

Saint Paul is going on juxtaposing human wisdom to God's wisdom, the wisdom of this world to the Heavenly one, the wisdom of the Spirit to the carnal one.

Yet, today, Saint Paul's reflection is even more radical and profound: he is directly addressing the Christians living in Corinth, and he is asking them, exhorting them, to consider their own human reality, their worldly reality.

He is telling them: you were not chosen because you were wise by human standards, not because you were strong and of noble birth, but you were chosen because you were weak, excluded, you were part of the lower classes, of the masses, you did not belong to the *élite*...

God chose just you for this reason, so that through your weakness he could display His Power.

So, why are you now trying to become wise by human standards? Why are you trying to become wise according to the flesh? Why are you trying to acquire a worldly and carnal logic?

Thoroughly accept your weakness, your frailty, your misery, and make it become your strength; this is what Saint Paul told them, and this is what he tells us too...

So let us stop worrying about what we are: rich or poor, educated or uneducated, belonging to a noble or to a working class family, it does not matter!

The more we are considered marginal and excluded in this world, the more we may have the possibility to become God's friends. But attention! I said "we may have the possibility": our state of marginalisation does not automatically render us God's friends!

It is a very subtle matter, we must get to know that all our struggle and toil must aim at pleasing God, not at pleasing men! We must follow the logic of the Gospel, not the logic of the flesh.

In this way, if we are despised, we accept it for God's sake.

If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also – said the Lord...

If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them...

Here is the paradox of Christian life: not to follow the logic of the world any more, but to follow only the one which comes from God, and trust it.

Faith consists just in this. A mature and existential faith consists in trusting the Christian paradox: *when I am weak, then I am strong!*

May the Lord give us the wisdom of the cross. **This is the real cross: not to try to please men, not to try to be revered and esteemed by men, but to seek only the glory which comes from God.**

Confidently let us ask the Lord for this gift, let us remember and support each other through the prayer. Please pray for me, so that I may live the *Word* I preach, and I will pray for you, so that you may embrace this *Word* I announce to you.

May Jesus Christ be praised.