

[1 Corinthians]

# Lesson 2

**God's Wisdom**

**Vs.**

**World's Wisdom**

**(1 Corinthian 1:19-31)**



# 1. God Makes Foolish the World's Wisdom.



(1 Corinthians 1:19) *For it is written, I (God) will destroy the wisdom of the wise [world], and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent (smart) [world]. (20) Where is the wise? where is the scribe (teacher [Jew])? where is the disputer (arguing person [Greek]) of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?*

Where? = What happened?

“made foolish” = show it is worthless (no good) or lacking (not have/missing).



God made foolish Cain's wisdom.

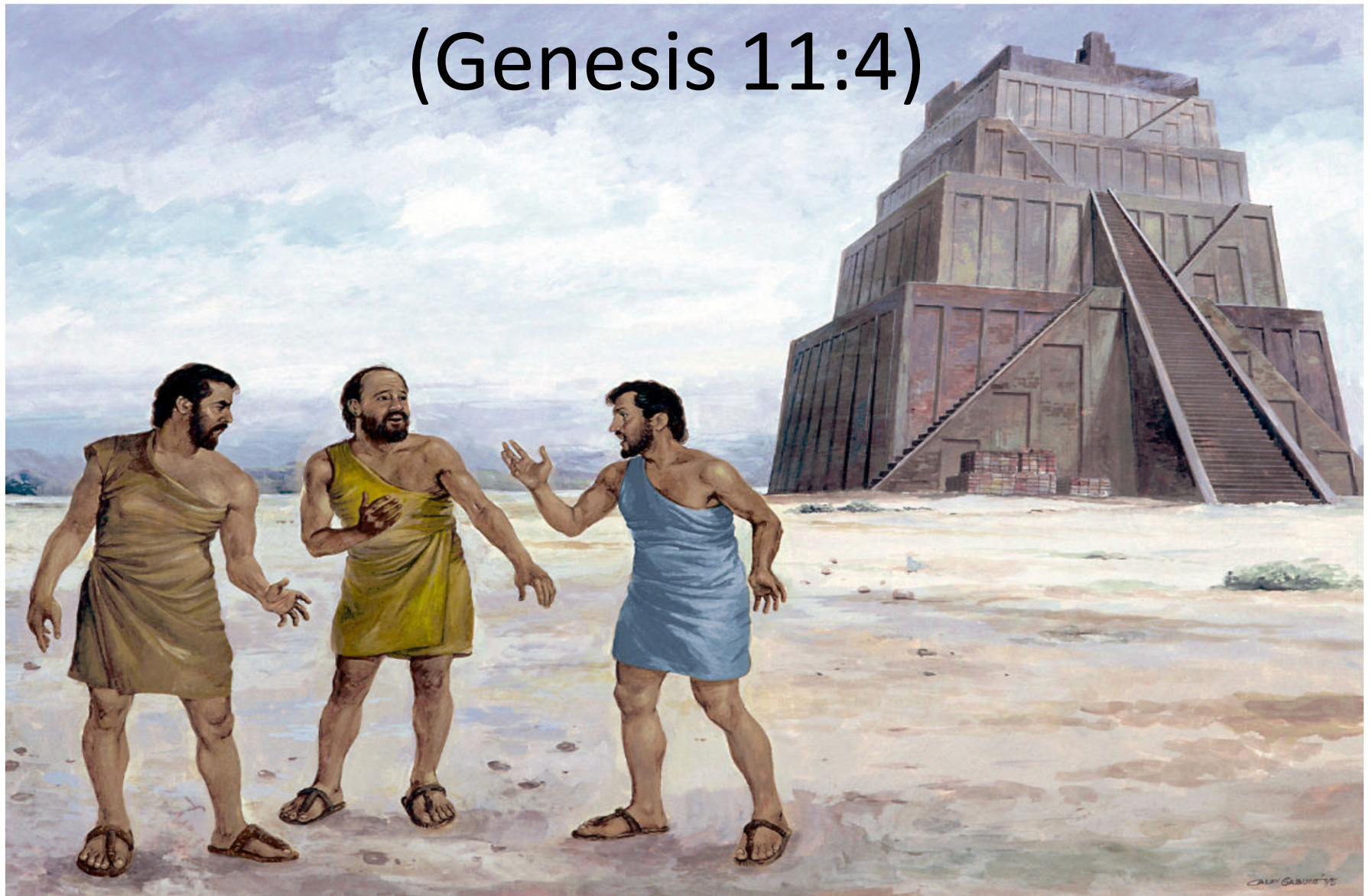
(Gen. 4:5)

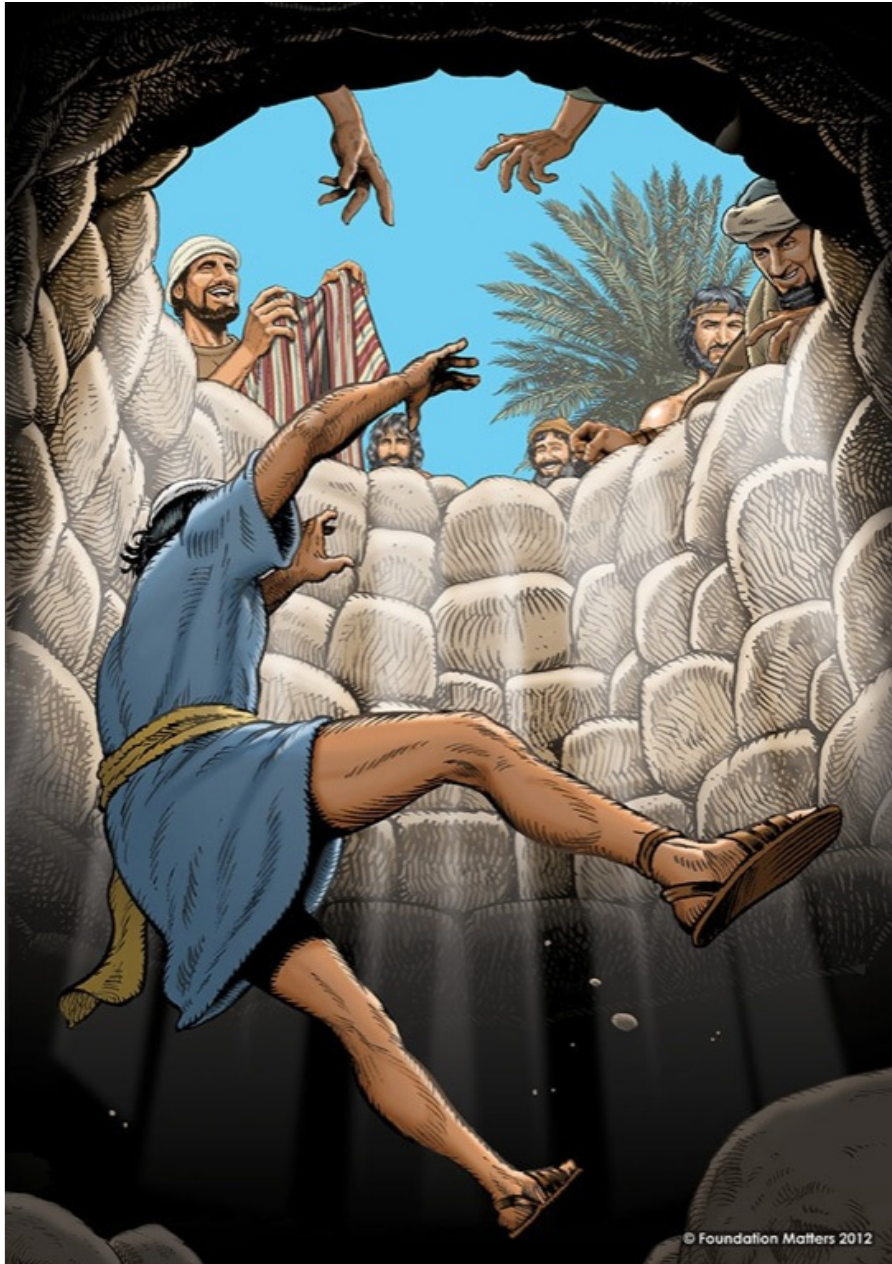




God made foolish Tower of Babel  
wisdom.

(Genesis 11:4)





God made foolish  
Joseph's brother's  
wisdom.  
(Genesis 11:4)

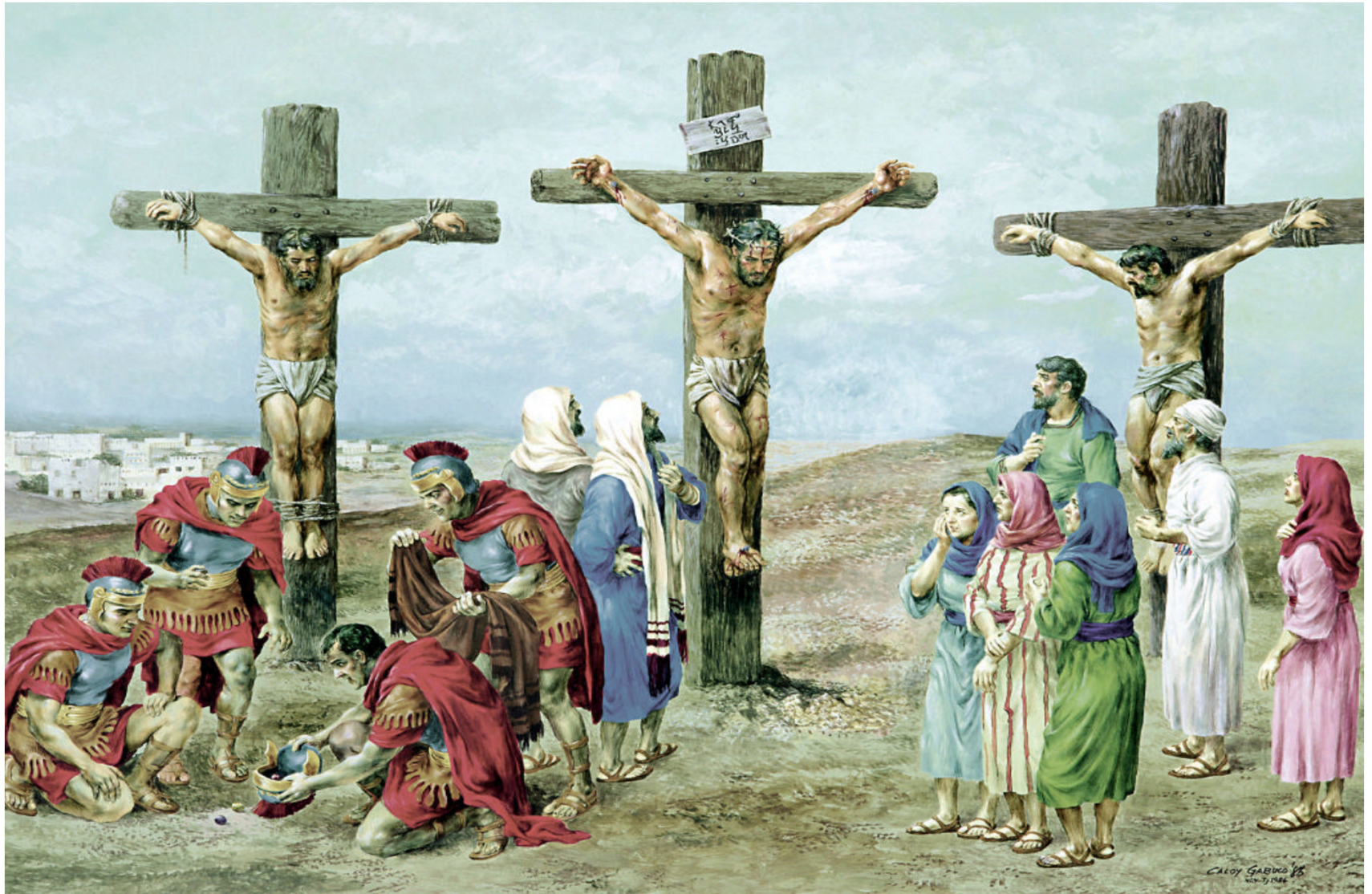




God made  
foolish Egypt's  
wisdom.



God made foolish the Jewish leader's wisdom.





## 2. God Saves People

By Easy Faith in His Easy Word.

(World thinks: *Easy = foolish [worthless/lacking]*)



PREACHING

(1 Corinthians 1:21) *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased (happy) God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*

\*God's wise/good plan to save people.

\*Man's ideas cannot give eternal life.

\*Teaching the Bible can give eternal life.

Faith in God's Word is most easy.



(1 Corinthians 1:22) *For the Jews require (must) a sign [proof from Heaven—angel/power], and the Greeks seek after wisdom [good idea/arguing good]: (23) But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock (fall over stone), and unto the Greeks foolishness;*

\*God let His Son die = not a **sign** to Jews.

\*God let His Son die = not good **idea** to Greeks.

\*Paul only preached the Gospel—same for us.

God only gave Noah/people His **Word**;  
God gave no **sign** or **argument**.

(Genesis 6:13-18)





(1 Corinthians 1:24) *But unto them which are called (give job/office [become Christian]), both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.*

\*God's wise and powerful plan to save believers from the power of Satan, sin, and death.



(1 Corinthians 1:25) *Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

\*Proud men think it is foolish that God would let His enemies kill His Son.

\*\*But the death of the Son of God was the only way to save sinners from eternal death.

\*Jesus on the cross looked weak to mockers. [Mark 15:29-32]

\*\*But God was in control providing salvation for all the world.





### **3. God Chose Weak and Simple People to Shame the Powerful and Proud.**



(1 Corinthians 1:26) *For ye see your calling (give job/office [become Christian]), brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh (world's wisdom), not many mighty [king...], not many noble (respected person), are called:*





(1 Corinthians 1:27) *But **God hath chosen** [God's plan] the **foolish** (worthless/lacking) things of the world to confound (shame) the wise; and **God hath chosen** the **weak** things of the world to confound (shame) the things which are mighty;*

[Acts 4:10-13] God chose to use uneducated fishermen to put to shame the proud religious leaders.



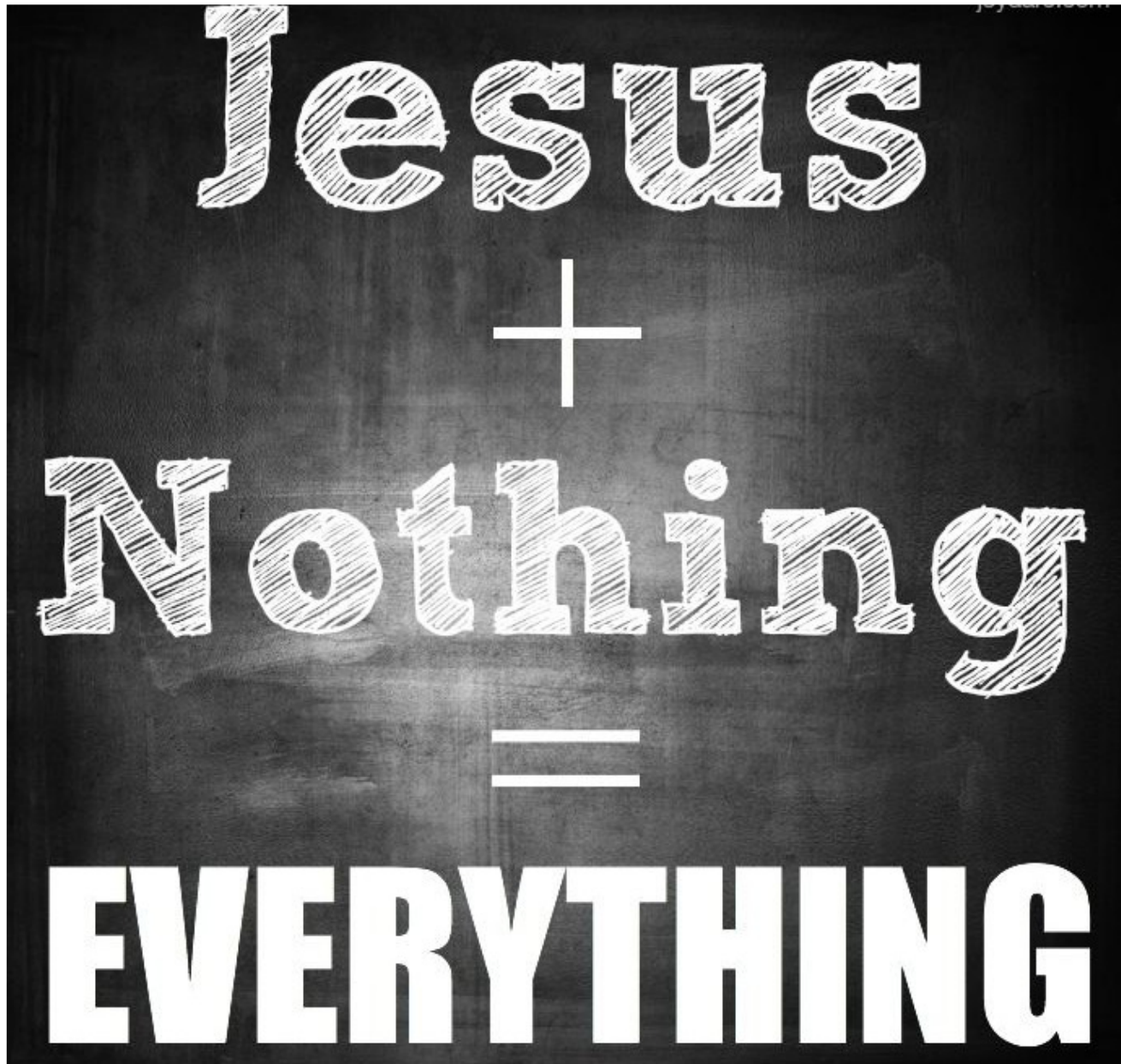
(1 Corinthians 1:28) *And **base** (*low/poor*) things of the world, and things which are **despised** (*hated*), hath **God chosen**, yea, and **things which are not** (*nothing/worthless*), to bring to nought (*nothing/worthless*) things that are [*great*]:*

(29) **That no flesh** (*people*) should glory in **his** (*God's*) presence.

**\*God must receive 100% glory.**



## 4. Jesus Is All We Need.



Jesus  
+  
Nothing  
=  
**EVERYTHING**

(1 Corinthians 1:30) *But of him (God) are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:*

\*With Jesus, we can think right. [Eph. 5:17-18; Rom. 12:1-2]

\*With Jesus, we are declared right [Rom. 5:1; 8:1].

\*With Jesus, we can serve God. [Rom. 6:11-13]

\* With Jesus, we are free from sin and death. [Eph. 6:17]



(1 Corinthians 1:31) *That, according as it is written, He that glorieth (show great/good), let him glory in the Lord.*

\*God must receive 100% glory.

\*\*We should not boast (**glory**) in ourselves, our church, or any man; all our boasting (**glory**) should be in God and His work—the Cross of Christ.