

Sha'ul of Tarsus & His Letters ~ Part 65

1 Corinthians ~ Part 5

Note: To examine the graphics in this series, click on them for a pop-up version.

As I mentioned in my last post, we continue to explore **Sha'ul's Letters to the Corinthians**.

Regarding Divisions within the Congregation ~ Part 4

Wisdom from the Ruach

Sha'ul argues that the **Ruach** is necessary to understand **God's** wisdom since it cannot be perceived through human nature. **Sha'ul** wants the **Corinthians** to recognize their need for true wisdom from **God's Ruach** before he resumes his appeal for unity beginning in 3:1.

⁶ Yet there is a wisdom that we are speaking to those who are mature enough for it. But it is not the wisdom of this world or of this world's leaders who are in the process of passing away.

The **mature**. The **Greek** word used here, *teleios*, refers to those who understand and conform to the message of **Yeshua**. **Sha'ul** also may be applying the term ironically to the **Corinthian Believers**, who considered themselves to be highly **Ruachual** when, in fact, they were immature in the faith.

⁷ On the contrary, we are communicating a secret wisdom from God which has been hidden until now but which, before history began, God had decreed would bring us glory.

Secret wisdom means it is not plain to the person looking for an understanding of the world, themselves, and others. Rather, it can be understood only through revelation from **God's Ruach**.

⁸ Not one of this world's leaders has understood it because if they had, they would not have executed the Lord from whom this glory flows.

This world's leaders, including both the **Jewish** and the **Roman** individuals who had a part in putting **Yeshua** to death.

⁹ But, as the Tanakh says,

***"No eye has seen, no ear has heard
and no one's heart has imagined
all the things that God has prepared
for those who love him."*** ¹

¹⁰ It is to us, however, that God has revealed these things. How? Through the Ruach. For the Ruach probes all things, even the profoundest depths of God.

Depths of God refers to the deepest wisdom that **God's Ruach** reveals to **Believers**. This highest wisdom, as understood from the previous context and throughout the letter, is **Yeshua HaMashiach**, the **Lord of Glory**, "and Him crucified."

¹¹ For who knows the inner workings of a person except the person's own Ruach inside him? So, too, no one knows the inner workings of God except God's Ruach. ¹² Now we have not received the Ruach of the world but the Ruach of God, so that we might understand the things God has so freely given us.

Ruach of the world. **God's Ruach** is not like the **Ruach** of people or anything that can be comprehended, computed, or reasoned in this world. While **God's** work is eternal, everything in this world is temporal -

¹ Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 52:15, 64:4.

including current rulers and evil spiritual beings.

The Spirit understands the Father's purposes for your life, and the Spirit's exciting role is to help you understand and receive everything God wants to give you.

~ Harry Blackaby

¹³ These are the things we are talking about when we avoid the manner of speaking that human wisdom would dictate and instead use a manner of speaking taught by the Ruach, by which we explain things of the Ruach to people who have the Ruach.

Without **God's** help through the **Ruach** (v. 12), people lack the ability to understand His plans or work.

Wisdom for the Spiritually Minded

¹⁴ Now the natural man does not receive the things from the Ruach of God - to him, they are nonsense! Moreover, he is unable to grasp them because they are evaluated through the Ruach.

The **natural man** is identified as a person who does not have the **Ruach** from **God**; therefore, he does not welcome **what comes from God's Ruach**. He is not able to know the **Gospel** that "comes from **God's Ruach**" because he considers it **nonsense**. It is the **Ruach** who convicts and reveals.

¹⁵ But the person who has the Ruach can evaluate everything, while no one is in a position to evaluate him.

The **spiritual person** can discern **everything** with respect to this wisdom, yet he himself is examined by no one. The **spiritual person's** discernment is an understanding of the deep things of **God** freely given to the **Believer**. The "**spiritual person**" is examined by the **Lord** as a **Judge** to determine how faithful he has been in living and proclaiming the **Gospel**.

***¹⁶ For who has known the mind of Adonai?
Who will counsel him?²***

But we have the mind of the Messiah³

Sha'ul validated his statement in verse 15 by appealing to Isaiah 40:13. When the "**spiritual person**" is scrutinized by "**the natural man**" with respect to spiritual things, the **natural man** does not have the capability to **instruct** those who have the **mind of Messiah**. **Sha'ul's** point from **Yesha'yahu** is that no **natural man** can instruct the **Lord** with respect to **God's** deep things.

In our next post, we will continue to explore **Sha'ul's Letters to the Corinthians** beginning in 1 Corinthians 3:1.

² Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 40:13

³ 1 Corinthians 2:6–16.