done through Christ for the salvation of men] in lofty words of eloquence or human philosophy *and wisdom*; **1 Corinthians 2:1 AMPC**

- Paul came to the Corinthians with the "Testimony and evidence or mystery and secret of God concerning what He has done through Christ."

- What did He do by sending Jesus?
 - Our sins have been forgiven when we believe.
 - We have peace with God and the peace of God.
 - Every person, Jew, or Gentile can now become part of God's family.
 - Grace and Truth have come and we are no longer under 'the law.'
 - We have a home in heaven with Jesus and He has a home in our hearts.
 - We have the residence and evidence of the Holy Spirit.
 - We have authority over the spirits of darkness.
 - And a whole lot more!
- Consequently, Paul's words were all about a crucified (and resurrected Jesus).
 - He says he was in a state of weakness, and dread and much trembling.
 - The concept of trembling is found here in **1 Corinthians 2, 1 Corinthians 7:15, Ephesians 6:5** and in **Mark 16:8**.
 - Interestingly, trembling in **Mark 16** is associated with astonishment...Paul had weakness with trembling...but he may also have been trembling because of astonishment from the amazing things that He witnessed as well.

⁴ And my language and my message were not set forth in persuasive (enticing and plausible) words of wisdom, but they were in demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit and power [a proof by the Spirit and power of God, operating on me and stirring in the minds of my hearers the most holy emotions and thus persuading them], ⁵ So that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men (human philosophy), but in the power of God. **1 Corinthians 2:4-5 AMPC**

- Paul's preaching and proclamations were in words spoken in connection with the proof that the power of the Spirit was in him. Our faith is to rest on the power of God...not the 'flash' of the flesh.

¹⁹ But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. ²⁰ For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. **1 Corinthians 4:19-20 NASB**

⁶ Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; ⁷ but we speak God's wisdom in

a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God predestined before the ages to our glory; ⁸ *the wisdom* which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. **1 Corinthians 2: 6-8 NASB**

- **V6**...Spiritually mature Christians who are 'ripe' in understanding...we do impart a higher wisdom, the knowledge of the divine plan previously hidden...(AMPC)
 - This wisdom was once hidden from human understanding, but now revealed by God...a wisdom not of this age...a 'son ripened' wisdom.

⁹ but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and *which* have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him." ¹⁰ For to us God revealed *them* through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For who among men knows the *thoughts* of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the *thoughts* of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, ¹³ which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual *words*. **1 Corinthians 2:9-13 NASB**

"For us, however, God has drawn aside the veil through the teaching of the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, including the depths of the divine nature. For, among human beings, who knows a man's inner thoughts except the man's own spirit within him? In the same way, also, only God's Spirit is acquainted with God's inner thoughts. But we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which comes forth from God, that we may know the blessings that have been so freely given to us by God. Of these we speak – not in language which man's wisdom teaches us, but in that which the Spirit teaches – adapting, as we do, spiritual words to spiritual truths. **1 Corinthians 2:10-13 Weymouth**

- 'NASB Margin' – 'Interpreting spiritual things for spiritual men'...
- Part of the Spirit's work for us is to find the things freely given to us by God. This is part of being 'equipped.'

¹⁴ But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. ¹⁶ For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ. **1 Corinthians 2:14-16 NASB**

- The things of the Holy Spirit are spiritually appraised, examined, discerned, or understood.

⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. ¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. **Romans 8: 6-10 NASB**

¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*. **Romans 8:14-17 NASB**

“If we accept the testimony of men, God’s testimony is greater: for God’s testimony consists of the things which He has testified about His Son. He who believes in the Son of God has made Him a liar, in that he has refused to accept the testimony which God has given about His Son. And that testimony is to the effect that God has given us the Life of the Ages, and that this Life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the Life: he who has not the Son of God has not the Life. **1 John 5:9-12 Weymouth**

- ...”we have the mind of Christ.” **1 Corinthians 2:16**

We must link closely with our fellow-believers in the body of Christ, because to have the mind of Christ is essentially a corporate experience: ‘we have the mind of Christ’. As we pursue these priorities, the Spirit will unfold to us more and more of the wisdom of God in Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. **David Prior**