

AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS

A study of First Corinthians

IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE CROSS

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Jeff Schreve

For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

What are the three primary responses to the cross of Christ?

1. Some are like the Greeks and think it is foolishness.

*But we preach Christ crucified ... to Gentiles foolishness.
1 Corinthians 1:23*

A. These people view the cross as utterly absurd.

*Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead,
some began to sneer ... Acts 17:32*

B. These people get hung up on wisdom.

Greeks search for wisdom. 1 Corinthians 1:22

*See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy
[the love of wisdom] and empty deception, according to the
tradition of men, according to the elementary principles
of the world, rather than according to Christ.*

Colossians 2:8

2. Some are like the Jews and think it is a stumbling block.

A. These people view the cross as scandalous.

*From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go
to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests
and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. Peter
took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid it,
Lord! This shall never happen to You." Matthew 16:21-22*

B. These people get hung up on signs.

For indeed Jews asks for signs ... 1 Corinthians 1:22

An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign.

Matthew 16:4

And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs ...

Revelation 13:13-14

3. Some are like Paul and think it is the salvation of God.

But to those who are the called both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 1 Corinthians 1:24

A. These people view the cross as man's only hope.

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me. John 14:6

B. These people get hung up on Jesus.

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21

When it comes down to the cross, where are you?
