

**"THE CHRISTIAN'S
WISDOM, WEALTH and SAFETY"**

Introduction

1. The Christian is the very opposite of the world
2. The Bible says so: light v. darkness...
3. In 3 ways: wisdom – wealth – safety.

1. THE CHRISTIAN'S WISDOM: v.18-19

- 1) There are two wisdoms:
 - (i) of the world
 - (ii) of God
- 2) They are different at every point:
 - (i) each wisdom is foolishness to the other
 - (ii) one praises man; the other God
 - (iii) one follows human thought; the other God's
e.g. creation / providence / salvation / death
 - (iv) one lives for the present; the other for heaven
ILLUSTRATION: "If in this life only..."; "our citizenship"
- 3) The believer's duty is to be a "fool" (v.18):
 - (i) To please God – not men: Christ, prophets...
 - (ii) To keep God's rules – not men's
 - (iii) To worship God by Bible light only
APPLICATION: Are you a fool for Christ's sake? (Paul)

2. THE CHRISTIAN'S WEALTH: v.21-22

- 1) An astonishing statement! (v.21 – "all things")
- 2) The believer is in lawful possession of what God has made; unbelievers are not so.
ILLUSTRATION: food, air, money, health, gifts...
- 3) Paul, itemises what believers own:

- (i) ministers and their gifts: v.22
Paul – theologian; Apollos – eloquent; Peter – bold
- (ii) the world: at our disposal – will become "new" for us to live in when He comes
- (iii) life: ours to serve God in as others did
- (iv) death: to rest in eternal blessedness in "Blessed are the dead..."; "gain".
- (v) "things present": church, sacraments, fellowship, preaching, Sabbath, all else...
- (vi) "things to come": resurrection body, acquittal in the Great Day, eternal life.

- 4) "All are yours"! Given by God to us as his blood-bought children.
APPLICATION: Christian, remember your wealth!

3. THE CHRISTIAN'S SAFETY: v.23

- 1) These three things: wisdom / wealth / safety
- 2) How do we learn of our safety?
ANSWER: by the Persons who own and possess us
- 3) If we belong to Christ and to God, how safe!
 - (i) are not the Crown Jewels safe?
 - (ii) is not the Royal Family safe? Soldiers...
 - (iii) Does a mother forget her young child?
 - (iv) "More value than many sparrows"
- 4) So God tells us we are precious to Him:
 - (i) "The apple of his eye"
 - (ii) "Graven on the palms of his hands"
 - (iii) "... with an everlasting love"
 - (iv) "The mountains shall depart..."
APPLICATION: The Heavenly Father says, "You belong to my dear Son". Christ says, "You are mine".

PSALM

27: 1 – 4

30: 1 – 5

31: 18 – 21

CONCLUSION

1. Here is your answer to Doubts
2. And your answer to Satan
3. And to all the unbelieving world!