

INTRODUCTION – 1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER TWO

This chapter is apportioned with two (2) sections in the bible that reveal Paul's messages to the Corinthians for our study, understanding, obedience, blessings and edification.

1. Christ's crucified: **1 Corinthians 2:1 – 5**
2. Spiritual wisdom: **1 Corinthians 2:6 – 16**

Clearly it portrays Paul as the spiritual father to the Church of Corinth with interest and passion to the faith of the Corinthian Believers, Christian teachings and doctrines, spiritual growth and maturity.

His second chapter of his first epistle focused first on the reason and benefit of Christ's crucifixion and the need for the Church of Corinth to keep on believing and practicing all gospel truths. For the institution and gatherings of the Church under the supervision of Aquila and Priscilla was through the preaching of Christ crucified. And he was determined to know nothing among them other than their faith in Christ; the message of the cross.

Second, Paul's second chapter of his first epistle focused on the benefits of spiritual wisdom as a Church of Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders against the woes of natural wisdom that relegate Christ's salvation work to the background. Hence his messages of insight and understanding to them.

To enable readers and the Churches and Body of Christ as a whole understand the second chapter of Paul's epistle, I have done my best with the grace of God upon my life and ministry to explain verse by verse or combination of verses in bringing out the quality of Paul's messages to the Corinthians.

Like a weaned child just weaned from milk and drawn from the breasts, the word of God is taught precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little (**Isaiah 28:9 & 10**). Jesus said that when the Holy Spirit comes, He shall guide us unto all truths (**John 16:13**).

Connect to other writings of the Church and bible commentaries as the Holy Spirit enlightens your understanding because grace and truth emanated from our Lord Jesus Christ (**John 1:17**). For this study, additional biblical information from the New King James Bible Commentary added fresh revelations to enhance understanding.

Study and know its relevance to your life first as a Christian before you apply it to other Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders. I trust God that you will be equipped with His knowledge and continuous belief in Christ's salvation work on the cross is tied to obedience, knowledge, spiritual wisdom, humility, spiritual growth and maturity. You are not alone because the Holy Spirit is Your Helper.

The focus here is Christ's crucifixion and spiritual growth in the Church. It is my prayer and hope that you shall be an instrument in the Lord's service to bring sound Christian teachings and practices to your local Church and Body of Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen. Hallelujah!



CHRIST CRUCIFIED IS GOD'S TESTIMONY; NOT EXCELLENCY OF SPEECH OR HUMAN WISDOM

INSPIRATION

When one responds to the call of God and becomes a Minister of Christ, he or she must be inspired by the Holy Spirit to declare the testimony of God. He or she must learn to trust in the anointing to convict, change and transform people, and not in human abilities and skills such as communication. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:1 – And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

A// POINT OF REFERENCE IN MINISTRY

Apostle Paul's epistle took a dimension of his communion with the Church in Corinth. For he gladly responded to the call of God and came into their midst and preached Christ to them (**Acts 18:1, 8, 19:1**). With the eternal results by the Holy Spirit, he reminded them about how he preached and won them for the Lord Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit; His declaration.

When you are committed to your calling in the perfect will of God, you don't go preaching for self – interests but preach Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Know that a sent Minister of Christ is mandated by the word of God and fulfills scripture to mention the name of the Lord only; strength of the Lord God (**Psalms 71:16**). Again the bible says that all the praises and glory must go to God, and not unto us (**Psalms 115:1**).

PAUL'S GOOD FOUNDATION OF BEING CALLED AND SENT TO PREACH CHRIST IN CORINTH WAS THE POINT OF REFERENCE IN HIS EPISTLE AND MESSAGES TO THE CHURCH OF CORINTH. THE SEED OF RIGHTEOUSNESS SOWN GERMINATED INTO A PLANT OF LEADERSHIP THAT BORE RIGHTEOUS FRUITS OF HOLINESS, COMMITMENT, SERVICE, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND FATHERHOOD.

B// PREACHING SUCCESS NOT BY EXCELLENCE OF SPEECH

First his preaching success was not as a result of excellency of speech. By this he did not consider his eloquence or narrative prowess. He mentioned it because the Corinthians society was noted for show of high level communication abilities. To deliver a message to win the hearts and support of the people, one had to articulate his or her words carefully to be accepted and recognized. Well you could say a competitive environment of views and narrations to be heard. But this was not Paul's strategy at all because he preached Christ for belief and salvation and not him as the Saviour and Lord. Besides, he was filled and led by the Holy Spirit in apostolic ministry.

It means that you don't use only oratorical skills to convince listeners to believe in Jesus as Saviour and Lord because the message of the cross is spiritual to give everlasting life. It means to say that you don't replace the anointing with communication abilities to

convict, change and transform people. You have to employ the weapon of prayer too to change the hardened hearts of people. Jesus said that these words I speak are spirit and life **(John. 6:63)**. In other words, Jesus still wants us to perceive His gospel of salvation as healing our broken relationship with God and giving us a fresh start in life to attain eternal life.

THE WORLD APPRECIATES AND APPLAUDS ELOQUENCE AS THE WAY TO GO AND ARTICULATE YOUR VIEWS TO PEOPLE. BUT IN THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, IT IS NOT ABOUT ORATORICAL SKILLS BUT THE ANOINTING TO CONVICT, CHANGE AND TRANSFORM THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF LISTENERS. THIS WAS PAUL'S PREACHING STRATEGY AND SUCCESS WITH THE CORINTHIANS.

C// PREACHING SUCCESS NOT BY HUMAN WISDOM

Second his preaching success was not as a result of human wisdom which was the pride of the Corinthians society. For human wisdom requires sequential and non – sequential events and information, data, analysis and comparisons and this was done by learned scholars and philosophers of the day.

In other words Paul strategy was different in the sense that the content of his gospel message was about what Jesus Christ had accomplished for them and the need to believe and receive the gift of eternal life and Holy Spirit. The bible says that Paul reasoned in the Corinth synagogue every Sabbath and persuaded both Jews and Greeks to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. He was also compelled by the Holy Spirit to testify to the Jews with the arrival of Silas and Timothy from Macedonia **(Acts 18:4 & 5)**.

Truly a message of this kind does not require human wisdom to analyze and make conclusions to affect the eternal destinies of people. Rather, it is the conviction of the Spirit of God and the scriptures that change the hearts and minds of the people into Christ.

The New King James Bible Commentary states that Paul referred to the content of his preaching as not with persuasive words of human wisdom because it's all truth and revelation by the Holy Spirit.

HUMAN WISDOM FOCUSES ON EARTHLY PERSPECTIVE OF ACTIVITIES IN LIFE BUT HEAVENLY WISDOM FOCUSES ON ATTAINING ETERNAL LIFE AND LIVING THE LIFE OF GOD IN CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. THIS WAS PAUL'S PREACHING STRATEGY AND SUCCESS WITH THE CORINTHIANS.

C// CONFIDENCE AND BOLDNESS TO DECLARE THE TESTIMONY OF GOD

Third Paul's preaching success was as a result of his confidence and boldness to declare the testimony of God; the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. Here Apostle Paul gave the main reason for his success story in ministry which had to do with grace to preach the resurrected Christ just as commissioned to do so on the Damascus road and in the city of Damascus. The revelation of the intent and purposes of God are that His

Son Jesus died on the cross for our sins and He resurrected Him on the third day to become the Author of eternal life with forgiveness of sins.

It is good and righteous to emphasis on this gospel truth. The bible says that Paul reasoned in the Corinth synagogue every Sabbath and persuaded both Jews and Greeks to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. He was also compelled by the Holy Spirit to testify to the Jews with the arrival of Silas and Timothy from Macedonia **(Acts 18:4 & 5)**.

This testimony of God needs to be preached to all people and the Church in Corinth and believers as evidenced with shown commitment of Apostle Paul. It is not an ordinary testimony but an eternal one which is able to save us completely.

We learn from the Psalmist that testimonies should be our delight and our counselors **(Psalms 119:24)**. We learn also from the Psalmist that testimonies are good and rewarding and we should cling to them **(Psalms 119:31a)**. We have to rejoice in the way and process of testimonies just as we do in riches **(Psalms 119:14)**. If we have understanding and revelation of the testimonies of God as everlasting, we will be blessed eternally **(Psalms 119:152)**.

Truly testimonies announce to us and reveals the power of God in the name of Jesus and leadings of the Holy Spirit that have met specific needs of people and situations. The Apostle John clearly states the testimony of God: That He has given us eternal life which is only in His Son Jesus Christ. He who has the Son has life but he who does not have the Son of God does not have life **(1 John 5:11 & 12)**.

According to the New King James Bible Commentary, Paul did not rely on his eloquence or on Greek wisdom to convince his listeners. Instead he gave the testimony of His which had not been explained before, but which was being revealed by the Holy Spirit.

Let us hold fast the testimony of God about His Son Jesus Christ and make it the focal point of our preaching as Ministers, Christian leaders and Believing Christians. For the Holy Spirit is alive in us. Be Christian and desire the anointing that brings truth and revelation about Christ's death and resurrection to save eternally and not communication abilities and human wisdom without divine power.

The bible says that some trust in chariots and others in horses but we are a kind of people who remember the name of the LORD **(Proverbs 20:7)**. Therefore we cannot trust in human abilities but the anointing that produces righteous and eternal results.

The New King James Bible Commentary: excellence of speech or of wisdom: Paul did not rely on his eloquence or on Greek's wisdom to convince his listeners. Instead, he gave the testimony of God which had not been explained before but which was being revealed by the Holy Spirit **(verses 10 – 14)**. The focal point of Paul's preaching was Jesus Christ.

ORATORICAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE GOOD BUT WITHOUT THE ANOINTING, THEY ARE DEFICIENT TO CONVINCING AND PERSUADE PEOPLE TO BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOUR AND LORD. IF THIS WAS PAUL'S

MESSAGE TO THE CORINTHIANS, THEN IT IS ALSO OUR MESSAGE TO PRAY AND MEDITATE FOR POWER TO DECLARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST TO CONVICT, CHANGE AND TRANSFORM PEOPLE.

PRAYER

We pray O God that the testimony about Your Son Jesus Christ will always be clear to us in truth and revelation.

We pray that we will not put our trust in human abilities and skills to change people but the anointing. For oratorical and communication abilities without the anointing is non – effective to change the hearts and minds of people.

Make preachers of Your everlasting testimony anointed in the power of the Holy Spirit to achieve your mission and vision and save people eternally.

Help us to be like Jesus who spoke words of life and spirit, and like Paul and all other Ministers who preached by the anointing to save people, and not by excellence of speech and persuasive human words and wisdom without divine power.

This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

CHRIST CRUCIFIED IS GOD'S TESTIMONY; NOT EXCELLENCY OF SPEECH AND HUMAN WISDOM WITHOUT DIVINE POWER. INDEED IF WE ARE PREACHERS OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST BY THE ANOINTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE ARE BOUND TO ACHIEVE ETERNAL RESULTS. IF BY EXCELLENCY OF SPEECH AND HUMAN WISDOM WITHOUT DIVINE POWER, WE SHALL MISS THE REAL ESSENCE OF THE TESTIMONY OF GOD. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

SEE PAUL'S RIGHTEOUS THOUGHTS AND MOTIVE TO THE CORINTHIANS

INSPIRATION

Motives are the thoughts and reasons behind our words, actions and inactions, and works. They can be either good or bad depending on your level of relationship with God as Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers. For those who are led by the Holy Spirit are the sons of God **(Romans 8:14)**. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:2 – For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

The Apostle Paul's ministry to the Corinthians focused on the testimony of God other than self – glory. In that sense he revealed his righteous motive as his determination not to know anything among them except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. For he was interested in their complete belief in the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved eternally; Christian faith. He wanted to be sure that his missionary work has borne fruition with eternal results.

This is why the preaching methodology was not the style of the Corinthians with emphasis on oratorical abilities and human wisdom and intelligence, but on the testimony of God about the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. Believing in Him as Saviour and Lord fulfilled his heart's desire. Clearly, this was Paul's spirit and motive when he came into the midst of the Corinthians in response to the call of God.

It means to say that Paul was not interested whether there were Jews or Gentiles, male or female, personality issues with regards to water baptism. Rather he was interested in their willingness and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ. That said and written was a revelation of his righteous motive towards the Corinthians and to all the Churches. Hence his prayers and teaching and epistle to them as righteous instructions by the Holy Spirit. It was very assuring that Paul's righteous motive set a good foundation for the Church in Corinth to grow spiritually and mature in Christ.

The good news is that Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers have the Holy Spirit to think and have righteous thoughts. Therefore when the Lord sends us to the Churches, our righteous thoughts by scripture and the Holy Spirit and ministry work should fulfill God's will to make the difference clear: The thoughts of the righteous are right, But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful **(Proverbs 12:5)**.

Again when we locate or relocate to a Church, let your prayers, bible studies and contributions, offerings, tithes, counsels, role play, helps and supports, and other contributions send a good message to Church leadership and the Church as a whole that your thoughts are righteous and motives are good towards them in God's will. Can I get an Amen here?

I tell you the truth that your thoughts must be righteous with good motives if you share in Christ's concern for His Church, mission and vision. For His desire was to do the will of the Father and to finish it **(John 4:34)**. Yes when your meditation of the scriptures is unto

the Lord, and you make yourself productive and profitable in the Church and the Kingdom of God, your thoughts and prayers would be righteous.

Then you can confidently and boldly say like Apostle Paul to the Romans: For we can do nothing against the truth but for the truth **(2 Corinthians 13:8)**. When your faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ, you cannot and must not have a negative attitude to suggest that you have the spirit of the antichrist but the Spirit of the Christ as a child of God to call "Abba, Father" **(Romans 8:15 & 16)**. You are a stakeholder of God's government and business in the Church and you are to think right and good for her progress and maturity. Be Christian because the Holy Spirit is in you.

BE DETERMINED NOT TO KNOW ANYTHING IN THE CHURCH EXCEPT THE CHRISTIAN STATUS, SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY OF THE PEOPLE. FOR THOSE WITH RIGHTEOUS THOUGHTS, MOTIVES, WORDS AND WORKS TO THE CHURCH RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD SPIRITUALLY AND PHYSICALLY.

PAUL'S MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH OF CORINTH REVEALED THAT HE DID NOT TAKE SIDES WITH THE IDENTIFIABLE GROUPS THAT EMPHASIZED ON PERSONALITY LOYALTIES IN CONTRAST TO THE UNITY OF FAITH AND PURPOSE IN CHRIST.

The New King James Bible Commentary emphasized on the truth that Paul's focus was on faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and not in any personality in or outside the Church.

PRAYER

You are the All Knowing God who searches the hearts and minds to know what is in it.

Help us O God to have righteous thoughts and clear consciences through scripture and the Holy Spirit concerning Your Church and fellow Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders.

Let us have the mind and attitude of Jesus and Apostle Paul to do the will of God.

Help me to focus on the Church's spiritual and physical needs unlike unnecessary bad habits that conflict with the love, peace and unity of the Church.

For this we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

A DETERMINED HEART AND MIND THAT SEEKS THE BELIEF, SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY OF THE CHURCH RECEIVES THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BE SUCCESSFUL. BUT IF YOU FOCUS ON PEOPLES AFFAIRS AND PHYSICAL STATURE AND ATTRIBUTES, YOU WILL MISS THE REASON GOD PLACED YOU IN THE CHURCH. BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT BECAUSE CHRIST LIVES IN YOUR HEART. HALLELUJAH. NANA KWAKU DUODU

YOUR PRESENCE IN THE CHURCH MUST BE RECOGNIZED BY CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS TO BE BENEFICIAL. LEADERS MUST THEREFORE SET RIGHTEOUS EXAMPLES TO THE CHURCH A PLACE OF BLESSING THROUGH PRAYER, BIBLE STUDIES, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, ROLE PLAYS, EVANGELISM AND ATTENDING TO THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE. DO IT JUST AS JESUS LOVED AND CARED FOR THE DISCIPLES; AS PAUL LOVED AND CARED FOR THE CHURCH IN CORINTH AND OTHER BELIEVING CHRISTIANS. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

WHEN WEAKNESSES EXALT CHRIST AND HIS GOSPEL OF SALVATION

INSPIRATION

Your desires and attitude are a true reflection of your actions and inactions and even emotions when it comes to the state of the Church. When one is led by the Holy Spirit, you cannot but have righteous thoughts, desires and attitude towards fellow Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers. Hence Paul's presented the gospel of Jesus Christ in a manner that revealed Christ as the central theme. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:3 – And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

Since Apostle Paul was filled and led by the Holy Spirit, his message to the Corinthians revealed righteous intents and purposes towards spiritual growth and maturity. He reminded the Corinthians of his behavioural traits in their midst that revealed Christ and made them Believers. The attributes of weakness, fear and trembling as a servant was portrayed and not that of a master with strength and might, wisdom and pride notable in the Corinthian culture. By this truth, Paul reminded them of his life of humility and service to them just as noted in the messianic ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It means to say also that Paul's weaknesses must have made him suffer emotional imbalances as concern to see the Corinthians conform to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ. For he was determined not to see them conform to anything but Christ and Him crucified. Hence he presented the gospel of Jesus Christ to them in weakness so that the power and strength of Christ be revealed. Paul's shortcomings were also revealed in fear and trembling to God's word and this challenged him to work hard and make them established in Christ **(Isaiah 66:2)**.

This strategy of Paul was in sharp contrast to the environment of the Corinthians society bedeviled with human strength, pride, wealth and talents according to the New King

James Bible Commentary. Therefore Paul wanted to model Christ's humility by presenting his weaknesses. This was purposed driven to change their societal and cultural mindset that was a liability in the spiritual growth and maturity of the Church.

Apostle Paul teaches us to humble ourselves anytime we present the gospel to people in order to bring out the power and strength of Christ to save eternally. For it is not by human strength of oratorical skills, though important with fluency of words, but the anointing. The bible says testifies of the messianic works of Jesus Christ who was anointed by God of His Holy Spirit to do good, healed the sick and deliver all those who were afflicted by the devil. For God was with Him as Jehovah Shammah **(Acts 10:38)**.

This is also a reminder of the true words of John the Baptist's disciples when they communicated to him about the popularity of Jesus' ministry. Among the things spoken and revealed: A man can do nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. I am not the Christ and I was sent before Him. He must increase, but I must decrease. He who is from above speaks things from above and is above all. He who has the bride is the bridegroom and the friend of the bride rejoices at the words of the bridegroom and my joy is fulfilled. He who is from above and heaven is above all. He who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth **(John 3:26 – 31)**.

Clearly, John the Baptist presented his weaknesses to the disciples but revealed the power and strength of Jesus for continuous belief and salvation. We learn from John's ministry that knowledge and revelation of the truth about Jesus as the Son of God should make us humble ourselves to reveal, exalt and glorify His name. This should be a righteous example for the Church to emulate everywhere. Know that this is about your weaknesses in humility and service to reveal the strength of Christ, and not any weakness of Christ and His gospel of salvation. For there is no substitute or compromise with belief in Jesus as the Son of God, Saviour and Christ. As Paul revealed earlier, the message of the cross (the gospel of Jesus Christ) is the power of salvation and God to those who believe and are being saved but foolishness to those perishing **(1 Corinthians 1:18)**.

Even bodily weaknesses noticeable in persons such as speech defects and infirmities are no match for the anointing at work in them. For prayer and the word reveals the grace of God in the lives and ministries of His Ministers. This is why an anointed person of low speech or education or has infirmity of the body or sickness can still be used by God to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and save people eternally whilst those considered healthy and commended in society fall short of the anointing. Paul's personal experience is an example to us. God did not take away his weakness (infirmity) but gave him sufficient grace to reveal His strength and perfection in his apostolic ministry **(2 Corinthians 12:7 – 9)**.

For the Holy Spirit is at work to honour and glorify the Son of God; our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. Be wise to exalt the name of Jesus and His gospel of salvation through your physical, physiological and psychological weaknesses. Be careful not to disrespect, mock and speak evil concerning their lives, ministries and the Church. Be wise to decrease and make Christ increase always in your life, ministry and the Church because the Holy Spirit is at work in you.

New King James Bible Commentary: Whereas the Corinthians glorified in their strength, wealth and their gifts, Christ was glorified in His humility and death. Paul wanted to model Christ's humility by presenting his "weaknesses." Then the strength of the gospel message could be clearly seen.

PRACTICING THE HUMILITY OF CHRIST IN THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL HAS THE ASSURANCE OF ACHIEVING ETERNAL RESULTS UNLIKE HUMAN PRIDE AND STRENGTH. FOR THE ANOINTING SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS.

PRAYER

Abba Father, give me the grace to make my weaknesses promote the preaching of the gospel of Your Son Jesus Christ.

Help us to have the attributes of humility, patience and service in the Church and ministry as we fulfill God's assignments and purposes in Christ by the inspiration and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Let our weaknesses and attitude make us humble always to exalt Christ and make His Church strong and established in His word of salvation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WHEN AN ANOINTED PERSON TESTIFIES OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST IN HIS OR WEAKNESSES, IT IS PURPOSED DRIVEN TO EXALT THE SON OF GOD; THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS GOSPEL OF SALVATION TO SAVE PEOPLE ETERNALLY. WHEN AN ANOINTED PERSON FILLED AND LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TESTIFIES OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN BODILY, PHYSICAL, PHYSIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WEAKNESSES, IT IS MEANT TO BREAK THEIR TRUST IN WORLDLY THINGS OF SOCIETAL AND CULTURAL PRIDE THAT LIMIT SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY OF THE CHURCH. FOR THE ANOINTING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE. NANA KWAKU DUODU

PREACHING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND POWER STRENGTHENS OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

INSPIRATION

The spirit of a person defines the personality and determines habits and character formation whether good or bad. Likewise the Spirit of Christ and the Holy Spirit in all Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers shape and mold us in God's righteousness. That is why Jesus told James and John that they don't know the Spirit received when they wanted permission to call forth fire and consume Jesus' enemies who rejected His gospel of salvation **(Luke 9:51 – 56)**. Yes with the Spirit of Christ, it is love, mercy, compassion, forgiveness and a second chance, and not quick judgment of our sins. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:4 – And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

In this understanding and revelation, Apostle Paul reminded the nature of his ministry towards the Corinthians to become Believers and as the Church of Corinth. His words and preaching Christ to them was not by human standards of enticement and human wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of the Holy Spirit. In other words, Paul did not depend on oratorical ability and argumentative ability to depict superior human strength and knowledge but in the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit.

In Paul's truthful words, the gospel of Jesus Christ was not preached to the Corinthians with enticing words or persuasive words that are synonymous with sugarcoated words, lies and deceit, fear and intimidation, fabrications, old fables, religiosity of the Law and religious tolerance of idol worship and pagan rituals, sacrifices and festivals, and witchcraft and occult practices. For Paul did not believe in human strength and oratory to win souls for Jesus.

Apostle Paul revealed the Spirit and Personality behind the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He mentioned the Holy Spirit and power of God to declare Jesus as the Son of God, the Messiah and the Christ. This was synonymous with baptism of the Holy Spirit with clear show of love, mercy, compassion, repentance, forgiveness, second chance, prayer, righteousness, holiness, service, humility and judgment. It means to say that Paul's apostolic ministry was not announced with billboards, leaflets and electronic or print media.

Rather, the anointing announced his apostolic ministry and changed and transformed people and Churches like the Church in Corinth. For he relied on the power of God with signs and wonders to magnify God and not the human mind. It confirmed his earlier message that Christ is the power and wisdom of God because Christ is preached crucified to have saved them from their sins **(1 Corinthians 1:23)**.

It teaches us that when the Holy Spirit and scriptures of the Psalms with prophetic references and quotations are used to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, it achieved eternal purposes and results like the Corinthians Believers. Indeed the Kingdom of God is about the power of God to bring about eternal results and not just mere words that portray human communication abilities and oratorical skills **(1 Thessalonians 1:5)**. Indeed it takes Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers filled and led by the Holy Spirit to be inspired and preach the gospel of salvation and be identified as anointed of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Truly where the word of the king is, there is power **(Ecclesiastes 8:4)**. Where prayer and fastings are part of one's Christian life, ministry and the Church, there is power and tangible results that testify of the positive effects of the gospel of Jesus Christ in lives, families, communities, society and the nations. The bible says that in the night Jesus' messianic ministry was characterized with teachings during the day, but at night prayers on Mount Olivet **(Luke 21:37)**. Early in the morning, all the people came to the temple for the purpose of hearing Him speak words of spiritual words to make them have the life of God **(Luke 21:38)**.

It teaches that every ministry is characterized with Holy Spirit inspired ways of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ effectively, and win souls for Christ. It fulfills Christ's mission and vision and establish Churches with strong leaders and members. If this is the reality, then the Holy Spirit must live and work to establish us in the Christian faith.

Yes let the anointing announce your ministry to have eternal works and results by the Holy Spirit. Keep praying; keep preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit and not human strength and power without the Holy Spirit.

New King James Bible Commentary: My speech probably refers to the way Paul spoke. My preaching probably refers to the content of his message. Not with persuasive words ... but in demonstration of the Spirit: Even though Paul many strengths of his own (see Philipians 3:4 – 9), he wanted to be counted among those who relied on God's strength. Rather than using the rhetoric of the day to win converts, he gave a straightforward message.

THE GRACE FOR THE ANOINTING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST WITH ETERNAL RESULTS IS BY THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND POWER OF GOD, AND NOT THROUGH GOOD SPEECHES AND POWER OF PERSUASION. IT IS ABOUT PRAYER, FASTING, HOLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS TO DEMONSTRATE GOD'S POWER IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST. WITHOUT THEM, EVERYTHING DONE BY THE CHURCH IS LEGALISTIC AND EARTHLY WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS SET BY HUMAN AND DEMONIC STANDARDS.

PRAYER

Thank you O God for choosing us in Christ to preach the gospel and save people eternally.

Help us with Your Holy Spirit to preach the gospel Your way and not our ways.

Help us to rely on Your Holy Spirit and power for eternal works and results and not human abilities which has false results.

Help us to practice acts of righteousness such as prayer, bible study and obedience to Your word, and have faith and works by the Holy Spirit to be endued with divine power for eternal results. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE POWER AND WISDOM OF THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. IT CANNOT FAIL AND DISAPPOINT US BECAUSE IT FULFILLS GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSES IN CHRIST.
NANA KWAKU DUODU

WITHOUT THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE CHURCH IS WEAK TO DEMONSTRATE THE POWER OF GOD IN CHRIST TO CHANGE PEOPLE AND SITUATIONS EVEN WHEN ALL HUMAN, FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT PLANS ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED. FOR WITH GOD AND HIS SON JESUS CHRIST, IT IS ABOUT QUALITY BEYOND QUANTITY. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST MAKES US PUT OUR FAITH IN GOD

INSPIRATION

There is always the original and a copy of the original. Since creation, trees, animals, fishes, herbs, and birds bear fruits of its kind. Therefore the genes of parents are inherited by the children; the genetic factor. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:5 – That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Likewise, Apostle Paul revealed that the gospel of Jesus Christ makes us put our faith in God and not the wisdom of men whenever it is by the demonstration of the Spirit and power. Therefore he could not rely on human abilities but the Holy Spirit and power of God. For this reason, he expected the Corinthians Believers to trust in the power of God other than the wisdom of men. To understand, let us look at these critical areas.

First, let me say that Paul emphasized to the Corinthians that God is the Architect of the gospel of Jesus Christ through the fulfilment of the Messianic prophecy. Therefore you cannot claim to be a Believing Christian, Christian leader and Minister and not believe in God and His words and Holy Spirit. Yes we are talking about the God who created all things, prophesied about His Son Jesus as the Messiah and the Christ and fulfilled the Messianic prophecy in due time. He is the same God who accepts all people as His

children when they believe in His Son Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord to have the promise of eternal life **(John 3:16, Titus 3:4 – 7)**.

Second, the gospel of Jesus Christ makes us put our faith in God. I mean absolute faith in God like the way a typical Jew trusted in God as the God of the fathers and patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. When the gospel is preached, it needs you to have faith in Jesus Christ in obedience to God's word.

Paul's message to the Corinthians was that he preached to them and they did put their faith in the power of God to save eternally through Christ's messianic ministry, crucifixion and resurrection. It was also an affirmation to them that the power of God made them righteous even though they were sinners and unqualified as children of God. Yet they believed unto righteousness and were clothed in righteousness.

Clearly Paul's message revealed that once you believe in Jesus, your life is transformed to become righteous to God through His power; justification. That is why Paul's earlier message to the Corinthians was that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God to all those who are being saved, but foolishness to those who are perishing **(1 Corinthians 1:18)**. For the scriptures and the Holy Spirit prove the power of God in the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Third, the gospel of Jesus Christ does not make us put our faith in the wisdom of men such as re-shifting focus to water baptism and personalities involved; contentions **(1 Corinthians 1:11 – 13)**. That is why Paul was surprised and concerned at the backsliding events in the Corinthian Church. This was not the direction of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Once he preached to them in the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit to confirm the fulfillment of the messianic prophecy, the Corinthians were not to put their trust in the wisdom of men but God. For the wisdom of men is associated with human works of strength, traditions and cultures, and works, and pride of life. These things are without Christ's humility and total dependence on God in life as evident in the Corinthian society.

Besides the wisdom of men was known among the Corinthians as oratorical skills, brute force, sugarcoated words and achievements to entice and persuade, as well as worldly pleasures to prove one's authority and influence people and society. Therefore Paul wrote and reminded them that the gospel was preached to them not in these human abilities and achievements but in the power of God where faith works produce righteous results by the Holy Spirit.

This teaches us that we are to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ always in the power of the Holy Spirit to achieve eternal results. For the Holy Spirit works in matters of obedience and faith whenever the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached **(1 Corinthians 2:4)**. It means to say that the preacher and the hearer must have faith in the power of God to change and transform people and the Churches **(1 Corinthians 4:20)**.

Truly if we have the mindset of Paul not to know anything in the Churches other than Christ crucified and salvation, we will depend on the power of God to preach, shape and mold the Church **(1 Corinthians 2:2)**. For those who interfere in people's lives, families, blessings like gossips and sniffing dogs depend on the arm of the flesh like the builders

of the tower of Babel (**Genesis 11:1 – 9**) and human and strategies like the counsel of Ahithophel (**2 Samuel 15:31**) (against God's will) other than the Holy Spirit to do their works.

With this truth and revelation by Paul, the Church is armed with spiritual weapons to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is the power of God at work for the Church to uphold, and make the Church influence the world and not the world influence the Church.

New King James Bible Commentary: power of God: Miraculous signs had sometimes accompanied Paul's preaching (see 2 Corinthians 12:12, 1 Thessalonians 1:5; Hebrews 2:3 & 4). Such signs were intended to magnify God, not the human speaker.

IF THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST IS PREACHED TO MAKE PEOPLE BELIEVE AND PUT THEIR FAITH IN GOD, THEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK AND THE PREACHER IS GENUINE. IF IT MAKES PEOPLE PUT THEIR TRUST IN THE WISDOM OF MEN SUCH AS THE MINISTERS OR LEADER OF A CULT OR THE DEVIL OTHER THAN GOD, THEN THE PREACHER IS FALSE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT INVOLVED.

PRAYER

Dear God, help us to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and make people conform to the image of Your Son Jesus Christ as the power of God.

Help us not to use worldly strategies of human wisdom and abilities that has false achievements, trust and hope.

For through Paul's apostolic ministry, you have shown us that the benefits derived from preaching the gospel of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit are eternal.

We pray that our preaching will always give You the glory to confirm the divine power at work in us, and not human wisdom. Be our helper in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AFFIRMS THE TRUTH THAT ALL POWER BELONGS TO GOD AND ACHIEVE ETERNAL RESULTS IN HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. NANA KWAKU DUODU

IT IS A RIGHTEOUS SIGN WHEN CHURCHES OF BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, CHRISTIAN LEADERS AND MINISTERS PUT THEIR FAITH IN THE POWER OF GOD TO CHANGE AND TRANSFORM OTHER THAN HUMAN WISDOM. BUT IF THE OPPOSITE HAPPENS, THEN THE CHURCHES AND THEIR MEMBERS HAVE A BACKSLIDING HEART AND NEEDS TO BE RESTORED. BUT WE ARE WISE IN CHRIST BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK IN US. NANA KWAKU DUODU

MATURITY IN CHRIST VALUES WISDOM OF THE GOSPEL

INSPIRATION

Know your audience and the type of speech that will influence them positively for good. It means your words, works and investments must be profitable, blessing and satisfying. Such was the approach of Apostle Paul to the Corinthians to justify the irreplaceable gospel of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. The New King James Bible Commentary says that the oratorical and excellent speeches by Apollos influenced the Corinthians to judge the preaching of the gospel by Paul as inferior and weak. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:6 – Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

Paul's message was meant to correct that erroneous impression created by the false perception and judgment of some Corinthian Believers. He revealed that he and other Ministers spoke wisdom to those who are matured and understand the gospel of Jesus Christ unlike those who are immature and not ready for the truth.

In other words, Paul meant that speaking the truth about one's need for Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord and the promise of eternal life is better than excellent speech and oratorical skills. For God seeks the hearts of the people for eternal works and eternal blessings in Christ by the Holy Spirit. This was his success story, and false judgment was not going to deter him at all.

This teaches us to encourage ourselves in the Lord whenever the Church and people have a false Judgment against us. Even the Church can be wrong sometimes if their maturity level is low. Do not allow the comparison blues of Church members to deter you in doing the work of the ministry. For there are different graces given and received in ministry. Therefore know the state of the Church in which you minister or God has sent you to minister. Prayers are inevitable to be bold and confident.

For by Paul's revelation, a mature Church or maturing Church will believe and accept your ministry more than an immature or non – maturing Church. This is why according to the gospel of Apostle Paul, some of the gospel messages are better understood for those who are mature whereas they are less understood for the immature. Since it comes in the revelation and power of the Holy Spirit, it cannot use the methodology of the wisdom of this world or the princes of this world whose pride of life and abilities and riches deny them belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ as the word of God. For in Christ we seek eternal results and not temporary results. Keep believing.

New King James Bible Commentary: After having heard eloquent addresses by men like Apollos, the Corinthians may have viewed Paul's message as elementary or unpolished. Paul assured the Corinthians that he was imparting wisdom – instruction that mature Christians would appreciate.

Rulers of this age: In some passages, Paul used the word rulers to refer to spiritual beings (see Ephesians 6:12, Colossians 2:15); here he referred to earthly rulers, the Roman and Jewish leaders who presided over Jesus' crucifixion. If these rulers had been among the wise, they would have worshipped the Lord instead of crucifying Him.

Coming to nothing: People look at beauty, wealth and power as greatly desirable. But all earthly spendor will be rendered meaningless and worthless by death and the coming of God's judgment (Luke 16:19 – 29; 2 Peter 3:10 – 13).

PAUL WAS NOT PERTURBED BY WRONG JUDGMENT OF THE CHURCH CONCERNING HIS UTTERANCES IN MINISTRY. BEING SPIRITUAL, HE REALIZED THAT THE COMPLAINTS CAME FROM THE IMMATURE. THEREFORE HE CONFIDENTLY AND BOLDLY DECLARED THAT HE SPOKE WISDOM TO THOSE WHO WERE MATURED WITH BELIEF AND UNDERSTANDING TO THE GOSPEL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND NOT THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD.

PRAYER

Our wonderful Counselor, we pray for Your wisdom to discern and speak Your word in Christ by the Holy Spirit to Your Church.

Help us to know the state of the Churches so that we will have a heart of wisdom to speak the right words to them and also overcome any rejection of Your word especially from the side of the immature members.

It is also our prayer that the Church shall attain spiritual growth and become mature to believe and accept the complete gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. For there lies the blessing, the power and glory in Jesus' name.

IF PAUL CONFIDENTLY AND BOLDLY WROTE ABOUT SPEAKING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE MATURE, THEN LET NO ONE JUDGE YOU WRONGLY WHEN YOU DECLARE THE GOSPEL TO CHANGE, CORRECT, COUNSEL, REBUKE AND INSTRUCT IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. NANA KWAKU DUODU

A MATURED OR A MATURING CHURCH IS AN ASSET AND A FERTILE GROUND FOR BELIEF OF GODS WORD BY THE HOLY SPIRIT UNLIKE A NON – MATURING CHURCH. FOR MINISTERS AND MINISTRIES ARE RATED HIGHER WITH TESTIMONIES OF THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD IN CHRIST. NANA KWAKU DUODU

SPEAK THE WISDOM OF GOD IN CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 2:7 – But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

INSPIRATION

What you don't know, you don't know. It remains a secret and a mystery until it is revealed. But when it is revealed, this can no longer be a secret. Hence Apostle Paul's comparison of his message to that of the wisdom of this world and rulers of this age (kings, queens, governors, princes and princesses, politicians).

Paul's apostolic ministry centered and focused on the wisdom of God in a mystery and the preeminence of the gospel of Jesus Christ; before God established the foundations of this world. To the Corinthians, Paul reiterated his message of the gospel of Jesus Christ for eternal salvation which was once hidden but now revealed unto us as the Church.

Paul's gospel is that the message of the cross is preached openly because it is the revealed truth and no longer a mystery. Yes it is no longer hidden from humanity because of fulfillment of the messianic prophecy. Besides, the baptism of the Holy Spirit with given gifts enables the fulfillment of Jesus' mission and vision through obedience to the Great Commission **(Matthew 28:18 – 20)**. God has set His perfect plan in motion and the Church is to uphold His judicial decision and preach Christ to save the world till He returns. Hence the reason why he preached the revealed gospel in a determined and purposive manner in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Truly the words of Paul makes it clear that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the plan and perfect will of God for humanity. Its origination, plan, is said to be there before the foundations of the world. He had in mind the mystery of the gospel of Jesus Christ; just waiting for the appropriate time.

Again, it reveals that God as the Master Architect of eternal salvation set it in motion to fit into the times and seasons, and choice of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the nation of Israel to fulfill the messianic prophecy in due time. We, therefore, agree with Paul that the gospel of Jesus Christ was a mystery even from the beginning in God's perfect for our blessing and glory.

It teaches us to trust in the wisdom of God other than the wisdom of this world because it is higher than even the wisdom of the beginning that sets the foundations of this world. You don't have to argue and question God's power and wisdom because He is All Knowing and we are His creation; the sheep of His pasture **(Psalms 100:3)**. We are to rejoice in our eternal salvation because it reveals God's righteous intent to bless His Church of Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers.

It's our divine mandate and has no substitute because there is no replacement or another messiah to Jesus' salvation in the message of the cross. Be confident of the message of the cross. Be bold to preach Christ to people **(Ephesians 6:20)** and be ready to explain

this revealed mystery to people **(Colossians 4:6)**. Keep believing; keep praying; keep obeying; live for Christ always because the Holy Spirit is in you.

New King James Bible Commentary: The mystery that Paul referred to here is defined in **Romans 16:25 & 26** as “revelation ... kept secret since the world began but now made manifest.” The message was hidden until, known only to God, until He chose to reveal it **(see Ephesians 3:1 – 11)**. This is in contrast to the teachings of the Gnostics, a group of false religious teachers who would infiltrate the early Church. **(see 1 John 2:18 – 27)**. They claimed that there existed a body of secret knowledge that was only available to those initiated into an inner circle of spiritual teachers.

APOSTLE PAUL’S MESSAGE WAS THAT HE COULD NOT BUT SPEAK THE REVEALED MYSTERY OF GOD AS THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE MATURE IN WHICH THE CORINTHIANS BELIEVERS WERE ACKNOWLEDGED. THIS TRUTH COULD NOT BE COMPROMISED DESPITE THE EXPOSED WEAKNESSES OF THE IMMATURE IN THE CHURCH.

THE ANOINTED MINISTER SPEAKS THE PURE WORD OF GOD TO REVEAL HIS SON JESUS CHRIST FOR BELIEF UNTO ETERNAL SALVATION. FOR THE MATURED, THEY UNDERSTAND TO BELIEVE THE GOSPEL TRUTHS WITHOUT COMPLAINTS UNLIKE THE IMMATURE WITH COMPLAINTS.

PRAYER

O give thanks to the LORD for the revelation of His Son Jesus Christ which was once a mystery in time past but now preached in the Holy Spirit’s power.

We pray O God that Your Holy Spirit will make us confident and bold always to speak this gospel truth to people.

Help us to fulfill the Great Commission as our divine mandate for we are Your creation in Christ. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

A REVEALED MYSTERY IN CHRIST WITH ETERNAL BLESSINGS FOR ALL BELIEVERS IN EVERY NATION OF THE WORLD CANNOT BE KEPT IN SECRET AND DENY PEOPLE THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO BE SAVED. FOR THERE IS NO CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP WITHOUT THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. NANA KWAKU DUODU

IF WE SPEAK THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS CONFIDENTLY AND BOLDLY IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE ARE OBEDIENT CHILDREN OF GOD IN HIS SERVICE AND BELONG TO THE NEW COVENANT WITH ITS EVER SHINING GLORY. IF WE SHUT OUR MOUTHS AND CONTINUE TO HIDE THE TRUTH FROM PEOPLE, WE BELONG TO THE OLD COVENANT WITH ITS FADED GLORY. GOD WILL CHARGE AND CONDEMN US AS COMMITTING CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND HEAVEN. BUT WE SPEAK LIKE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST TO SAVE ALL WHO COME TO HIM. NANA KWAKU DUODU

YOUR ENEMIES ARE NOT ALL KNOWING; EVEN THE DEVIL

INSPIRATION

What makes God stand out above all gods, peoples, kings, and people is His All Knowing and All Powerful nature. For His thoughts are not our thoughts and His ways are not our ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are His thoughts and ways higher than that of humanity **(Isaiah 55:8 & 9)**.

It is satisfying to know that God is in His own class of superior wisdom. Yeah even creation confirms this belief and truth about God. Truly the gospel of Jesus Christ is the revealed superior wisdom of God that the world still struggles to understand in time and generations. Let's study further.

1 Corinthians 2:8 – Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

O how refreshing to know that our enemies, like the devil, do not know all the plans and purposes of God for our lives, ministries and the Church and the nations. This was Apostle Paul's continued defense of the gospel of Jesus Christ revealed to us in due time beyond the wildest imagination of the devil and enemies. Truly, none of the princes of this world (noble and influential class) knew the timing and chosen family of the Messiah; Joseph and Mary. They did not know Jesus as the expected Messiah and Christ and therefore misjudged Him in His messianic ministry; eternal words and works.

The bible says that it is to the glory of God to hide and cover a matter but the glory of kings to search for it **(Proverbs 25:2)**. If the religious leaders of Israel had searched carefully and meditatively, they would have known that Jesus was the expected Messiah and the Christ written by the scriptures and prophesied by the Prophets. Yet it was God's perfect Masterplan to make the crucifixion of His Son achievable and beneficial to the whole world through faith and not self – human works.

Again Paul justifies his revelation by saying that the power, aggression, force and brutality that the High Priests and Sanhedrin, governors and kings, and royals exerted in their influence and authority to crucify Jesus on the cross and end His life and messianic claim confirms their blindness in the fulfillment of the messianic prophecy. They did not discern and know that they were dealing with the Son of God, the Messiah and the Christ; the Lord of glory. But God won the battle to make eternal salvation free through His Son Jesus Christ. I am sure God must have laughed at His enemies because it is scriptural and prophetic **(Psalms 2:1 – 4)**. Where was them when Jesus told the disciples that He had the power to lay down His life and to take it back **(John 10:18)**?

By this truth and revelation, Paul once again showed the superior wisdom God that outwitted His enemies and achieved His eternal plans. This superior wisdom by God was earlier mentioned by Paul to the Corinthians that God chooses the simple and humble unlike the rich and powerful to preach Christ because the former usually respond to the call of God in obedience **(1 Corinthians 1:25 – 29)**.

It teaches us to rely on the wisdom of God all the time even if it does not make sense to the human mind and analysis. For the foolishness of God is wiser than the wisdom of man because He is All Knowing. His credentials states that He knows and declares the end from the beginning and has all power to do His will (**Isaiah 46:10 & 11**). Over the generations, God has proven His word and Himself right in dealings with the Israelites because He is a Covenant Keeping God. It is on this truth that Apostle Paul declared the superior wisdom of God and thus awakened the minds and consciences of the Corinthians to trust in God's wisdom in Christ always.

Trust God's wisdom always to live for Christ and preach His gospel of salvation in the power of the Holy Spirit. For when your enemies are at work, pray and keep praying and hold on to His promises in Christ. God will laugh over your enemies concerning their evil agenda against your life, ministry and the Church. See the miracles and prophecies happen in the name of Jesus. Amen.

New King James Bible Commentary: Lord of glory – Though Jesus emptied Himself of His majesty when He became human, He remained fully equal with the Father.

IF GOD WAS ABLE TO HIDE THE FULFILLMENT OF THE MESSIANIC PROPHECY FROM THE DEVIL, THEN KNOW THAT THE DEVIL AND ALL YOUR ENEMIES DOES NOT KNOW IT ALL ABOUT THE PLANS AND WORKS OF GOD IN CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE, MINISTRY AND THE CHURCH.

PRAYER

Thank you O God for enlightening us of Your superior wisdom in life, ministry and the Church.

We believe that no person, power, authority, king and queen, prince and princess, royal and the nobility, rich and powerful can have all knowledge of Your plans and activities for us.

We believe that you cover us and our blessings outside the reach of the devil and his demons and human enemies.

In this truth, we affirm our faith in Your Son Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord and trust in Your superior wisdom always. Amen.

GOD IS STILL IN THE BUSINESS OF SURPRISING YOUR ENEMIES WHETHER SPIRITUAL OR HUMAN. WHEN THEY ARE OBSERVING AND WATCHING YOUR MOVEMENTS AND NEXT MOVE, THE MIRACLE HAPPENS WITHOUT THEM KNOWING IT. FOR THIS IS GOD'S SUPERIOR WISDOM IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. KEEP PRAYING; KEEP BELIEVING; KEEP PREACHING; BE COMMITTED AND FAITHFUL. NANA KWAKU DUODU

WHEN GOD IS AT WORK IN OUR LIVES, MINISTRIES AND THE CHURCH, HE COVERS HIS ETERNAL PLANS FAR FROM THE REACH OF THE DEVIL AND HIS

DEMONS, AND HUMAN ENEMIES BECAUSE HE IS ALL POWERFUL. WHEN GOD IS BEHIND OUR BLESSINGS IN CHRIST, HE LEADS US BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. LET US TRUST IN THE WISDOM OF GOD ALWAYS EVEN IF IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE TO US BECAUSE HIS FOOLISHNESS IS WISER THAN HUMAN WISDOM. CLEARLY YOUR CALLING IS A CONFIRMATION OF THE TRUTH OF CHOOSING THE SIMPLE AND HUMBLE BEYOND THE EXPECTATION OF THE WORLD. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

BEYOND THE NATURAL EYE, NATURAL MIND AND HEART

INSPIRATION

There are things in life that the natural eye can see, the natural mind can think and the heart can conceive of them. But there are other things no – one has the slightest idea about them such as the second coming of Jesus Christ. Not even the angels in heaven know about it. But the bible says that the things that God has revealed to us are for us and our descendants **(Deuteronomy 29:29)**.

If God has not shown me, why should I be worried about it? I would rather trust Him to see and know them according to His timing and purposes. We read

1 Corinthians 2:9 – But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

The Corinthians were assured of the riches of God's glory in Christ preserved for them but unknown to the natural eye, natural mind and natural heart. Paul seems to have revived the Corinthian Believers to things and works of God. They were to stop trusting in the wisdom of the world but trust in the wisdom of God if they were to benefit from His grace and blessings. For the blessings of God are reserved for those He loves for their obedience in Christ by the Holy Spirit, and not the riches and cares of this world.

God's blessings reveal the limitations of man and even the devil, and this explains why the natural eye cannot see and the natural mind envision and the heart conceive of the plans of God for us as Believing Christians, Christian leaders and the Church. This was Paul's message to the Corinthians in his quest to reveal further the superior wisdom of God and power of protection and preservation.

This teaches us to trust in the wisdom and blessings of God as Believing Christians, Christian leaders and the Church. It tells us not to seek counsel and direction from people who are not Believing Christians concerning the Church, ministries and destinies. Don't go seeking answers and solutions at wrong places and wrong people like the way Saul inquired his kingship destiny from the witch of En Dor **(1 Samuel 28:7 – 20)**. This is a warning to all people who belong to occult secret societies or mix up God's power with

demonic power. The Church must discourage it because it contradicts God's word and is a practice of worldly people.

Remember the word of God from the two angels to the women at Jesus' tomb: Why do you seek the living among the dead **(Luke 24:5)**? No don't go looking for options, solutions and answers at wrong places because God's word assures us of things prepared as blessings for His Church. Again, I remind you the words of Jesus that we should perform eternal works that become treasures for us in heaven beyond the reach of destructive insects and corrosive materials **(Matthew 6:19 – 21)**.

It means to pray and fast, read and study the word of God, the bible, and enjoy the leading of the Holy Spirit and be in God's will. God's timing is the best and therefore no short cuts are needed in the Churches. Don't force the hand of God because He is All Knowing and His foolishness is better than the wisdom of men. Keep believing. Be obedient.

WHAT IS WRITTEN IS WRITTEN. GOD HAS COVERED HIS PLANS AND PURPOSES IN CHRIST UNTIL THEY ARE REVEALED TO US. PAUL TOLD THE CORINTHIANS TO TRUST IN GOD'S UNLIMITED BLESSINGS PREPARED FOR HIS CHURCH BEYOND HUMAN AND DEMONIC KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM. DO NOT BELIEVE THINGS THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS AND ENEMIES TELL YOU WHEN GOD HAS NOT SPOKEN ABOUT THEM TO YOU BY HIS HOLY SPIRIT. BE DISCERNING.

PRAYER

Thank you O God that the riches of Your glory in Christ is beyond what the eye sees, mind envisions and the heart conceives.

Help us not to trust in worldly and demonic strategies that give us false hope and satisfaction of blessings in our lives, ministries and the Church.

Rather, help us to trust in Your superior wisdom concerning your righteous plans, purposes and blessings for us. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

IT IS THE GLORY OF GOD TO HIDE HIS PLANS FOR A WHILE UNTIL THE REVELATION TIME. FOR THIS TRUTH, EVERY BELIEVING CHRISTIAN, CHURCH WORKER, CHURCH LEADER, MINISTER AND CHRISTIAN LEADER MUST KNOW. IF THE CHURCH MUST USE RIGHTEOUS MEANS TO KNOW THEM, THEN GOD IS RIGHT TO HIDE THEM FROM THE NATURAL EYE, NATURAL MIND AND UNREGENERATE HEART. SUCH ARE THE RESERVED BLESSINGS FOR BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, CHURCH WORKERS, CHURCH LEADERS, MINISTERS AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS WHOM GOD LOVES BECAUSE OF OBEDIENCE. NANA KWAKU DUODU

THE FACT THAT GOD IS SILENT DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU SHOULD GO BEHIND HIM AND USE DEMONIC POWERS AND MEANS TO GET ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS. THE CHURCH MUST KEEP ON BELIEVING THAT GOD HAS PREPARED ETERNAL BLESSINGS FOR US ALWAYS TO BE ENCOURAGED AND MOTIVATED IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND SERVICE. NANA KWAKU DUODU

THE HOLY SPIRIT SEARCHES AND REVEALS THE SECRETS OF GOD

INSPIRATION

There are secrets and codes that takes people with certain skills, knowledge and training to search and reveal them for private and public consumption. Society calls them great people because they hold the keys to hidden information and destinies. We read

1 Corinthians 2:10 – But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

In the same light, Apostle Paul stated emphatically to the Corinthians that God has revealed His eternal blessings in Christ to him and the Church by His Holy Spirit. For no other spirit could and can reveal this superior wisdom of God to Believers and the Church. In other words, the unbreakable bond and connection between God and His Holy Spirit as the third Person of the trinity makes Him the revelator of the second Person of the trinity as Jesus Christ and His gospel of salvation.

By this Paul meant that he knew very well the eternal blessings of God for them in Christ as a Preacher and an Apostle. Though this was oblivious to sinners and unbelievers, the Church was blessed to be in the knowledge of God's eternal blessings for them. Earlier Paul mentioned to the Corinthians that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the supreme revelation to save the world which was hitherto hidden by God since the foundations of the earth **(1 Corinthians 2:7 & 8, Ephesians 3:1 – 11)**.

Besides, Paul explained further that the Holy Spirit searches the deep things of God for people God loves in Christ. This meant that as Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers, they were blessed by God to receive gospel truths and revelations daily for spiritual growth and maturity. It suggested that commitment and faithfulness in the spirit of seeking will make them experience the revelations of the Holy Spirit. This explains why the Church cannot do without the Holy Spirit.

Therefore we agree with Apostle Paul also that no one can say Jesus is cursed by the Spirit of God and Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit **(1 Corinthians 12:3)**. It means that the Holy Spirit is not a religious spirit to accept proliferation of religions because He reveals, promotes and exalt Jesus Christ always. This places emphasis on the non – negotiable role of the Holy Spirit in our lives, ministries and the Church.

It teaches us to believe in the revelations of the Holy Spirit because He speaks the truth about the Son of God, the Messiah and the Christ. He is our Helper **(John 14:26, 15:26, 16:12 – 14)**. He searches and reveals; He testifies and instruct us in Christ's righteousness. Apart from Him, God cannot reveal His word in Christ to us.

Let us continue to pray fervently and trust God's way of revealing His Son Jesus Christ daily to us. If we are to preach daily about the Lord Jesus Christ to people and the Churches, the Holy Spirit must be our revelator as in times past for conviction unto belief and repentance. Be wise buddy.

This is the New King James Bible Commentary: through the Spirit – Only the Holy Spirit could reveal the truths of God (see 2 Peter 1:19 – 21).

WHAT THE NATURAL EYE CANNOT SEE, EARS CANNOT HEAR, MIND THINK ABOUT AND THE HEART CANNOT CONCEIVE, THE HOLY SPIRIT AS THE GIFT OF GOD TO HIS CHURCH REVEALS THEM UNTO US. FROM THE GOSPEL OF PAUL, WE WILL KNOW THE THINGS OF GOD PREPARED FOR US AS LONG AS THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ALIVE IN US.

PRAYER

Dear God, we cannot deny the infallible proof of the Holy Spirit as the revelator of Your Son Jesus and His gospel of salvation for conviction and repentance and obedience.

For you have blessed us with eternal blessings hidden in Christ before the foundations of the world.

We pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal Christ daily to us and facilitate understanding and obedience as the Church.

Help us to depend on His revelations so that we can escape wrong doctrines and teachings that corrupt our most Holy faith according to Your word in Jude 1:20 & 21. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST WILL CONTINUE TO BE A MYSTERY WITH HIDDEN SECRETS AND CODES UNTIL IT IS REVEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR CONVICTION, UNDERSTANDING AND OBEDIENCE. HENCE THE NATURAL MIND CANNOT COMPREHEND ITS MYSTERIES AND CODES UNLIKE THE SPIRITUAL MIND. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

IF THE CHURCH IS PRIVILEGED TO RECEIVE GOSPEL TRUTHS ABOUT THE SON OF GOD, JESUS CHRIST, THEN HIS GOSPEL OF SALVATION HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT AS THE LIFE WIRE TO GENERATE POWER AND ETERNAL RESULTS. THEREFORE, WE GIVE GLORY TO GOD FOR DAILY REVELATIONS IN CHRIST AND BLESSINGS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH UNTO MATURITY. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

BELIEVE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT KNOWS THE THINGS OF GOD WE POSSESS

INSPIRATION

What you believe shapes your life and future and principles to relate with all people. Truly you are a product of your belief and principles in life. We read

1 Corinthians 2:11 – For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

To get the Corinthians have a better and unquestionable knowledge and understanding of the blessings of God through the Holy Spirit, Apostle Paul compared the spirit of a man to the Spirit of God. For just as the spirit of man knows what is in man whether good or bad, likewise the Spirit of God knows the things of God. In truth, the life, habits, character and behaviours of a person is the reflection of the spirit of man. Likewise only the Holy Spirit can reveal to us Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders the eternal blessings and treasures God has in stock for us.

It means also that we need to rely on the Holy Spirit as third Person of the trinity. Hence God knows; His Spirit knows everything we have and possess as anointing, power, ministries, gifts and fruits beyond the knowledge and understanding of man. Therefore let no person judge you wrongly of your calling and works of righteousness by the Holy Spirit. Let no one judge wrongly in the manifestation of the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit to magnify Christ in the Church and to the world in righteousness.

It means to say that God has in stock ministries, righteous works and assignments, spiritual gifts and fruits, blessings and treasures pertaining to the promise of eternal life to His children whose faith is in the Lord Jesus. By this truth and revelation, Paul emphasized that only the Holy Spirit can make you know the things that God has in stock for us and has given us.

The Church must know the things of God freely given to us in Christ by the Holy Spirit and never the spirit of the devil and the spirit of the world. When we know what rightfully belongs to us, we can make a legitimate claim and God will give them to us **(Luke 18:1 – 8)**. For man does not know the things of God for us in Christ as evident in their rubbish talks against the Church; Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders. Keep believing; keep searching; keep praying.

This teaches us to do an introspection of our inner self whether the claim of the things of God are given by God through His Holy Spirit or otherwise. If your anointing, power, ministries, gifts and fruit and works are by the Holy Spirit, blessed are you O Believing Christian, Church worker, Minister and Christian leader. But if not, you have missed the blessings of God in Christ because they are not of Him.

This teaches us also to have and maintain a life of integrity through continual faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. If your spirit is good, it will show in your life; tastes and preferences,

habits and character. If your spirit is bad, it will show in your life; tastes and preferences, habits and character too.

New King James Bible Commentary: knows ... know – The first verb refers to innate knowledge; the second refers to the experiential knowledge. We could never have discovered the mysteries of God or the benefits of Christ's death by ourselves.

PAUL STATED CLEARLY THAT THE THINGS OF GOD IN CHRIST CAN ONLY BE REVEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND NOT THROUGH ANY OTHER SPIRIT. FOR IT FOLLOWS THAT SAME PATTERN OF THE SPIRIT OF MAN KNOWING THE PERSONALITY OF MAN.

PRAYER

Help us O God to keep believing that Your Holy Spirit knows the eternal blessings you have for the Church in Christ.

Therefore make us confident and bold always for Your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

UNTIL WE BELIEVE THAT THE THINGS OF GOD FOR US IN CHRIST ARE KNOWN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE CANNOT RECEIVE BLESSINGS FROM GOD. NANA KWAKU DUODU

WHEN WE BELIEVE THAT THE BLESSINGS OF GOD FOR US IN CHRIST ARE KNOWN AND GIVEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR A TESTIMONY TO HONOUR AND GLORIFY GOD. NANA KWAKU DUODU

GOD DOES NOT WANT THE CHURCH TO HAVE A FALSE TESTIMONY OF BELIEVING AND RECEIVING THINGS OF THE DEVIL AND WORLDLY THINGS THAT HONOURS AND GLORIFIES THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS. THEREFORE WE ARE SEEKERS OF THE BLESSINGS OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE KNOWN TO US AS HIS PERFECT WILL IN CHRIST. NANA KWAKU DUODU

HEY IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT OUR ANOINTING AND BLESSINGS ARE FROM GOD AS BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, CHRISTIAN LEADERS AND MINISTERS, SHUT YOUR MOUTH. FOR AS LONG AS THE HOLY SPIRIT KNOWS AND ENCOURAGES US, WE MANIFEST IN THEM AS THE CHURCH. NANA KWAKU DUODU

TRUST IN THE WISDOM OF GOD OTHER THAN THE WISDOM OF MAN AS A BELIEVING CHRISTIAN, CHURCH WORKER, CHURCH LEADER, MINISTER AND CHRISTIAN LEADER BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ALL KNOWING. NANA KWAKU DUODU

BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF GOD FOR A BLESSING

INSPIRATION

What you don't know can delay and cost you your blessings in life, ministry and the Church and that is why the devil and his demons and human enemies love to keep us in ignorance. It means to say that knowledge is good and helps us to position ourselves strategically in the application of wisdom for our blessings. We read

1 Corinthians 2:12 – Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Every tree and the kind of fruit it bears. Likewise Apostle Paul's message to the Corinthians revealed the righteous intent and purposes of God for His Church: That is the Spirit of God in them and the Church is to enable them know freely the things given by God. It implies having knowledge and understanding of the nature and purposes of the Holy Spirit received. By this truth and revelation, Paul wanted them to know that the era of ignorance had been replaced with the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives, ministries and the Church.

Now they knew of the things God had had given them freely in Christ through His Holy Spirit. He revealed the love of God. Like all other Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers, the blessings of God belonged to them already just that God waited for them to believe and have faith in His Son Jesus Christ before revealing them for their blessing. This was Paul's confidence and assurance in his message to the Corinthians to know and remember their blessed state in Christ.

It meant that they were to find joy and peace in God and not in the world. With this, Paul built their Christian faith to help them trust in the wisdom and power of God and not that of the world.

This teaches us to trust in the wisdom of God all time because everything we need and would be beneficial to us on earth and eternally are freely given in Christ. That is why the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit are freely given and received in Christ. Truly the Corinthians were to have a better understanding of Paul's message later **(1 Corinthians 12:5 – 7, 8 – 11, 28 – 31)** as well as the Church in Galatia **(Galatians 5:22 & 23)**.

The bible says that in His fullness, we have received grace upon grace; no limitation. That is why grace and truth came by the Lord Jesus Christ just as the Law came by Moses **(John 1:17)**. Since there is no limit in Christ, we will know the eternal blessings for us through His Holy Spirit sent to us from heaven **(1 Peter 1:12)**. It means to say also that only the spirit of the world and the devil can deny us our placement and blessing in Christ when we fall and succumb into their traps and temptations. For sin and righteousness can never be in union according to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The bible says that the Lord God does nothing in our lives unless He reveals His secrets to His servants the Prophets **(Amos 3:7)**. It means to say that God is in a habit of making

known His plans, purposes and blessings to His servants the Prophets who understand Him spiritually and maturely. So it is with the Church where we experience abundance of grace to enrich our Christian faith and works in Christ through the revelation of the Holy Spirit. Therefore the Apostle Paul messaged the Church of Ephesus with this revealed truth and blessedness of their state in Christ: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ **(Ephesians 1:3)**. This alone tells us of our blessed state as a Church because of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

By this truth, God wants His Church to be obedient, committed and faithful so that living and walking in His divine blessings would be by experience beyond knowledge of them. Hallelujah. Therefore don't sit on own blessings through disobedience, non – commitment and unfaithfulness. The bible says that Abraham believed God and it was accounted to Him as righteousness and was called a friend of God **(Romans 4:3, James 2:23)**.

New King James Bible Commentary: knows ... know – The first verb refers to innate knowledge; the second refers to the experiential knowledge. We could never have discovered the mysteries of God or the benefits of Christ's death by ourselves. But we can know them by experience because they have been freely given to us by God.

TO ALL CHURCHES LIKE THE ERSTWHILE CHURCH OF THE CORINTHIANS, WE MUST KNOW AND KEEP BELIEVING THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US THE HOLY SPIRIT SO THAT WE WILL KNOW ALL THINGS GIVEN FREELY IN CHRIST. IT MEANS TO SAY THAT WE CANNOT RECEIVE THE THINGS WE NEED FROM GOD OUTSIDE THE PARAMETERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

TO UNDERSTAND YOUR SALVATION IN CHRIST AND MATURE IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IS BEYOND INNATE KNOWLEDGE OR BOOK KNOWLEDGE BUT IT INVOLVES HAVING A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST BY THE REVELATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. THIS IS CALLED EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE.

PRAYER

Our wonderful God, we thank You that in Christ we have received all the blessings we need through the working of Your Holy Spirit.

Help us to overcome the spirit of the world which limits us in the fullness of Your grace.

In this truth and revelation, we rise up to our divine mandate in the power of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name. Amen.

WHENEVER YOU SEE A BELIEVING CHRISTIAN, CHRISTIAN LEADER AND MINISTER PROSPERING IN THE GRACE OF GOD, KNOW THAT IT IS BECAUSE OF FAITH, KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THEM, AND NEVER THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD. FOR THE

HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD WHO CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN IS NOT OF THE SAME WAVELENGTH WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD. NANA KWAKU DUODU

BOOK KNOWLEDGE OF THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS IS GOOD BUT EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE BY THE REVELATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS BETTER. YOU CAN ONLY EXPERIENCE THE ETERNAL BLESSINGS OF GOD IN CHRIST THROUGH FAITH AND NOT BY BIRTH AND LINEAGE, AND RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION AND LOCATION. NANA KWAKU DUODU

THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES AND HELPS US TO RELATE WITH THE SPIRITUAL

INSPIRATION

There are things of this world and there are things of God. But the latter reveals the power and role of the Holy Spirit in every spiritual sense as Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders. For the Minister of God teaches the things of God in Christ inspired and revealed by the Holy Spirit to the Church and to all people.

We read

1 Corinthians 2:13 – Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

The message of Apostle Paul to the Corinthians was that the words he spoke and wrote to them were not in man's wisdom but the Holy Spirit. Indeed he stated confidently that the Holy Spirit was their Teacher and Guide in their spoken and written words. In other words, Paul reminded them words inspired and taught by the Holy Spirit testified of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Messiah. These were not man made laws, as human wisdom, to regulate societal behaviour but the work and power of the Holy Spirit to reveal Christ and establish them in their Christian faith.

Also, Apostle Paul told the Corinthians the style of his Holy Spirit inspired messages to be comparing spiritual with the spiritual. The gospel of Jesus Christ, as the word of God, is spiritual and Paul spoke it to a targeted audience; the Church of Corinth. Therefore he spoke to a spiritual people because they were members of the Church who believed in spiritual things of God and not worldly things. Proving the messianic status and its fulfillment in Christ using the Old Testament with his apostolic ministry and words and epistle was also the spiritual comparison he emphasized to the Corinthians.

By this truth, it is an error to compare spiritual truths with worldly wisdom to convince the Church because they are contrary to one another. For there is no semblance between the Holy Spirit and the spirit of the world, the taste of God and the taste of the devil. Using worldly wisdom is good in specific contexts but that is not all. Indeed, it is belief in the word of God that makes the Holy Spirit sanctifies our hearts and minds in Christ and establish us in the Christian faith, and not the things of this world; even bad experiences.

According to the New King James Bible Commentary, the interpretation of spiritual truths with the spiritual are difficult to translate and interpret. The Greek term comparing may also mean “to combine” or “to interpret.” The two references to spiritual may interpreting spiritual truths to spiritual persons or else combining spiritual truths with spiritual words. The latter seems better. In other words, the phrase teaches that the spiritual truths of God are combined with the spiritual vocabulary of the apostles **(2 Peter 1:20 & 21, 2 Timothy 3:16)**.

Therefore the gospel of Jesus Christ should be preached, taught, explained and interpreted in the light of other scriptures and teachings and revelations of the Holy Spirit. Why because the Holy Spirit speaks and reveals Christ and the word of God to spiritual peoples whose words reflect their vocabulary. Likewise the Church is built in the foundation of our Lord Jesus Christ with spiritual truths and vocabulary of the Apostles and the Prophets to the Churches and not to the world **(Ephesians 2:20)**. Indeed Jesus Christ Himself is described as the Chief cornerstone **(Isaiah 28:16)**. For where the scriptures and Holy Spirit are involved, power of conviction and understanding and revelation come upon the Church and conviction to the world of sin to repent.

The bible says that the word of God to the Israelites was in bits and pieces like a child weaned from milk and drawn from the breasts. God spoke to them repeatedly: precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little but the disobedient were judged **(Isaiah 28:10, 13)**. Yes believe that when the Holy Spirit is involved in the Church, ministries and also the lives of people, scriptures are used to change and establish them accordingly. Knowing the state and condition of hearts and minds, He uses scriptures systematically or randomly to convince and persuade people concerning the spiritual truths of God in Christ.

Therefore don't just preach Christ in a vacuum but with scriptures in the revelation and power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that it is the Spirit that gives life but the flesh profits nothing. And the words He spoke to them are spirit and life **(John 6:63)**. Indeed the words of Jesus were Holy Spirit inspired to make the people believe and live the life of God. Being spiritual enables you to speak spiritual words to spiritual people as the Church and establish them in their Christian faith.

Be spiritual because the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Church flourishes spiritually other than the works of the flesh. Being prayerful is spiritual though not the only spirituality. Let our words reveal and declare our spirituality in the Church and among all kinds of people in Jesus' name. Amen.

New King James Bible Commentary: The Holy Spirit teaches – Paul emphasized that the intellectuals of the world could teach the knowledge he was giving to the

Corinthians. Note that the Spirit did not just dictate words to Paul and the other Apostles; He taught them. The Apostles related with their own vocabulary and style what they had learned from the Spirit.

Comparing spiritual with the spiritual: These words are difficult to translate and interpret. The Greek term translated comparing may also mean to “combine or to “interpret”. The two references to spiritual may mean interpreting spiritual truths to spiritual persons or else combining spiritual truths to spiritual words. The latter seems better. In other words, the phrase teaches that the spiritual truths of God are combined with the spiritual vocabulary of the Apostles (see 2 Peter 1:20 & 21, 2 Timothy 3:16).

PAUL MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN WORDS OF HUMAN WISDOM AND SPIRITUAL WORDS BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE CHURCH OF CORINTH. THE CHRISTIAN PREACHER SPEAKS BY THE INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO A TARGETED AUDIENCE OF SPIRITUAL PEOPLE WHOSE FAITH IS IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST FOR UNDERSTANDING, SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY.

COMPARING SPIRITUAL TRUTHS WITH THE SPIRITUAL ARE MEANINGFUL AND A BLESSING TO THE CHURCH UNLIKE UNBELIEVERS AND SINNERS. IT IS EVEN MORE MEANINGFUL TO THE MATURED THAN THE IMMATURE. KNOW THAT VOCABULARY DIFFERS BUT THE MEANING AND IMPORT OF THE GOSPEL TRUTHS REMAIN THE SAME.

UNTIL CONVICTION IS EMBRACED BY THE WORLD OF SIN, EVIL AND WICKEDNESS, COMPARING SPIRITUAL TRUTHS TO THE SPIRITUAL IS FOOLISHNESS AND NONSENSE TO THEM.

PRAYER

We pray O God that Your Holy Spirit teaches us to be spiritual through Your word in conviction, truth, understanding and revelation.

We pray also that the Church would be filled with committed Christians to make teachings of spiritual truths compared with the spiritual meaningful and a blessing.

We pray for a growing Church which has the benefit of quick understanding and obedience to Your word.

Help us to prove the gospel of Jesus Christ as the word of God and build Your Church through acts of spirituality and not worldly concepts of people and beliefs. For these areas, we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WHOEVER ENCOUNTERS JESUS CHRIST BECOMES SPIRITUAL, AND THE CHURCH HELPS US TO BE SPIRITUAL COMPARING SPIRITUAL TRUTHS WITH THE SPIRITUAL FOR TRUTH, CONVICTION, UNDERSTANDING, AND REVELATION. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

A CHURCH THAT DEPENDS ON THE HOLY SPIRIT TO SPEAK SPIRITUAL WORDS TEACH THE MEMBERS AND COMPARES THE SPIRITUAL WITH THE SPIRITUAL IS MARKED FOR ESTABLISHMENT IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY. BUT A CHURCH THAT USES HUMAN WISDOM TO TEACH MEMBERS IS MARKED FOR DISTORTION OF GOSPEL TRUTHS, NON – SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND IMMATURITY. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

THE NATURAL MAN IS AGAINST THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT

INSPIRATION

The umbilical cord of a baby connects to the mother in the womb and is only cut when the baby is born. This is a natural biological connection between mother and baby as God ordained it. Likewise water needs a pipe tube to flow in it into houses and homes of people. Also electric power needs electrical wires and cables into houses and homes and buildings from the main electric poles by the road sides and streets.

We read

1 Corinthians 2:14 – But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Concerning things of the Spirit, Apostle Paul declared confidently and boldly that the natural man does not accept them because they are foolishness unto him. It does not make sense to the natural mind and expectations, aspirations and goals, family, community, traditional, cultural and societal norms and expectations. It means that such worldly people hear the gospel of Jesus Christ as the word of God and yet they don't believe and accept them as good and a blessing to them.

Earlier Paul mentioned that the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ is foolishness to those who are perishing (**1 Corinthians 1:18**). Therefore the natural man is a person who believes and practices worldly wisdom to achieve things other than the wisdom of God by the Holy Spirit with people who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence the cross of Jesus is foolishness to him because of belief in cultural, traditional, religious and societal morals summed up in a life of self – righteousness.

Also the natural man does not know the things of God because they are spiritually discerned. Paul made the Corinthians aware so that they must not depend on the wisdom of this world but God's wisdom. It takes the Holy Spirit to know the things of God and the things God has for us in Christ. Since discernment of the things of God is achievable by

the gospel of Jesus Christ, the scriptures as the word of God, and the Holy Spirit, those who are not in Christ do not have the Holy Spirit to discern righteously and obey. Indeed our Churches must be filled with Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers.

Like all other Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers, we need to be spiritual through prayer, obedience to the complete gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, studying and being filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (**Colossians 1:9**), as well as being filled with the Holy Spirit and enjoying His leadings. Indeed we have to love righteousness and hate sin in order to receive the ministration of the Holy Spirit and become spiritual and mature. For those who are led by the Holy Spirit are the children of God (**Romans 8:14**).

That is we need to check the spirit of backsliding because the effects are the disobedience, non – discernment and conflicts and the devil and demons in our lives and the Church. Once people in the Church lose touch with the Holy Spirit, they lack discernment to know and function in the wisdom of God. Suddenly or gradually, they begin to trust in the wisdom of this world as superior to the wisdom of God in Christ by the Holy Spirit. The gospel of Jesus Christ, as the word of God, becomes foolishness to them because they believe it no longer.

Have you not heard people arguing strongly that Jesus did not die but fell into coma and came back in three days? Truly when backsliding is fueled by the natural mind and its perceptions, the end result is apostasy and total denial of all gospel truths. No wonder some people who were believing Christians and active in the Churches are advocates and practitioners of other religious faiths and occult as well as atheists. This is the natural mind and perception in human wisdom and never the spiritual mind and perception in Godly wisdom.

This is the New King James Bible Commentary: natural man – The natural man does not have the Spirit of God in contrast to the Christian who does have the Spirit (see **1 Corinthians 15:44 – 46**). Receive here means “to welcome.” This verb does not pertain to discovering the meaning of the passage but applying the meaning of life.

The bible talks about the great counselor of David, Ahithophel, whose words were so perfect and results oriented like God. But when he sided with Absalom against David, and against the will of God, it took king David’s prayer to God and turned his wisdom into foolishness (**2 Samuel 15:31**). From that time, the bible reveals that the good and perfect counsel of Ahithophel that would have nabbed David and his men was surprisingly rejected by Absalom because of the advice of Hushai the Archite (**2 Samuel 16:15 – 23, 17:1 – 5, 6 – 14**). Yes prayer works and makes foolishness and nonsense of enemies’ plans and purposes against the will of God in our lives, ministries and the Church. Keep praying and God will deliver you from spiritual and human enemies in Jesus’ name. Amen.

With David, Absalom and Ahithophel, it reveals and teaches the conditions and situations that prevail when foolishness is at work. So it is when people don’t discern the word of God and faith in Jesus Christ and works and fruit of the Holy Spirit because it is foolishness to them. If people outside the Church or people inside the Church disobey the

complete gospel of Jesus Christ, prophecy and walk of faith, it is because they perceive it as foolishness and are perishing in sin.

For the carnal mind is enmity against God and is not subject to the law of God. Besides the carnal mind is not spiritual to obey God (**Romans 8:6 & 7**). But if they obey, it is because they have revelation and perceive it as a blessing for them in this present world and eternity. For they are alive in Christ by the Holy Spirit unto God. Hallelujah. Therefore though we live in this world we do not make war according to the flesh but the Spirit in order to win the battle of faith. We fight the good fight of faith to lay hold on eternal life, having confessed our faith in Christ before a great crowd of witnesses as Paul told Timothy (**1 Timothy 6:12**). Trust the Holy Spirit's gifts, words, works and fruits as well as His instructions and direction to become successful in life, ministry and the Church. Be spiritual and live, but if you become carnal, you will die in sin and go to hell. REPENT!

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AS THE WORD OF GOD DOES NOT MAKE SENSE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE CARNAL AND NOT SPIRITUAL. FOR THEY DO NOT HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO UNDERSTAND AND RECEIVE REVELATION ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF APOSTLE PAUL. HEY WATCH OUT FOR PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS IN YOUR LIFE, MINISTRY AND THE CHURCH AND APPLY THE WISDOM OF GOD TO RELATE WITH THEM PRAYERFULLY AND CHOOSING YOUR WORKS CAREFULLY.

PRAYER

You are the Father of all lights and glory who has given us revelation in Christ by the Holy Spirit.

We are forever thankful to You O God for teaching us through the ministry of Apostle Paul that the natural mind does not perceive and understand the things of God. Let the light of Your mercy and revelation shine into them for belief in Christ and the totality of Your word.

Knowing the consequences of being a natural man other than a spiritual man, we pray that we overcome every temptation to sin and backslide in our Christian lives, ministries and the Church.

Help us with the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to be spiritually minded and not carnally minded to discern Your will and obey. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WHENEVER THE CHURCH BECOMES CORRUPT WITH SIN OF DISOBEDIENCE, AND CONFLICTS AND GENERALLY WORKS OF THE FLESH, IT MEANS THAT THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS HAVE PLANTED SEEDS OF CARNAL MINDS THAT MAKES THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST FOOLISHNESS TO THEM. FOR CARNAL MINDS DO NOT DISCERN THE BLESSINGS IN THE WORD AND WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST UNLIKE SPIRITUALLY MINDED PEOPLE FILLED AND LED AND TAUGHT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. KNOW WHERE YOU STAND IN CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

NANA KWAKU DUODU

THE AUTHORITY OF THE SPIRITUAL PERSON IN CHRIST

INSPIRATION

A Judge makes decisions that conform to the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of a country, organization, institution, company, groups and associations and Churches. This is done in the face of presented cases and facts as well as right to fair trial and judicial process. Lawyers are present to speak on behalf of the complainant and the defendant. And this is one of the tenets of democracy where the judiciary is allowed to interpret the laws and enforce them for societal harmony.

Yet the Church knows the greatest Lawyer of all times who speaks and intercedes to the Father on behalf of the Church of Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders, and all people; our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We read

1 Corinthians 2:15 – But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

Earlier Paul had mentioned that the natural person does not have the Spirit of God in contrast to the Christian who has it in power, wisdom and revelation and unto performance of righteous works. By this truth, Paul emphasized on the worth of a spiritual person who has the Holy Spirit to discern, receive, welcome, accept, acknowledge, confess and obey gospel truths as spiritual things.

O what a mystery revealed that the spiritual person in Christ judges all things but cannot be judged by another person; that is an unbeliever and sinner. This was Apostle Paul's enlightenment of the Corinthians about their authority in Christ. What he meant was that the Holy Spirit filled and led Believing Christian, Christian leader and Minister has the capacity to distinguish between good and evil, righteousness and sin, holy and corrupt, works of faith and works of the flesh. The gift of discerning of spirits enables him or her to make judgments of the sinful and evil lives and lifestyles of people.

Therefore the spiritual person judges all things by the gospel of Jesus Christ as heaven's constitution with the Old Testament because it makes us understand better the New Testament. Hence the Church has the spiritual authority to judge the devil and his demons, idol worshipers, corrupt politicians, bankers, managers, criminals, ritualists, negative laws with moral consequences in communities and society. Even corrupt and backsliding Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers can be judged by spiritually minded people in the authority of Christ as the Church. This justified Paul's righteous instructions, corrections, rebuke and judgments on the sinful and corrupt Corinthians in the Church **(1 Corinthians 4:6, 18 & 19, 5:1 & 2, 13:4e).**

The second message in this context was that the spiritual person cannot be judged by the natural person with the instincts of a sinful and corrupt person before God. Here Paul referred to the gospel of Jesus Christ as the standard for discernment and judgment. Since sinners and unbelievers do not believe in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, they

do not have the Holy Spirit to discern and know what is Christian or not, scriptural or story, worldly practices or spiritual practices, holy and unholy.

According to the gospel of Paul, no one can judge the Church as long as we are filled and led by the Holy Spirit and performing works of righteousness in the power of the Holy Spirit. Yes your gift and fruit of the Holy Spirit cannot be judged, and ministries given by the Lord Jesus Christ cannot be judged and condemned by sinners and unbelievers. When the opposite happens, this is a clear violation of the word of God and there is the need to correct errors and instill righteousness in the lives of people especially the Church.

This is a reminder of Jesus' response to the Jewish religious authority and the Roman authority when they questioned Him about what authority He used to do His healings and perform miracles. Jesus' answer to them was that once they were not able to answer Him about the power behind John's baptism, He would not tell them also by what authority He used to heal the sick and performed miracles; a clear rebuke **(Matthew 21:23 – 27)**. Clearly the chief priests and elders could not discern and speak the truth of God's power behind John's baptism because they were blinded religiously and missed the visitation of the LORD.

But when this same question was thrown to Paul, he testified about power in the name of Jesus to heal the sick and deliver all those in affliction. For the time was right to reveal Christ's resurrection power from the grave **(Acts 4:7 – 12)**.

Let me say here that this is not about freedom of religion and freedom of expression as pertains in constitutions of countries. For it is rather about the gospel of Jesus Christ as God's final word to the world to save people eternally; spoken through His Son **(Hebrews 1:1 – 4)**. This confirmed Paul's show of concern and determination to know about Christ's formation in their lives, ministries and the Church of the Corinthians **(1 Corinthians 2:2)**.

This teaches us to maintain our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ always without backsliding and enter into the state of apostasy. With this spiritual authority in Christ by the Holy Spirit, we can judge all people, things and situations of sin, evil and wickedness. But we cannot be judged of our faith in Christ by the natural law of sinners and unbelievers **(John 8:15a)** because the Holy Spirit is in us and leads righteously **(Romans 8:14)**. Once the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin and of righteousness and judgment, then our judgments of sin of unbelief and disobedience to the complete gospel of Jesus Christ is inevitable **(John 16:8)**. Let me remind you that the pronouncement judgment against deceitful Ananias and his wife Sapphira was of the Holy Spirit because they lied to Him before the Church **(Acts 5:1 – 11)**.

Our confidence as a Church is also in the gospel truth God has delegated to the Son Jesus Christ the power to judge as Author of eternal salvation **(John 5:22 & 30, 8:16, 12:48)**. Therefore be confident and bold to confess your faith in Jesus Christ and judge all things prayerfully and scripturally; the gospel of Jesus Christ. I tell you the truth that once the first Christian who sees corruption in the Church is the first to take a righteous action and correct it, the Church will be holy unto the LORD.

FROM THE GOSPEL OF APOSTLE PAUL, GOD HAS PLACED A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY ON THE CHURCH TO JUDGE ALL THINGS WITH AN IMMUNITY CLAUSE OF PROTECTION. THIS IS BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS IN US TO MAKE RIGHTEOUS DECISIONS IN CHRIST UNTO GOD, AND NOT BAD DECISIONS.

THEREFORE DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY THE UNAUTHORIZED CONCLUSIONS AND JUDGMENTS FROM NATURAL PERSONS WHO DO NOT HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO PERCEIVE AND APPRECIATE SPIRITUAL THINGS OF GOD IN CHRIST. BE FOCUSED.

PRAYER

Dear God, I pray that we have the grace of the baptism of the Holy Spirit to maintain our faith in Christ and be filled and led by Your Holy Spirit.

Help us to walk and abide in the revelation of judging all things as spiritual persons. Help us to maintain our faith in Christ always so that we can bring sanity into the Lord's Church, people and situations.

We pray that our families, and all people benefit from the anointing upon our lives, ministries and the Church.

Grant us also the confidence and boldness to resist any negative pressure against our Christian lives, services and works of righteousness, ministries and the Church.

For no one judges our righteousness and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as sinners and unbelievers to discourage us. In Jesus' name we pray and overcome. Amen.

THE SUPERIORITY OF THE CHURCH OF BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, CHURCH WORKERS, CHURCH LEADERS, MINISTERS AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS OVER SINNERS AND UNBELIEVERS IS TO JUDGE ALL THINGS RIGHTEOUSLY AS SPIRITUAL PEOPLE. FOR THE NATURAL PERSON AS SINNERS AND UNBELIEVERS HAVE THE TENDENCY TO SHOW FORTH ANIMALISTIC AND DEMONIC TRAITS OF AGGRESSION TO STEAL, KILL AND DESTROY. BUT NO ONE JUDGES HAS THE DIVINE RIGHT TO JUDGE THE CHURCH BECAUSE THE STANDARD IS BELIEF AND LIVING IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. HALLELUJAH. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY; KNOWING AND HAVING THE MIND OF CHRIST

INSPIRATION

When your decisions and actions are backed by law or a supreme authority and personality, your confidence level goes up and boldness level makes a way for you. So it was with Apostle Paul's emphasis of his revelation and authority of the Church to judge all things and straighten any crooked area, distorted and disjointed gospel truths.

Besides, no person judges the thoughts, words and works of God in Christ by the Holy Spirit as Believing Christians, Christian leaders and Ministers. Hence Paul's statement of truth that spiritual authority is given to correct all that is wrong, false, crooked, sin, evil and wickedness in and outside the Church.

We read

1 Corinthians 2:16 – For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Paul defended his position on given spiritual authority by questioning all challengers to Christ's delegated authority to the Church. For no one has known the mind of Christ to instruct Him. In other words who can instruct the Lord Jesus Christ as the Head of the Church? There is no – one because He had the mind of the Father to be the Author of eternal salvation and instituted righteousness by faith for all people in every nation to believe and be saved eternally.

It means to say that there is no one to search and fathom the full knowledge of God in Christ as sinners and unbelievers unless grace is given by God in Christ by the Holy Spirit **(Romans 11:33, Ephesians 3:8)**. For this was hidden in God from the foundations of the world but now revealed in Christ through the Holy Spirit **(1 Corinthians 2:6 – 8)**.

Indeed Paul's message re-emphasized his earlier message that the natural man does not have what it takes to receive the things of the Spirit because they are foolishness to him. Only those who believe in Christ see it as the power of God unto salvation **(1 Corinthians 1:18)**.

Besides the natural person cannot know the things of the Spirit because they are spiritually discerned **(1 Corinthians 2:14)**. Therefore it is clearly impossible for anyone to judge Christ and instruct Him, or determine how the Church is managed leaving the bible and role of the Holy Spirit. Yes even the Church of Believing Christians, Church workers, Church leaders, Ministers and Christian leaders with the mind of Christ cannot instruct Him but only obey.

The good news is that Paul gave hope to the Corinthians that the Church has the mind of Christ to receive the things of the Spirit because they were a blessing to them. Second we have the mind of Christ to know and discern all things by the Holy Spirit; something which the spirit of the world cannot do in sinners and unbelieving people.

Yes the mind of Christ depends on God all the time to seek and know and experience Him. It reflects in our prayers to God in the name of Jesus and enjoyment of the leading of the Holy Spirit. The bible says that we should make the word of Christ dwell in us richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, and singing with in grace in our hearts to the Lord **(Colossians 3:16)**. We are to say and do all things in the name of Jesus giving thanks to God the Father through Him **(Colossians 3:17)**.

The mind of Christ is totally dependent on God and is a walk of faith (believe and see) and not by sight (see and believe) **(2 Corinthians 5:7)**. Truly we speak the word of God as inspired by the Holy Spirit. Since the foolishness of God is far higher than the wisdom of man, it means to trust in the former always but not in the latter. This makes relevant the gospel of Jesus Christ to us who believe.

Know that the mind of Christ teaches us also to be humble and depend on God's grace all the time. The bible says that we need to have the mind to be humble just like our Lord Jesus Christ; taking the form of a bondservant in the likeness of man. It is worthy to follow Christ's righteous example of putting aside His majesty and humbled Himself unto death on the cross in obedience to God. Therefore God exalted Him by raising Him from the dead, and exalted Him to have a revered and authoritative name recognized in heaven and on earth. That every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God **(Philippians 2:5 – 11)**.

As I conclude Paul's teaching on **1 Corinthians chapter 2**, let us remember that knowing and having the mind of Christ makes us spiritual and not carnal in any way. Be prayerful and discern Jesus Christ in the scriptures because the Holy Spirit testifies of Him always as the Son of God, Messiah and the Christ. Maintain your Christian faith because the Holy Spirit is in you also as Helper and Teacher.

ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF PAUL, THE CARNAL PERSON CANNOT FATHOM THE DEPTHS AND WISDOM OF CHRIST TO INSTRUCT HIM. BUT WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST TO SUBMIT AND OBEY HIM IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TESTIFIES OF HIM ALWAYS AS THE SON OF GOD, MESSIAH AND THE CHRIST.

PRAYER

We thank You O God as a Church to have the mind of Christ to obey and not question and challenge Your authority and works of righteousness for our blessing.

Help us to be focused and meditate on the scriptures and filled and led by Your Holy Spirit unto perfect submission and obedience.

Help us also to use our spiritual authority to make Your Church a place of prayer and righteousness for all nations; and not give place to the devil and enemies of

righteousness to challenge and question Your authority, ministries, gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit.

As we pray and know and discern Your perfect will for us, let the mind of Christ be our portion in the name of Jesus. Amen.

HAVING THE MIND OF CHRIST MAKES OUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY MANIFESTED IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HONOUR AND GLORIFY GOD IN OUR LIVES, MINISTRIES AND THE CHURCH. BUT THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST MAKE THE MISTAKE OF INSTRUCTING HIM. THEREFORE WE GIVE NO PLACE TO THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS AND ENEMIES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS TO QUESTION AND CHALLENGE THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST AND THE HOLY SPIRIT ROLE AND WORKS IN OUR LIVES, MINISTRIES AND THE CHURCH. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**

THE CARNAL PERSON DOES NOT HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST LEST TO EVEN APPRECIATE AND JUDGE RIGHTEOUSLY MINISTRIES, GIFTS AND FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITY OF FAITH AND PURPOSE AND WILL OF GOD. INDEED, A TRUE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST AS A SPIRITUAL PERSON COMMANDS OBEDIENCE TO HIM, AND JUDGMENT OF ALL THINGS. **NANA KWAKU DUODU**



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