

The background of the slide is a religious painting. It depicts a heavenly city with a long, winding bridge made of white arches supported by golden pillars. In the distance, a large, multi-story building with many arched windows stands on a hill. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and a bright sun or moon is visible on the right side. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

**GOD HATH MADE FOOLISH
THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD**

Is God's Wisdom Gaining Ground In Us?

Class 4

GOD HATH MADE FOOLISH THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD

- 1. The Wisdom of Man**
- 2. The Wisdom Of God**
- 3. Man's Wisdom Hides God's Wisdom**
4. Is God's Wisdom Gaining Ground In Us?
5. He That Judgeth Me Is The Lord
6. The Power Of The Cross

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1 CORINTHIANS 3

- 1. Their divided ecclesia was proof of the lack of spiritual development**
- 2. The field - Get past the divisions to get the work done.**
- 3. The building - Do not bring man's wisdom into the ecclesia.**

GOD HATH MADE FOOLISH THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD

1. The Wisdom of Man

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• Hebrews 5:11-14

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1 Corinthians 3

¹ And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto **carnal**, even as unto babes in Christ.

- **carnal** - **man's natural thinking**

1 Corinthians 3

² I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able.

- Paul started with simple principles because they were new to the truth.

1 Corinthians 3

³ For ye are yet carnal:
for whereas there is
among you **envying**,
and **strife**, and **divisions**,
are ye not carnal, and
walk as men?

- ▶ **envying** - jealous of each other; *God's mission is not first in your lives*
- ▶ **strife** - quarreling and wrangling; *you think it is about you*
- ▶ **divisions** - factions, lack of unity; *you cannot work as a team*

An excellent test *for us!*

1 Corinthians 3

⁴ For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I *am* of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

- ▶ You **MUST** still be thinking carnally if you are taking pride in your factions.

1 Corinthians 3

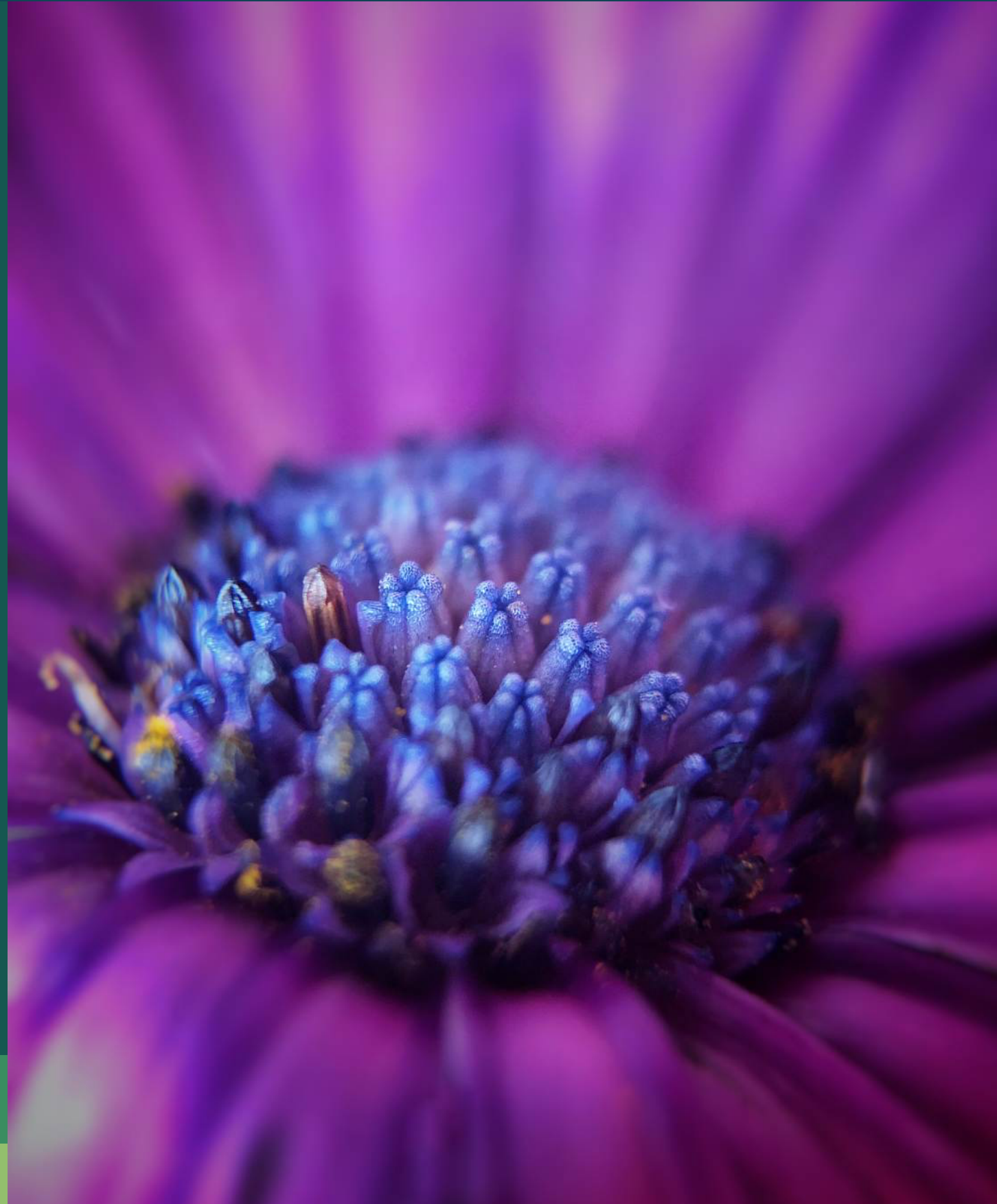
⁵ Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but **ministers** by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

- **ministers** = a servant to run errands

Paul and Apollos were just doing the errand running that they had been assigned.

1 Corinthians 3

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.



1 Corinthians 3

⁷ So then neither is he
that planteth any thing,
neither he that
watereth; but God that
giveth the increase.

- The glory goes to God.

1 Corinthians 3

**⁸ Now he that planteth
and he that watereth are
one: and every man
shall receive his own
reward according to his
own labour.**

- ▶ **Even though we are
working together, we are
rewarded individually.**

1 Corinthians 3

⁹ For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

- ▶ We are working with God.
- ▶ We are God's field.

1 Corinthians 3

¹⁰ According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

- ▶ Paul was chosen by God to lay the foundation by preaching
- ▶ Others need to build consistently with God's plan.

1 Corinthians 3

11 For other foundation can
no man lay than that is laid,
which is Jesus Christ.

- The foundation is the cross of Christ; everything has to be compatible with this.

1 Corinthians 3

¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation **gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;**

- ▶ **gold, silver, precious stones** - very durable, hard to find
- ▶ **wood, hay, stubble** - not durable at all, very common

1 Corinthians 3

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

- ▶ **Every man's work = Our contributions to the ecclesia**
- ▶ **The quality of our contributions matter. They will be judged by God's judgements and trials.**

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- 1 Peter 1:6-7

1 Corinthians 3

**14 If any man's work abide
which he hath built
thereupon, he shall receive
a reward.**

- ▶ **If our work survives God's judgments and trials, we will be rewarded.**

1 Corinthians 3

¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

► NIRV

¹⁵ If the building burns up, the builder will lose everything. The builder will be saved, but only like one escaping through the flames.

1 Corinthians 3

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- Mark 9:16-19
- Mark 9:28-35

1 Corinthians 3

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; **yet so as by fire.**

► NIRV

15 If the building burns up, **yet so as by fire** - the idea of, 'by the skin of their teeth'. The builder will be saved, but only like one escaping through the flames.

- Mark 9:16-19
- Mark 9:28-35

1 Corinthians 3

16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

- ▶ Paul alludes to **Exodus 25:8** "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them."
- ▶ It is the spirit of God that must dwell in us.

1 Corinthians 3

¹⁷ If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

- If we corrupt the ecclesia
God will act to remove us.

1 Corinthians 3

1⁸ Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

- ▶ **It is to be expected that there will be some in the ecclesia who have the wisdom of the world. They need to work for real wisdom.**

1 Corinthians 3

19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

- ▶ **We cannot fool God.**

1 Corinthians 3

²⁰ And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

- ▶ Psa 94:11-12- "The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity. Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law"
- ▶ We cannot fool God because He knows our thoughts.

1 Corinthians 3

**21 Therefore let no man
glory in men. For all things
are yours;**

- ▶ **No one should be elevated**
- ▶ **Everything (and everyone)
has been given to us to
accomplish God's purpose.**

1 Corinthians 3

²² Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

- ▶ Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas - everyone
- ▶ world - world was created to complete God's purpose
- ▶ life - people are born to complete His purpose
- ▶ death - lives are lost to complete His purpose.

1 Corinthians 3

²³ And ye are Christ's; and Christ *is* God's.

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