

Hidden Wisdom

By David Pyles

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. – 1Cor 2:7-8

The “*hidden wisdom*” to which Paul here referred is not some special form of logic that defies our ordinary rules of reason. If God’s logic were different from our logic, then we would be in a perpetual predicament, not knowing whose logic to use. Instead, the apostle was probably referring to the fact that Jesus Christ and His New Testament redemption were the theme of all the Old Testament, but oftentimes hidden in symbolism and allegory. Its true meaning would not be fully known until revealed by the Holy Ghost in New Testament times.

It is unmistakably clear in retrospect that God repeatedly orchestrated circumstances and events in the Old Testament to foretell of His Son. Examples are in the lives of Adam, Noah, Melchizedek, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Samson, Gideon, David, Elijah, Elisha and others. Add to these the many rituals of the Law, all of which were designed to foretell things of Christ and the salvation He would bring. These hidden prophecies pertained to both His first and second comings. They are so abundant as to surpass even the numerous explicit prophecies concerning Him.

Paul said these hidden teachings were ordained before the world. The underlying Greek for “*ordained before*” is the same as what is elsewhere translated “*predestinated*.” The meaning is that these hidden prophetic teachings concerning Christ were not accidental; rather, they were purposed and planned in eternity, and were orchestrated by the invisible hand of divine providence in time. For example, the numerous parallelisms between the story of Joseph and the story of Christ show that predestination played a strong role in Joseph’s life. This further shows that “*hidden wisdom*” cannot mean some esoteric form of logic because the logic of God was not predestinated. His logic is as old as He is.

This “*hidden wisdom*” distinguishes Christianity from all other religions of the world. Those religions are the inventions of men, but the religion of Christ was designed before man existed, and was prophesied in ways and degrees far surpassing human ability. When it is examined under our own logic, no other conclusion can be drawn under a sufficient sense of science.

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