

1 Corinthians 1:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance,
and in all knowledge;

Analysis

That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge (en panti eploutisthete, ἐν παντὶ ἐπλουτίσθητε)—The verb ploutizo (πλουτίζω, "to make rich") is in the passive voice, emphasizing that God enriched them; they did not enrich themselves. **In all utterance** (panti logo, παντὶ λόγῳ) and **in all knowledge** (pase gnosei, πάσῃ γνώσει) refer to the Corinthians' abundance of spiritual gifts, particularly prophecy, teaching, and revelation.

Ironically, Paul will spend much of this letter correcting their misuse of these very gifts. Their logos (speech) has become factional rhetoric rather than gospel proclamation, and their gnosis (knowledge) has puffed them up rather than built them up (8:1). True enrichment is by Christ, not by eloquent philosophy or esoteric wisdom—a theme Paul develops in 1:17-2:16.

Historical Context

Corinth prided itself on rhetoric and philosophy. The city hosted famous schools of sophistry where orators competed for students and patrons. Many Corinthians brought this competitive, wisdom-obsessed culture into the church, treating the gospel as another philosophy to be mastered and eloquently defended. Paul will systematically dismantle this worldview by proclaiming the cross as God's foolish-yet-wise counter-wisdom.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How can spiritual gifts (eloquence, knowledge, insight) become sources of pride rather than instruments of service?
2. In what ways might modern Christian culture mirror Corinth's obsession with eloquence and sophisticated theology?
3. How does recognizing that we are "enriched by Him" change our attitude toward our abilities and insights?

Interlinear Text

ὅτι	ἐν	πάσῃ	ἐπλουτίσθητε	ἐν	αὐτῷ	ἐν	πάσῃ	λόγῳ
That	by	all	ye are enriched	by	him	by	all	utterance
G3754	G1722	G3956	G4148	G1722	G846	G1722	G3956	G3056

καὶ	πάσῃ	γνώσει
and	all	knowledge
G2532	G3956	G1108

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 9:11 (Parallel theme): Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 8:7 (Parallel theme): Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

Colossians 2:3 (Parallel theme): In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Philippians 1:9 (Parallel theme): And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

Romans 15:14 (Parallel theme): And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

James 3:13 (Parallel theme): Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

Colossians 3:10 (Parallel theme): And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Ephesians 1:17 (Parallel theme): That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

Ephesians 6:19 (Parallel theme): And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

1 Corinthians 12:8 (Parallel theme): For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;