

The Crowns in Corinthians – 2 “Perfect”
Pastor O’Dorisio – August 20, 2025
Bible Text: [1 Corinthians 2:5-13](#); [Psalm 47:4](#) ...

<https://livingwatersternacle.com/sermons/08-20-25-the-crowns-in-corinthians-2/>

Alright, on with The Crowns In the Corinthians. And go ahead and open your bibles to First Corinthians Chapter Two. And last week as we opened it up, we saw that the very first thing that the Holy Ghost brought through Paul to these people, was the crown is for the base. It’s the crown of the base. Remember the Lord has chosen the weak things; the base things, the foolish things to confound the wise, but that’s what God has chosen, and I thank the Lord we’re here. I’m grateful to God, even if the Lord has allowed you to achieve some things, and all of that, when you really know this gospel, and you love this gospel I’ll tell you one thing, all you can do is say oh wretched man that I am, thank You Jesus and I’m grateful to that. That reality not in any way, but just the awe of God, that’s just when I’m just as they call it the fear of God. You’re in just such awe of His grace, His mercy, His election of grace that chose the likes of us. Foreknew us, and the before ordained good works that we should walk therein. This is God. 01:12

This is God, that you know I was up there just for one night, I had to do some work up in the mountains, and there wasn’t any moon up there. And there as you got in the late, I walked out on that little deck and looked up. It just looked like twinkle, twinkle everywhere, and then you know you’re looking at the milky way, and it just looks like somebody’s poured milk right out there on that thing, and to think of it as I told Polly, I said now honey, think of that, there’s more of them stars up there than every sand on every beach, and every ocean, and every desert. There’re more stars than all those grains of sand. And yet this is the God that says I chose you before the foundation of all of it. And let this really soak into us saints. Again, why wouldn’t it be anything but that with God? I mean really, why wouldn’t it be? He’s the God that could speak that. He’s the God that’s going to have His desire. And this is the story praise the Lord is the blood of the Lamb. And that Lamb’s wife, and I’m so grateful to God that the simplicity of faith to believe the Lord that nothing is hard that He truly does freely give us all things; all things, everything. We have it, it’s been done, we’ve been blessed with everything. Everything, it’s been done 02:39

So, there isn’t anything to do but to grow up in the knowledge of it, and grow up in the appreciation of it, the thankfulness of it, and to grow in the knowledge of the love that gave it to me, amen? Isn’t that enjoying life; that’s just the epitome of it all? And then it’s like and Lord, You love me. It is, and Lord it’s just like that Shulamite; I am my Beloveds, and His desire; God’s desire, the I Am that I Am, the very God of very God is toward me. It’s just crazy. I don’t know how else to say it but it’s true, I’m not being light in front of you, it’s exhilarating, it’s like you’re, you know Polly’s seventeen. So, there you go.

03:40

Tonight, we're going on to the crown of the perfect. The crown of the base, now we're at the crown of the perfect, so let's go ahead and read from First Corinthians Chapter Two. We read this many times and thanks be to God we have, and I know the Lord will even give us more and Paul speaks. That's your faith, your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men; it doesn't matter who that man is. It does not matter, it doesn't matter what kind of reputation, it doesn't matter how man accolades or those things. You be a Berean saint and you search the scriptures. By the grace of God search them out. Always search them out. I thank the Lord; we search out these things together. That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect, and here we go. 04:38

But Paul speaks this wisdom among them that are perfect, yet not the wisdom of the world, nor the princes of the world, that come to naught, but we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom which God ordained. We spoke about that just last Sunday that God, He gave us an appointment with this before, again before the world. It was appointed to us before the world and not just appointed to us to have an appointment, He tells us specifically what it's for, and to our glory. And to our glory, hallelujah which none of the princes of the world knew, for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory, alright? But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. And most Christians stop at verse nine and, and that's just good enough for me. I love God and I just can't imagine what He did unto me. And I write a song: I can't imagine. It's the truth. 05:51

It's a nice song, but why would you stop at verse nine? I can't imagine, matter of fact I don't even have to imagine. I know. You know. You know, but God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit. Isn't that glorious? So, he's talking about what eye's not seen, nor ear heard; what hasn't entered into the heart of man the things that God hath prepared for them that love Him, okay? They don't even know that, but God has revealed them to us. Yes, He has by His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things. yea the deep things of God. Aren't you thankful you have the Holy Ghost? That's it, you've got the Holy Ghost, and that's who reveals all of it, amen. That's it, and here we are and we're in this age, that Pentecost came and it poured out, and we thank God, and I believe we're in the time of the latter reign, hallelujah. 06:46

For what man knoweth the things of God save the Spirit of the man which is in Him? Even so, the things of God knoweth no man but the Spirit of God. Now, we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God that we might know the things; see, here it is, the Spirit which is of God we have received that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Yeah, and I love all throughout the word of God, God doesn't just say give, He always goes I freely gave, freely gave, freely gave and not just freely gave, but He freely gave you all things. How many times He tells you it's freely? Again I gave it to you, and in case you didn't get it was freely, and it's a gift; freely a gift and it's all, all things. And you have it, it's not something that He's going to do, it's

something that's done. You can't earn it, you can't merit it, and it's already done. So, thank Him. That's why it's that sweet smelling sacrifice of thanksgiving; that's the sacrifice in our lives, and Just thank Him. Thank Him that we have it all. 07:56

Which things also in verse thirteen. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. Things, and know this, that word comparing; what it means is joined together. What the Holy Ghost does, He joins spiritual things to spiritual things. Isn't that what the Holy Ghost did with Paul's gospel in the bridal message in the Old Testament? He joined them all together. It just went oh my. It all fits, it's perfect. They couldn't see those things because they didn't have the Holy Ghost for one that joins those things together for you. Without the Holy Ghost you'll never join together; you need that infilling of the Holy Ghost, and then it'll just go wo-o-o. And it just continues to expand, and expand, and expand. So, we thank the Lord for this, so it's beautiful and I love this because he's encouraging the Corinthians. 08:55

The word Corinth means beauty, it means the peak, the place of riches. And in a way as we talk about this city, they thought that they really had it all. They were the cosmopolitan city, but the Lord gave them Paul because the Lord chose them for more. And Aratus was an apostle, and is an apostle of the Lord, and he was from Corinth. Aratus was an apostle from Corinth. And many others preached and established the church that was at Corinth; Priscilla and Aquila; Tidas did, Apollos was there. As I mentioned, Corinth was a cosmopolitan city, and I think this is very applicable to what we live in today. It was full of worldly customs, I think it's applicable to what we live in today. Yes, much like Denver. They worshiped the god specifically Aphrodite. Aphrodite was beauty, pleasure, riches. Isn't that what's really rampant in our culture today, beauty and pleasure. You turn on the TV, it's all about beauty, it's all about pleasure, it's all that's what we're being bombarded with. 10:12

But you know what's interesting, I was thinking about Brother Paul. Paul never tells these people leave the city. He never tells them to leave, does he? If you really look through this, he doesn't say out of it. And it's interesting because I'm thankful how I grew up in the truth, and the ones that taught me the truth. And the pastor that we had for many, many years here, God often chooses the very wicked place to raise up His jewels. And you could ask Moses, why did God put him in Egypt. You could ask Joseph, why did God take him out of his family and put him in Egypt? How about Brother Paul? I mean, my oh my, you had Nero at that time that was the head of Rome as wicked and horrible as pretty much any leader you could ever imagine. And there were some others that were in that time as well too. So, they were all there, and all of that was there, but you know, Paul didn't say get to this place, or that place and leave that place. We have what is called the bible belt today and you're thankful, and don't get me wrong. I'm so thankful for people that love the Lord. I'm thankful for however Christ is preached. But I have to tell you, I'm thankful for what we know, and the thing I would ask about the bible belt, how many

places in the bible belt preach Paul's gospel that you know, and I wish there were.

11:44

I wish every one of them would preach the deepest things of God, amen? But you can see that it's not because of that, it's God Who searches the heart, and God will put that gospel where He's going to put that gospel. And God will draw those in that will hear that gospel. And I thank the Lord that He's faithful to do that and, and I'm thankful that as much as sometimes I go oh my Lord, are you sure we should be here? I look right to the word of God, and I know we're perfectly placed, so I don't fear that, I know God's working.

12:18

So, last week Paul began with the base and the lowly that is what God is chosen. And I love how we move right to chapter two, and immediately it says now if you'll hear what I'm saying then you know who you are? Base or lowly, you're the perfect. Think of how quickly this happened. He chooses the base or the lowly, He tells them if you're going to go after this, this is truly who you are. And this is where you understand it's just God's grace, and then by the way we speak wisdom among them that are perfect. And there was a lot of man's wisdom in the cosmopolitan city. There's a lot of man's wisdom here, isn't there; there's a ton of it coming at you in every way, shape, and form. But I thank the Lord I believe that we know that the wisdom of man is foolishness to God, amen? Yes, we do. We thank the Lord for what God has provided. I love some of the bits of technology, I love jet airplanes; they're incredible. All those kinds of things. Physically, it's amazing. God made it all. God put it in man, and you know nothing again is made without Him; He's done it all, so we look to Him and thank Him.

13:32

But we hear this and God says that the perfect hear this, and that word perfect is Teleios; it means finished, the finished. Not that going to be finished, but the finished hear this. He tells you in a lot of ways. I got you, trust Me, call those things you see not as though they were. Do you know when you see Him what you're going to be looking like? I do because He tells us, doesn't He? A perfect, a perfect man, a finished man, and this is what this gospel is being preached to; the finished, the complete, the fully mature. You desire to hear Paul's gospel of the mystery which God appointed to us before creation unto our glory, and I thank the Lord, we have it here in Denver, and here we are people by the grace of God; we only want to hear this gospel. I'm not thinking of moving somewhere else to be more holy, to get away from worldly, or any of that. I thank the Lord, I'm moving in more to the grace of God wherever that would be, and I pray.

14:50

And I appreciate my precious saints that are online. I'm grateful to God where you live. You know why? Because it's the perfect place because you're loving this gospel. Isn't that glorious? I've heard some people say oh, sometime I've got to move to Denver. I love when they come out, but I tell them a lot of times, don't you think that just because you moved to Denver and you come to this church that somehow, you're just going to somehow become amazingly more mature in the Lord, and all these things? It's the word

of His grace that does this thing, and if He brings you out here, and that type of thing it's wonderful; I love that, it's a beautiful thing. Many have, God's encouraged different trips over the years, and I've seen families move back and come here and things and that's wonderful, but I have seen some that have come in, and all they have wanted to do, and they get in here a few months and then they're gone. So, as I tell my internet saints, just stay put till God moves you. And let's all stay put right here in this precious Paul's gospel. Whether I'm in Texas, or Kansas City, or California, or wherever I am. I want to be in the place that God has me ready, so I thank the Lord for that. 16:05

So, I love how it says in Psalm 47:4, and it's so direct and so beautiful and know this, in Psalm 47:4 it says He shall choose our inheritance for us. That comforts me. I know Who chose me, I know Who chose for me. I thank the lord for that, that's a powerful thing and people say well what do you mean, you didn't have a choice? The Lord chose me, and in that He gave me the grace to have the faith. See, grace gave me His faith. And you understand that right? Everything I have is His. Everything, and how could it be anything but His because I died the moment; I died the moment I receive Christ Jesus as my Saviour. I no longer live, but it's Christ that liveth in me. And the life I now live I live by the faith of the Son of God. And I thank the Lord, and yes, do I claim that? Do I have that? Yes, I do, but Who gives it? It's the Lord Jesus's faith; thank You Lord. But I have that because I have His life. I have His love; I have His joy; I even have His glory. 17:53

Isn't that something? But it's His glory; you understand that? It's for our glory, and to our glory, but it's His; it's His but He's given it to me. So, even though it's His, it's mine, but I still know Who it's from, and I still know Who it is. And I thank the lord the reason I know all that is because it's His life that lives in me. Can we give Him the credit for this? Or do you have to just have to jump in there and say well I'd rather say thank You Lord Jesus, I'm saved by grace through faith. I grow by grace through faith, or in faith; nothing happens without grace. Nothing, zero, and who's that? Jesus, because He's full of that. He is that. That's the only that, and He gave it to us liberally, and He gave all of it; all of it to us. All of it! All of it, that's why He said I freely gave you all things. We're going to get this someday, I know it praise the Lord and I thank the Lord. 19:19

So, He chose this inheritance for us, and the reason He did is because of the foreknowledge of God; the foreknowledge of God, yes. See, the Lord foreknew. Again, it wasn't because He chose some, and He didn't choose others, this was there for all men. We understand that God said that I would be that all men be saved, come to the full knowledge of the truth. What we enjoy, that's what He wanted for all. But the Lord in His foreknowledge, He knows. He knows whosoever will not even accept Him, and that's why He said I even prepared the wicked for the day of evil. So, He already knows that. And He knew who was going to build that ark, He knew who was going to be that boy king, He knew who was going to lead His people across the Red Sea, huh? 20:15

He knew, He knew every one of them disciples, He knew the one that would betray Him, amen? He just knows because He's God. And so we thank the Lord that He foreknew

that we would believe it, that we would take it, that we would cherish it, we would keep it unto our glory. I love that. I get to share that with Him glorified together with Jesus. Glorified together with Him, that thrills Him, it's for Him. And He knew we would believe the grace. He knew we would believe the grace. You believe the grace of God; yes, you do. And you're confident in the grace of God, aren't you? I pray you are. You better be, or you miss it. You're either confident in grace, or you miss it, and that's the truth. Don't doubt grace, He gave you all grace, He gave you always for all things, right? What's missing? Sister Caroline, was anything missing? All grace, all things, always, right? And not just to get by, but to super abound. I love that. Just super abound every good work.

21:30

And I thank the Lord that all things work together for good to them that love God for every good work, so if everything that I go through in life works together for good. Good, you mean that's really the same good? It's God's good. I'm confident in the grace of God. And we're confident, praise the Lord, that He will perfect that which concerns me and He does; He does and we believe it. So, we knew we believed the grace, we believe and we would desire, and then this gushier of thankfulness that He will glorify us together with Him. And Paul tells us it's because we are perfect. Your perfect praise the Lord, and I think of it this way as well too. I'm finished. I'm finished in grace. I'm perfectly made for grace, I'm perfectly based for grace, I'm perfectly weak for grace, I'm perfectly foolish for grace. Thank You Lord. And He afore prepared us unto glory. So, base, foolish, weak thing, hallelujah. Thank Him, we're going to walk in there really happy; real, real happy for one another too. It's a joy to believe this with you.

23:05

So, we do believe that and because we are perfect, we know and we believe, and we received the fulness of First Corinthians Two, verse twelve what we read there. We have received not the spirit of the world, so we don't have the spirit of the world, but we have the spirit which is of God. And the reason we have that is that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. And I love that because it is freely. Think about how the Lord always tells you, freely all, freely all, freely all, freely all like in Romans 8:32. As it said God; well, let's go read it. It's so glorious it's overwhelming. And what precedes this is if God be for us, who can be against us, right?

23:58

And in verse thirty-two it says He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all how; how? How shall He not with Him also freely give us all things. You got it all He has to give everything with that son, it's all there. So, we know then that we've been given freely all the things, and we know if what this passage is speaking of is the Holy Ghost is the One that truly takes the things in Christ and gives them and shows them unto us. And you read that in John 16, and in John 16:14. Well let's go back to thirteen because as Jesus tells His disciples, when the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Ghost is come, He will guide you into all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak, and He will show you the things to come. Boy, He's showed us things to come, hasn't He? He's shown us to come; that's what He's shown you. 25:08

You're like called by the grace of God in that third heaven. I glory in that man, amen? And I know the man I was, the man I am, and the man I hope to be. But I'm so thankful to God grace is encouraged my heart, the man I know in Christ I'll be because of the grace of God that is with me. And I pray that that's never misconstrued. I know people want to. They tell you're teaching the people that they don't have to have to know. What do we come in here and do every time? How deep we going tonight? Is this kind of deep? And not to flatter ourselves, but I just asked you. I mean it's just mind boggling to me. Come on people, and that's what I say, it's just sad, and you pray for people. But I thank the Lord, I really do. I'm grateful to God that I'm grateful to God what's growing in here is the grace of God. We grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and I know thank You Lord Jesus, the teachers that we have in here, and the stand that we have in here it's for more of the grace of God, hallelujah. 26:41

So, in verse thirteen, (John 16:13), He says howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. He shall glorify Me. You know how He's going to glorify Him? Because He's putting it in you because He can't be glorified until He has the wife; He can't. So, He shall glorify Me, and see, only the Holy Ghost can do that. Only the Holy Ghost can reveal this great grace to us. So, He shall glorify Me, for He shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. So, there you are again, it's a freely given thing of God. 27:35

And that's why we go on to that verse thirteen of First Corinthians Chapter Two, and that's why it says, which the Holy Ghost teaches comparing, or joining together spiritual things with spiritual. That's what the growth is. The Holy Ghost taking the spiritual things with the spiritual, and you know. The word of His grace will build us up and give us that inheritance among all them that are sanctified. Yes, He's given it, it is done because that is the word of the Lord. 28:13

So, we have brothers and sisters this ear of understanding, and it's the ear of the perfect. We don't flatter ourselves with that, that was a gift of God. He that hath an ear, and boy He has to give you an ear to hear this doesn't He? And it's the heart praise the God to receive it, and it's the very heart of God. And we do, and we do because grace gave it to us. Grace gave us this understanding of the perfect. Grace gave us this understanding of the finish of the perfect, the perfect, the perfect. Turn with me to First Corinthians Chapter Fourteen. So again, grace gave us this understanding of the perfect, so let's go on with this perfect, okay? Finished, complete, mature, that's what perfect means. 29:00

So, go on over to chapter fourteen and verse twenty, Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. That word men is perfect; the same word, teleios. Be finished in understanding, be finished. In understanding, be fully mature, be complete, alright? Go on back to Romans Chapter Twelve, verse two thinking of this perfect. A lot of scriptures come in here, wonderful and

the Lord said, And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Glorious, isn't it? Alright, so these are some great encouragements to the perfect, so let's go on and rejoice in God's faithfulness to continue to feed us, and to grow us into that perfect, and to remain in that finished readied faith. 30:20

So, here we go on over the Ephesians Chapter Four. Get excited really. Praise the Lord, when you're loved like this how could you not be? Ephesians Four let's read from verse thirteen. Well first of all, He gave us all of in verse twelve, for the perfecting of the saints by the way. Isn't that glorious? All the gifts to the church. It's not that we just kind of coast by or whatever. I guess we're finished complete fully. And this Paul again with the bridal truth. And then in thirteen it says, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God; and here we go, unto a perfect man, finished, complete, that very mature son that is unto the measure man, just incredible fully fit, the stature; oh my, full age of the fulness, oh hallelujah, the complete abundance that fills Christ of the fullness of Christ that we henceforth; okay, here we go now that we henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men. Cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. Not us. We speak the truth in love and may grow up into Him in all things which is the head, even Christ. Go on, do you know that growth is edifying itself in love this precious body praise the Lord. So, see that encouragement, as we feed on this truth in love; yeah, the truth in love, and again that's the Holy Ghost because that's the One that takes the love of God and spreads it abroad. 32:25

Now, let's go on over to Philippians Chapter Three, verse fifteen continuing on with this perfect. In verse fifteen, and I love Paul bringing us into this. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect. Isn't that something? As many as be finished, as many as be complete, as many as be mature sons of God be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. That's one of the most comforting verses that you could ever have, being finished, and in this precious place of a mature son of God. See, that's the perfect mind that He is faithful. See, that's the mature son of God, you never have confidence in yourself, you never have confidence in what you know. You have confidence in the grace of God that is with you, and yeah you do know that, but you know that because the grace of God that's with you. Yeah, I tell you, I don't want you coming out of here with a shred of you because you'll miss it. I'll miss it. God forbid and let me be accursed if I preached anything ever else to you, than this is pure, pure, pure grace. Perfect mind. Perfect mind rests that He will perform it. Even if I be otherwise minded, do you know what? My God is faithful, and He will reveal that unto me. I can't lose. No way, because I believe in the grace of God. It will do it, it's all powerful. Nothing else can. 34:20

Colossians, go on over there. Chapter one, verse twenty-seven, twenty-eight. It says to whom God would make known what is the riches of His glory of this mystery. Alright? So, now we're back to understanding the riches of His glory of this mystery. And

we've been reading all the way from the very beginning of it. We understand who understands this is the perfect because this is the message to the perfect to the finish. So, to who God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery in the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory whom we preach warning, urging earnestly every man, teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man; this is what Paul's gospel does. This is what Paul's gospel does. It presents every man finished. It presents every man complete. It presents every man a mature son of God in Christ Jesus. Praise the Lord, that's what Paul's gospel does, and will do and only will do. 35:28

Chapter four, verse twelve. Go to there. Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ. We read this verse not too long ago. He salutes you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect. Yes, that why this brother was so needful. That's why this prayer of love is so needful in this meeting for one another that we truly stand. You pray that every day for your brethren? that we stand perfect and complete in all the will of God? That you stand finished. That you stand complete. Not trying to get there because you already are the receiver, the gospel of the truth. Glory, just grow up, keep growing up. So, stand finished, believe it's done; finished, finished, finished. 36:37

And finally, we'll end up here tonight in Hebrews, Chapter Five. Go on over there. Perfect, perfect. Perfect, perfect, and here you go. People think I'm trying to insult them. I don't insult them. I'm giving you the word of God and that's what all by the grace of God I want to do, and I want to give it in love and encouragement, but I appreciated old Cody. I don't know if many of you knew what happened, but he was going down the street not too far from his house the other day and a house was on fire. And you know it, he didn't drive by; he stopped. You know what he did. He ran up to that house, knocked on the door and got those people out of there. And it was really known, if he wouldn't have done that there would have been a loss of life in that house. So, there's going to be loss of crown by the grace of God, and I pray that again in love we tell people. Verse fourteen of chapter five. But strong meat belongs to them that are of full age. Guess what full age that word is? Perfect; teleios. What do you receive here? Strong meat like I guess once again he's telling you in another way. What does it belong to? It belongs to you. Think how powerful that statement is. Paul's gospel of strong meat belongs to you, because he's given it to you hasn't, he freely, praise the Lord. It belongs to you that are perfect. Even though who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil, and I can't leave out tonight without going to verse one of chapter six right, Brother Scott? Brothers preached on this so many times so wonderful. Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection. 39:06

So, go on perfect? Go on into more of it, and how do you go on? Not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of; it's just so sad, the foundation of repentance from dead works and a faith toward God. Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. Brothers and

sisters, it's a sweet thing to really know and never forget. The repentance was once and for all. Once and for all, it's all done. The perfect are all about grace, the perfect are all about the word of His grace, and all of perfect hallelujah is grace. Praise God, let's stand and be dismissed.

40:11