I Might Be A Fool If...
By Brent Paschall – brent@brentnrachel.com
Presented April 2012 at Blue Ridge Church of Christ – www.blueridgecoc.org

I. Introduction
a. April Fool’s Day - Proverbs 26:18-19 NKJV  Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death, 19  Is the man who deceives his neighbor, And says, "I was only joking!"
b. Do you ever see someone acting foolishly and are tempted to tell them so?
c. Danger!
d. Those who call others fools are in danger of hell fire – Mt. 5:22
e. I would not call any man fool
f. But God does
   i. If God says what I am doing is foolish
   ii. That settles it

II. KEY THOUGHT – We will notice six types of people who the Scriptures identify and foolish, so that we can avoid being fools

III. Those whom God calls fools
a. If I tell myself there is no God
   i. Ps. 14:1-3
   ii. Compare – It makes no more sense to deny your heavenly father then it would to deny your earthly father
   iii. DNA paternity test
   iv. Your are fearfully and wonderfully made,
   v. Therefore you cannot deny Him with a straight thinking mind
   vi. When I do, my mind becomes even more corrupt
b. If I ignore God
   i. Rom. 1:20-22
   ii. My foolish heart will become dark
   iii. I may think I am wise but I am a fool

II. Those whom God calls fools
a. If I am not rich toward God –
   i. Lk. 12:16-21
   ii. He was ignoring God
   iii. He needed not just to acknowledge Him
   iv. But be rich toward Him
   v. God deserves our all, our very best
   vi. We must love Him with all our heart and soul and mind
   d. If I believe I can be saved by works of the law –
      i. Gal. 3:1-3, 10-12
      ii. I’m a sinner
      iii. I haven’t lived by the law
      iv. Jesus must save me by grace on the basis of faith
   e. If I believe faith alone can save me
      i. James 2:20-24
      ii. My faith must be acted upon to have any value
iii. If I act as though what I believe is true is actually false
iv. That is foolish
v. I should know better than that
vi. It makes my faith dead
vii. I cannot be justified by such a faith

f. If I do not walk properly as a Christian –
   i. Tit. 3:3, Eph. 5:15-18
   ii. We used to walk foolishly
   iii. Not any more

IV. Conclusion – Don’t be a fool
   a. There is a God
   b. To ignore Him is to embrace ignorance and eternal judgment
   c. He deserves everything I can offer Him
   d. I cannot earn His acceptance through my righteous deeds
   e. I cannot retain His acceptance if I willingly act against His will
   f. I must have faith in Him and walk according to that faith to avoid foolishness and benefit from His divine wisdom
   g. INVITATION