

STUDIES IN FIRST CORINTHIANS

THEME:

“WHAT’S WRONG WITH THE CHURCH?”

OVERVIEW:

Background - *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction - *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

- 1A. CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED!
I Corinthians 1:10-4:21
- 2A. MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED!
I Corinthians 5:1-6:20
- 3A. MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED!
I Corinthians 7:1-40
- 4A. LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED!
I Corinthians 8:1-10:33
- 5A. MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS – NOT HONORED!
I Corinthians 11:1-16
- 6A. SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED!
I Corinthians 11:17-34
- 7A. MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED!
I Corinthians 12:1-14:40
- 8A. ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - NOT BELIEVED!
I Corinthians 15:1-58

Conclusion - *I Corinthians 16:1-24*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 1

“WHAT HAPPENED AT CORINTH?”

Acts 18:1-18

The Roman general, Mummius, destroyed the city in 146 bc., and it laid in ruins for almost 100 years. Julius Caesar sent people to rebuild it.

It became at the time of Paul’s visit one of the most beautiful and ornate cities of the Roman Empire, a seaport city with an outdoor theater that would seat 20,000 people.

The Corinthian games were second only to the Olympics. One of the amazing structures of the city was that of the Temple of Aphrodite with its 1000 prostitutes.

AcroCorinth was set on the mountain beside the main city and was 1000 feet high, dominated by pagan worship that involved drinking and sexual practices in the name of various pagan gods.

Corinth was famous for its ornate architecture - Corinthians columns. The paganism and sensuality of the city led to the “coining” of a word that represented it all - “*to Corinthianize*,” a word that closely resembles the contemporary expression “*Let’s Party!*”

Corinth is located about 60 miles west of Athens on the other side of the ancient province of Achaia. Alcoholism was a very serious problem - many taverns in the city with so-called “liquor lockers” where special drinking cups with kept for people.

1A. A JEWISH COUPLE **RECEIVED** PAUL INTO THEIR HOME - 18:1-3

1B. The **REASON** they were in Corinth - 2

Seutonius says that the expulsion of Jews occurred in 49 a.d. under Claudius.

2B. The **RELATIONSHIP** they had with Paul - 3
cf. *Romans 16:3-5; I Cor. 16:19*

2A. PAUL **REASONED** IN THE SYNAGOGUE - 18:4

1B. His **PRACTICE**
“*in the synagogue every sabbath*”

2B. His **PERSUASION**
“*persuaded the Jews and the Greeks*”

"WHAT HAPPENED AT CORINTH"

Message No. 01 - Acts 18:1-18

3A. PAUL **REAFFIRMED** HIS PRIMARY CALLING TO REACH GENTILES
18:5-6

1B. The **DEBATE** was over the Messianic claims of Yeshua - 5

2B. The **DISAGREEMENTS** became very hostile
"they opposed themselves, and blasphemed"

cf. *Acts 14:1-5, 19-20; 17:1-9*

3B. The **DECISION** Paul made - 6

1C. His immediate **Reaction**

"he shook his raiment, and said unto them, 'Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean.'"

2C. His **Recommitment** to God's call upon his life

"From now on I will go unto the Gentiles"

cf. *Acts 9:15-16; 13:44-52; 22:21; 26:14-18; - cf. Gal. 1:15-16; 2:9*

4A. THE GOSPEL **REACHED** MANY OF THE CORINTHIANS - 18:7-8

Was this *Titus Justus* the same as *Gaius*?

cf. *I Cor. 1:14; Rom. 16:23*

"baptized" - cf. *Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38*

cf. *Acts 22:16; I Peter 3:20-21*

5A. THE LORD **REVEALED** HIS WILL TO PAUL - 18:9-11

1B. The Lord's **PEACE**

"Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace"

2B. The Lord's **PRESENCE**

"For I am with thee" - cf. *Matt. 28:19-20; Hebrews 13:5*

3B. The Lord's **PROTECTION**

"and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee"

4B. The Lord's **PLAN**

"for I have much people in this city"

"WHAT HAPPENED AT CORINTH"

Message No. 01 - Acts 18:1-18

- 6A. PAUL'S MINISTRY **RESULTED** IN ACCUSATIONS AND ATTACKS FROM THE JEWISH COMMUNITY - 18:12-17

Gallio - brother of Roman philosopher *Seneca* -governed from 51-53 ad

Sosthenes (v. 17) - cf. *I Cor. 1:1*

"judgment seat" - cf. *II Cor. 5:10*

- 7A. PAUL **REINFORCED** THE NEED FOR GOD'S STRENGTH IN DIFFICULT TIMES - 18:18A

"And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 02

“THANK GOD FOR HIS GRACE!”

I Corinthians 1:1-9

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

The word “*grace*” is used 170 times in King James Bible; 131 in NT, although the Greek word *charis* is found 156 times; the phrase “*the grace of God*” is found only in NT - 24 times.

1A. THE SCOPE OF GOD’S GRACE - 1-2

1B. In the CHOICE of Paul - 1a

“an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God”

2B. In the CONVERSION of Sosthenes - 1b

cf. *Acts 18:17*

3B. In the CALLING of all believers - 2

1C. They are Sanctified in Christ Jesus

Greek word *hagiazō* is found 62 times in Bible; 16 times in NT.

cf. *I Cor. 6:11; I Thess. 5:23; Heb. 10:10, 14; Jude 1:1*

2C. They are Saints

The Greek word *hagios* appears 231 times - 13 in I Corinthians. The English word appears only 61 times in the NT. Often used as an adjective and translated by the word “*holy*.”

2A. THE SOURCE OF GOD’S GRACE - 3

“from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ”

cf. *John 1:16-17* - Paul’s greeting in every letter except Hebrews

cf. *II Peter 1:3; 3:18*

3A. THE SACRIFICE OF GOD’S GRACE - 4

“for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ”

cf. *Romans 3:24; 5:15; II Cor. 8:9; Gal. 2:20-21; Eph. 2:8-9*

4A. THE SUPPLY OF GOD’S GRACE - 5

“that in every thing ye are enriched by Him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge” cf. *II Cor. 9:11; 12:9*

"THANK GOD FOR HIS GRACE"

Message No. 02 - 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

5A. THE **STABILITY** OF GOD'S GRACE - 6-7A

"Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: so that ye come behind in no gift" - word *"confirmed"* is the Greek *bebaioo* - also appears in verse 8

(8 times in NT) - *II Cor. 1:20-22; Heb 2:1-4*

The result of their commitment to Christ was that they were not lacking or missing anything that grace would provide.

6A. THE **SATISFACTION** OF GOD'S GRACE - 7B

"waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"

1B. Our **PRIORITIES** are involved - *Phil. 3:20-21*

2B. Our **PATIENCE** is involved - *Rom. 8:18-25*

3B. His **PRESENCE** is involved - *Heb. 9:28*

4B. His **PROMISE** is involved - *John 14:3*

7A. THE **SECURITY** OF GOD'S GRACE - 8-9

1B. The **REASSURANCE** of that security
"Who shall also confirm you unto the end"
cf. *Rom. 8:38-39*

2B. The **REALITY** of that security
"that ye may be blameless" - cf. *Eph. 1:4; I Thess. 5:23*

3B. The **REASON** for that security
"God is faithful"

4B. The **RELATIONSHIP** of that security
"called unto the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord"
cf. *I John 1:3, 6-7*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 3

“IS CHRIST DIVIDED?”

I Corinthians 1:10-17

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

The matter of “*unity*” in the body of Jesus Christ is of great concern to the heart of God Himself. We are exhorted to “*keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*” in *Ephesians 4:3*, and in *Romans 15:6*, we are told “*that ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

Paul wrote in *Philippians 2:2*: “*Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.*” *Acts 2:44* says “*all that believed were together.*” *Acts 5:12* says “*they were all with one accord in Solomon’s porch.*” It didn’t take long for that unity to be disturbed.

1A. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

1B. The EXHORTATION of Paul - 10
“*Now I beseech you, brethren*”

1C. The Authority behind this exhortation
“*by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*”- cf. *Acts 4:12; Phil. 2:9-11*

He is the “HEAD” of the body, the church
Eph. 1:21-23; Col. 1:18; 2:9-10

2C. The Aim of this exhortation
“*that ye all speak the same thing*” - NIV/NASB – “*agree with one another*” - cf. *Eph. 4:15-16*

3C. The Attack upon this unity that must be avoided
“*that there be no divisions among you*” - Greek: *schisma* - 8 times
cf. *Rom. 16:17; I Cor. 3:3; 11:18; 12:25* - cf. *James 3:13-18*

4C. The Attitude that is essential
“*that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment*” - Greek: *katartizo* - 17 times
cf. *Matt. 19:6; Eph. 4:16; 5:31; Gal. 6:1*

“IS CHRIST DIVIDED?”
Message No. 3 - 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

- 2B. The **EXISTENCE** of problems in the church over unity - 11
“*contentions among you*” - NIV/NASB - “*quarrels*” - Greek: *eris* - used 9 times - cf. *I Cor. 3:3; Gal. 5:20; Titus 3:9* - cf. *Prov. 18:19*
- 3B. The **EXPLANATION** of how these problems developed - 12-13
- 1C. Pride - *Prov. 28:25*
- 2C. Anger - *Prov. 15:18; 29:22* - cf. *21:19*
- 3C. Gossip - *Prov. 16:28; 26:20-22*
- 4C. Favoritism - 12
- 4B. The **EXAMPLE** of Paul - 14-16
- 1C. His **Rejoicing** – 14
“*I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus (Acts 18:8) and Gaius*” - (cf. *Rom. 16:23*)
- 2C. His **Reason** – 15
“*Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name*”
- 3C. His **Remembrance** – 16
“*And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.*”
- 5B. The **EXALTATION** of the gospel - 17
- 1C. His **Purpose** was involved
“*sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel*”
- 2C. His **Presentation** was not the key to his effectiveness
“*not with wisdom of words*”
- 3C. His **Power** was in the message of the cross
“*lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect*”
- NIV - “*emptied of its power*”
NASB - “*made void*”

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 4
“THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING”
I Corinthians 1:18-21

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE **PRINCIPLE** OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE **PREACHING** OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

cf. v. 17 - “*For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*”

1B. Its **MESSAGE** is powerful - 18
“*it is the power of God*” - cf. *Romans 1:16*

The word “*preaching*” is the Greek word *logos* which speaks of the revelation of the cross, referring either to the word about the cross or the real message of the cross (preferred) - cf. *logos* in *John 1:1, 14*

1C. About the **Character** of crucifixion
The word *cross* is used 28 times in the NT. It is called *the tree* in *I Peter 2:24*. The word *crucified* appears 37 times, and the word *crucify* another 16 times – totaling over 80 usages in the NT.

Also, this method of execution was cursed by God in *Deuteronomy 21:22-23* - cf. *Gal. 3:13*. Jesus predicted that this method would be used - *Matt. 20:17-19; 26:1-2; Lk. 24:6-8*

1D. It **resists** any boasting - *Gal. 6:14*

2D. It **requires** humility - *Phil. 2:5-8*

3D. It **reconciles** Jew & Gentile and makes peace
Eph. 2:13-18; Col. 1:20-22

4D. It **removes** the demands of the law - *Col. 2:11-15*

"THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING"

Message No. 04 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-21

- 2C. About the **Consequence** of rejection
to them that perish" - Greek: *apollumi* - used 92 times in the NT of which 70 of those times are in the four gospels.

(English word *perish* appears only 37 times in its various grammatical forms in the NT) - What makes the gospel so powerful and critical is that it rescues those who are perishing - *John 3:16*: "*should not perish*"

NOTE: Hymn by Fanny Crosby

*Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;
weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen, tell them of Jesus the mighty to save!
Rescue the perishing, care for the dying; Jesus is merciful, Jesus will save!*

1D. It is **compared** with hell itself - *Matthew 5:29-30*

2D. It is **contrasted** with eternal life - *John 3:15-16; 10:28*

- 3C. About the **Condition** for salvation
I Cor. 15:3 says the gospel is that "*Christ died for our sins*"
John 3:14-15 - "*believeth in Him*" - the One Who was "*lifted up.*"

- 2B. Its **METHOD** is paradoxical - 19-20
It is *foolishness* to the wisdom of the world which God has made *foolish!*
The Corinthians as a part of Greek culture had a deep love for human wisdom.
(Quotation from *Isaiah 29:14*)

Human wisdom argues the following:

- 1C. Human wisdom can solve any problem
- 2C. Human wisdom understands itself
- 3C. Human wisdom is good and can produce good
- 4C. Wisdom is the result of education and experience
- 5C. Wisdom is the result of genetics and human ability

cf. *Romans 3:9-10*

"THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING"

Message No. 04 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-21

3B. Its **MOTIVE** is pleasing to God - 21

1C. It **Reveals** the inability of human wisdom to know God - *Acts 17:18-23*

2C. It **Refers** to the content of the gospel
“*preaching*” is the Greek word *kerugmatos* which grammatically refers
NOT to the act of preaching, but rather the content of what is preached.

3C. It **Results** in salvation
“*to save them that believe*”

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 5

“THE WISDOM OF GOD”

I Corinthians 1:22-31

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE **PRINCIPLE** OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE **PREACHING** OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

3A. THE **PURPOSE** OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31

1st word - “*For*” - Greek: *epeide* - “since” or “because” (causal)

1B. That God’s wisdom might be **EXALTED** - 22-25

1C. In the **Reactions** of non-believers to its message - 22-23

“*we preach Christ crucified*” - cf. *I Cor. 1:17-18*

1D. **JEWS** - a desire for the supernatural

“*require a sign*” - NIV - “*demand miraculous signs*”

“*sign*” - Greek: *semeion* - used 77 times in NT. - cf. *Matt. 12:38; 16:1, 4; Luke 11:16, 29-32; John 2:18; 4:48; 6:30; 20:30-31.*

However, the message of the cross becomes a “*stumblingblock*”
The stick in a trap to which the bait is fixed and by which the trap is sprung - always fatal in its effects.

Could be translated as “*death-trap.*”

By calling an end to OT ceremonies and sacrifices, it seemed like a “*death-trap*” to all that they believed was essential.

2D. **HELLENISTS** (Greek culture) – a dependence upon the rational

“*seek after wisdom*” - an attempt to explain all things by human reasoning - Paul calls it “*the wisdom of the world*”

cf. *I Cor. 1:20b-21* - To them, the message of the cross was “*foolishness*” - they could not see how one person could pay for the sins of others

"THE WISDOM OF GOD"
Message No. 5 - 1 Corinthians 1:22-31

2C. In the **Recognition** of its message by believers - 24
"unto them which are called" (cf. 1:9)

"Christ (Messiah) - the power of God and the wisdom of God"

3C. In the **Realization** of how great the message is - 25
"the foolishness of God" - the foolish thing of God, namely, the cross or Christ crucified (v. 23)

"the weakness of God" - the weak thing. It accomplishes what humanity cannot do - it will "save them that believe" (v. 21b).

2B. That our pride might be **ELIMINATED** - 26-31
v. 29 - "that no flesh should glory in His presence"
v. 31 - *He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord*"
(quote from *Jeremiah 9:24*)

1C. Seen in God's **Calling** - 26

1D. Not based on human **brilliance**
"not many wise men after the flesh"
NIV - "wise by human standards"

2D. Not based on human **ability**
"not many mighty"

3D. Not based on human **genetics**
"not many noble" - Greek: *eugenes* -
"good genes"

Luke 19:12 - "a certain nobleman"

Acts 17:11 - "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

2C. Seen in God's **Choice** - 27-28

These listings are in groups of three to match or explain what was said in v. 26. - "But God" - Greek: *alla* - strong contrast.

"THE WISDOM OF GOD"
Message No. 5 - 1 Corinthians 1:22-31

- 1D. As to human **brilliance**
"God hath chosen the foolish things" (morons)

His purpose: *to confound the wise* - Greek: *kataischune* - "shame"

- 2D. As to human **ability**
"God hath chosen the weak things"
Greek: *asthene* - "no strength at all"

His purpose: *to confound the things that are mighty*

- 3D. As to human **genetics**
"and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not"

Threefold description of the problem of genetics in terms of God's choice:

- 1E. Family **relationships** not a factor in His choice
"base" - Greek: *agenes* - "no genes"

- 2E. Personal **reputation** not a consideration
"things which are despised"
Greek: *exoutheneo* - used 18 times

- 3E. Financial **resources** not needed
"things which are not"

- 3C. Seen in God's **Character**
"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God is made unto wisdom (Col. 2:3), and righteousness (II Cor. 5:21), and sanctification (John 17:18), and redemption (Romans 3:24)"

All we need for our salvation is JESUS!

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 6

“THE POWER OF GOD”

I Corinthians 2:1-8

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

3A. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31

4A. THE POWER BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8

1B. Human ABILITY is not the power

1C. It is NOT human Eloquence - 1

“not with excellency of speech or of wisdom”

NIV - *“eloquence or superior wisdom”* - NASB - *“superiority of speech”*

2C. It is NOT human Energy - 3

“I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling”

(serious concern) - cf. *II Cor. 7:14-15; Eph. 6:5; Phil. 2:12*

3C. It is NOT human Enticement - 4

“not with enticing words of man’s wisdom”

2B. Vicarious ATONEMENT is the issue - 2

“For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified” - not that he ignored other issues in the Bible (contradicts his statement about the *“all the counsel of God”* in *Acts 20:27*) - his point deals with the essential doctrine of salvation that unified true believers.
cf. *Galatians 6:14*.

3B. Personal ACCEPTANCE is absolutely necessary - 5

“that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but (Greek: alla - strong contrast) in the power of God” - *I Cor. 1:24* - *“Christ, the power of God”* - cf. *Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:3, 6*. The wisdom of men emphasizes the ability of a person to believe it; but, genuine, saving faith rests in the Person of Jesus Christ our Lord!

*“THE POWER OF GOD”
Message No. 6 - 1 Corinthians 2:1-8*

- 4B. Divine **AUTHORITY** is behind it all - 6-8
- 1C. The **Maturity** that is needed to understand it - 6
- 1D. It does not come from secular **learning**
“not the wisdom of this world (age)”
- 2D. It does not come from political **leaders**
“nor of the princes of this world” “that come to nought”
- NASB - *“who are passing away”*
Being phased out and rendered ineffective
- 2C. The **Mystery** that was involved in it - 7-8
- 1D. The **pictures** of it
“the hidden wisdom” pictured in the sacrificial system - and in
Passover & the Day of Atonement
- 2D. The **predestination** behind it
“which God ordained (Greek: proorisen) before the world”
cf. *Rom. 8:29-30; Eph. 1:4-6*
- 3D. The **purpose** of it
“unto our glory” - cf. *II Cor. 4:1-7*
- 3C. The **Motivation** of political and religious leaders who did not understand
it - verse 8
- “they would not have crucified the Lord of glory”* - cf. *Psalms 24*

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 7
“THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT”
I Corinthians 2:9-16

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE **PRINCIPLE** OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE **PREACHING** OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

3A. THE **PURPOSE** OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31

4A. THE **POWER** BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8

5A. THE **PLACE** OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16

The very opposite of carnality is the Spirit-filled life - a life of faith and dependence upon the Holy Spirit - *Galatians 3:1-3; 5:16-17* - cf. *Romans 8:5-8*

The word “*flesh*” is from the Greek word, *sarx*, and is used 150 times in the NT.

In the usages of the word “*flesh*” we note the following:

- (1) It refers to the physical body
- (2) It refers to all humanity
- (3) It refers to non-believers
- (4) It refers to our sin nature
- (5) It refers to immaturity in the believer

1B. In the **REVELATION** of the things of God - 9-11

Notice three things:

1C. Our **Inability** to know what God has prepared for those who love Him - 9

cf. *Isaiah 64:1-12* (verse 4) - cf. *Jeremiah 29:10-14*

2C. The **Insights** of the Spirit into the deep things of God - 10

“*the deep things of God*” would be the same as “*the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him*”

“*searcheth*” - cf. *Romans 8:27-28*

“THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT”

Message No. 7 - 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

3C. The **Importance** of the spirit in knowing the things of God - 11
The point is powerful - we need to rely upon the Holy Spirit!

2B. In the **RECEIVING** of the things of God - 12-14

1C. The **Identity** of the Spirit - 12a
“not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God”
cf. *John 14:16-17; Romans 8:15; II Timothy 1:7*

2C. The **Intent** of the Spirit - 12b
“that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God”
“freely given” - Greek word: *charisthenta* things that are “graced” to us when we are saved - *Eph. 1:3; 2:7-10*

3C. The **Instruction** of the Spirit - 13

1D. It is **different** from man’s wisdom - 13a
“not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth”
cf. *I Cor. 1:17, 20; 2:5*

2D. It is **dependent** upon spiritual comparison - 13b
The Spirit is to *“teach all things”* - *John 14:26; 16:13-14*

“comparing (Greek: sugkrinontes) spiritual things with spiritual”

4C. The **Impact** of the Spirit upon the natural man - 14

1D. His **condition** makes it impossible to understand the things of God
“the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God”

WHO IS THE “NATURAL MAN”?

Greek word: *psuchikos anthropines* - The word “*natural*” is used 12 times in the NT and refers to the “*natural face*” in *James 1:23*, the “*natural body*” in *I Cor. 15:44*, the “*natural branches*” in *Romans 11:21, 24*, and the “*natural use*” of sexual desire in *Rom. 1:26-27*.

The Greek forms of the word appear 120 times, and refer to the personality of a person - “*soul*” (we get our word “psychology” from it) or their sensuality as in *James 3:15* or *Jude 1:19*.

“THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT”

Message No. 7 - 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

There are two possible interpretations in this verse of the “*natural man*”:

(1) It refers to a carnal believer - cf. *I Cor. 3:1* and the overall context

(2) It refers to an unbeliever - when compared with the arguments of *I Cor. 1:18-2:8*, this appears to be the correct view.

2D. His **concern** for spiritual things is non-existent
“*they are foolishness unto him*” - cf. *I Cor. 1:23*

3D. His **comprehension** of them is totally lacking
“*neither can he know them*”

4D. The **cause** behind his problem
“*because they are spiritually discerned*”

3B. In the **RESPONSE** to the things of God - 15-16

1C. The **Description** of one who responds to the things of God
“*he that is spiritual*”

2C. The **Discernment** he has
“*judgeth all things*” - Greek word: *anakrinei* (*men...de* construction in this verse – “on the one hand...but on the other...”)

3C. The **Difficulty** others have with him
“*yet he himself is judged of no man*”

4C. The **Dilemma** we face
“*For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him*” - *Isaiah 40:12-18* - quoted in *Romans 11:33-36*

5C. The **Dependency** upon the Lord should be obvious
“*But we have the mind of Christ*”

It means to think God’s thoughts, and not as the world thinks!

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 8
“CARNALITY IN THE CHURCH”
I Corinthians 3:1-7

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

- 1A. THE **PRINCIPLE** OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17
- 2A. THE **PREACHING** OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21
- 3A. THE **PURPOSE** OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31
- 4A. THE **POWER** BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8
- 5A. THE **PLACE** OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16

6A. THE **PROBLEM** OF CARNALITY - I COR. 3:1-7

The very opposite of carnality is the Spirit-filled life - a life of faith and dependence upon the Holy Spirit - *Galatians 3:1-3; 5:16-17*

cf. *Romans 8:5-8* - The word “*flesh*” is from the Greek *sarx* - used 163 times in its various forms.

The NIV translates it “*worldly*” in *verses 1 & 3*, and then with the words “*mere men*” in v. 4; the NASB says “*men of flesh*” in v. 1, and then “*fleshly*” in v. 3

The form of the Greek word *sarx* that is used in this passage is *sarkikos* which is found 11 times in the NT - such as *I Peter 2:1* which speaks of “*fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.*”

NOTE: Usages of the term “*carnality*” or “*flesh*”:

- (1) Used of the physical body
- (2) Used of material things
- (3) Used to refer to that which is human in contrast with that which is Divine
- (4) Used to all humanity
- (5) Used of unbelievers
- (6) Used of the sin nature
- (7) Used of sinful attitudes among believers
- (8) Used of a state of immaturity in believers

“CARNALITY IN THE CHURCH”

Message No. 8 - 1 Corinthians 3:1-7

1B. THE **DESCRIPTION** OF CARNALITY IN THE CHURCH - 3:1-4

1C. **SPIRITUAL** immaturity - 1-2

- 1D. Seen in the **usage** of the term - 1
“*babes in Christ*” NIV - “*mere infants*”

Greek term: *nepios* - used 14 times, such as:
Gal. 4:1, 3; Eph. 4:14; Heb. 5:13

An ancient tombstone in its epitaph refers to a child who had lived only four years, five months, and 20 days as a *nepios*.

It refers to one “without speech” - like toddlers! We are to be like toddlers in one area - ***I Cor. 14:20*** - in evil

- 1E. In ***Eph. 4:14*** it refers to one who is easily tossed around by every wind of doctrine.

- 2E. In ***Heb. 5:13-14*** it refers to one who is not used to the Word - lack of practice.

- 2D. Seen in their **understanding** - 2
cf. ***Heb. 5:11-14*** - The word “*milk*” is used 5 times
a good usage in ***I Peter 2:2***, but here in Heb. 5 seems to refer to the lack of ability to discern good and evil.

2C. **SINFUL** attitudes - 3-4

- 1D. **Coveting** what others have
“*envying*” - NIV/NASB - “*jealousy*” - Greek: *zelos* - used 34 times
in its Lack of contentment - ***I Tim. 6:6-10*** - various forms - one of
the works of the flesh in ***Galatians 5:20*** – very intense word - cf.
James 3:14, 16

- 2D. **Confronting** others without cause
Greek: *eris* - “*strife*” - NIV calls it “*quarreling*” - cf. ***Prov. 17:14;***
25:8-10 - Lack of humility

"CARNALITY IN THE CHURCH"

Message No. 8 - 1 Corinthians 3:1-7

- 3D. **Causing** others to take sides
"divisions" - not listed in NIV/NASB - Greek: *dichostasia* - used 3 times - *Rom. 16:17; Gal. 5:20*

- 4D. **Comparing** yourself with others - 3b-4
"walk as men"

Some believe it is simply referring to the lifestyle of an unbeliever. But, the phrase can refer to the standard of comparing yourself to mere men, rather than to the Lord Himself.

2B. THE **DOCTRINES** THAT CARNALITY IGNORES - 3:5-7

- 1C. The **Importance** of spiritual leaders
 - 1D. Seen in their basic **description** - 5
"ministers" - servants (Gr: *diakonos*)

 - 2D. Seen in the **definition** of their impact
"by whom ye believed"

 - 3D. Seen in their **differences**
"even as the Lord gave to every man" - NIV - "assigned to each his task" - cf. *I Cor. 12:4-6*

- 2C. The **Increase** in spiritual growth and maturity - 6-7
The words "*planted*" and "*watered*" are aorist tense - activities that come to an end; but the words "*gave the increase*" are in the imperfect tense - God's work is a continual process - it is God alone Who causes the growth!

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 9

“HOW GOD REWARDS”

I Corinthians 3:8-15

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

- 1A. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17
- 2A. THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21
- 3A. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31
- 4A. THE POWER BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8
- 5A. THE PLACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16
- 6A. THE PROBLEM OF CARNALITY - I COR. 3:1-7

- 7A. THE PROMISE OF REWARD - I COR. 3:8-15
Greek: *misthos* - used 29 times - English word
“*reward*” appears 80 times in Bible; 36 in NT.

The Bible speaks 15 times of “*crowns*” of reward for believers.

“*Crowns of gold*” are on the heads of the 24 elders listed in Revelation 4:4, and in verse 10, they “*cast their crowns before the throne*” as they proclaim the worthiness of the Lord to receive glory, honor, and power.

The “*crowns*” mentioned for the believers is the Greek word *stephanos*, whereas the “*many crowns*” on the head of our Messiah when He comes (*Rev. 19:12*) is the Greek word *diadema*.

The “CROWNS” mentioned for believers are:

- (1) Invaluable as to worth - “*crowns of gold*”
- (2) Incorruptible as to lasting value when compared to earthly rewards
I Cor. 9:24-27
- (3) Incomparable as to earthly achievements - *I Pet. 5:4* - “*crown of glory that fadeth not away*”
- (4) Inseparable as to the people they represent - *Phil. 4:1; I Thess. 2:19-20*
- (5) Inspirational as to motivation - *II Tim. 4:8*
- (6) Indestructible as to eternal life - *James 1:12; Rev. 2:10* - “*crown of life*”

*“HOW GOD REWARDS”
Message No. 9 - 1 Corinthians 3:8-15*

There is “**great reward**” in keeping the commandments of God’s Word - *Psalm 19:10-11*. *Psalm 58:11* says “**Verily there is a reward for the righteous.**” *Proverbs 25:22* speaks of not taking revenge and reminds us that “**The LORD shall reward thee.**”

Matthew 5:10-12 speaks of a “**reward in heaven**” for those who have been persecuted. In *Matthew 6:4, 6, & 16* speaks of our Father in heaven who shall “**reward thee openly.**”

At the Second Coming, we are told that our Lord will reward us. *Matthew 16:27* says “**and then He shall reward every man according to his works.**” *Revelation 11:18* speaks of the time when the Lord will “**give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy Name, small and great.**”

Revelation 22:12 says, “**And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**” Even the smallest act of kindness will be rewarded. *Mark 9:41* says “**For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in My name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.**”

Hebrews 6:10 reminds us “**For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His Name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.**”

The principle is established in the Bible that “**the labourer is worthy of his reward**” (*I Tim. 5:18*). *Hebrews 10:35* exhorts us all when we read “**Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.**”

1B. The **EXPECTATION** of reward - 8-9

1C. The **Similarity** in reward

“**he that planteth and he that watereth are one**” - cf. *I Cor. 4:1-2*

2C. The **Standard** for reward

“**every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour**”

3C. The **Source** of reward - 9

(the emphasis is on the word “**God**”)

1D. The **relationship** we have

“**laborers together with God**”

"HOW GOD REWARDS"
Message No. 9 - 1 Corinthians 3:8-15

- 2D. The **results** belong to God
"ye are God's husbandry (Greek: *georgion*) or farm,
ye are God's building"

- 2B. The **EXAMPLE** of Paul - 10-11
 - 1C. The **Resource** that makes his ministry in their lives possible
"According to the grace of God which is given unto me"
cf. *I Timothy 1:12-17* - cf. *I Peter 4:10*

 - 2C. The **Reminder** of being careful how you build upon the foundation - 10b

 - 3C. The **Recognition** of the foundation - 11
It is continually being laid - present tense
Cf. *Rom. 15:20; Eph. 2:20; II Tim. 2:19*

- 3B. The **EVIDENCE** that we are building on the right foundation - 12-15
 - 1C. The **Possibility** of using the wrong materials
"gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble"

In the overall context, Paul is referring to the problem of carnality in the church, and reliance upon worldly wisdom. This passage is not dealing with salvation, but with ministry - service to & for our Lord!

- 2C. The **Proof** that we have used the right materials - 13
 - 1D. The **timing** of it
"the day shall declare it" – *I Cor. 4:5; 2 Cor.5:10; Rom. 14:10-12*

 - 2D. The **testing** of it
"the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is"
cf. *I Peter 1:7; Rev. 3:18*

 - 3C. The **Promise** of reward - 14
"If any man's work abide...he shall receive a reward" NIV - "survives"

 - 4C. The **Protection** of those whose works are burned - 15
"suffer loss...but he himself shall be saved yet so as by fire"
NIV - "but only as one escaping through the flames"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 10

“THE TEMPLE OF GOD”

I Corinthians 3:16-23

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

3A. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31

4A. THE POWER BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8

5A. THE PLACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16

6A. THE PROBLEM OF CARNALITY - I COR. 3:1-7

7A. THE PROMISE OF REWARD - I COR. 3:8-15

8A. THE PICTURE OF THE TEMPLE - I COR. 3:16-23

Greek: naos - used 46 times – cf. *John 2:19-21; I Cor. 6:19; Eph. 2:21*

1B. The IDENTITY of the temple of God - 16

1C. It Implies the Place for worship
(the pronouns are plural, not singular)

cf. *Eph. 2:19-22; Heb. 13:15-16; 1 Peter 2:5-10*

2C. It Involves the Presence of the Holy Spirit
cf. *John 14:17; I Cor. 6:19*

2B. The IMPORTANCE of the temple of God - 17
cf. v. 15 - “*suffer loss*” - to believers!

1C. Seen in the Consequences you will suffer if you defile it.
Greek: *phtheiro* - 8 times - should it be translated “destroy” or “corrupt”.
Cf. *I Cor. 15:33; 2 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 4:22; Rev. 19:2*

Notice the argument of *I Cor. 6:18-20* and *I Thess. 4:1-8*

2C. Seen in the Character of it
it is “holy” - separated unto God and for His use - not for us to misuse!
cf. *I Peter 1:14-16; 2:11*

“THE TEMPLE OF GOD”
Message No. 10 - 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

3B. The **INSTRUCTION** for the temple of God - 18-23

Two things are urged upon us:

v. 18 - *“Let no man deceive himself”*

v. 21 - *“Let no man glory in men”*

1C. Don’t be **Deceived** by worldly wisdom - 18-20

Greek: *exapatao* - used 5 times, including **2 Cor. 11:3; 2 Thess. 2:3**
NIV *“Do not deceive yourselves”*

But the Greek text is singular here as the KJV has it.

1D. The **source** of this deception
“himself” - it comes from within!

2D. The **substance** of this deception
“seemeth to be wise in this world” What you think about it!

3D. The **solution** to this problem
“let him become a fool, that he may be wise”

God’s way is always humility!

4D. The **standard** of evaluation from God’s point of view - 19-20

1E. It is **foolishness** with God - 19a

2E. It is **failure** to accomplish what it seeks to do - 19b
“He taketh the wise in their own craftiness”

The word *“taketh”* is the Greek word *drassomai* –means
“to capture or entrap” - only used here in this verse.

cf. *Job 5:12-13*

3E. It is **futility** in its reasoning - 20
“thoughts” – *dialogismos* - “vain” - futile or useless

"THE TEMPLE OF GOD"

Message No. 10 - 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

2C. Don't be **Desirous** of human glory - 21-23

1D. The **goal** of everything

"all things are yours" - everything God gives and allows is intended for our good and blessing.

2D. The **gifts** that are included - 22

(people, environment, health, death, circumstances, future promises, etc.) ***"all are yours"***

3D. The **ground** upon which all of this is made possible - 23

"ye are Christ's and Christ is God's"

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 11
“STEWARDS OF GOD’S MYSTERIES”
I Corinthians 4:1-8

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

- 1A. THE **PRINCIPLE** OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17
 - 2A. THE **PREACHING** OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21
 - 3A. THE **PURPOSE** OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31
 - 4A. THE **POWER** BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8
 - 5A. THE **PLACE** OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16
 - 6A. THE **PROBLEM** OF CARNALITY - I COR. 3:1-7
 - 7A. THE **PROMISE** OF REWARD - I COR. 3:8-15
 - 8A. THE **PICTURE** OF THE TEMPLE - I COR. 3:16-23
-
- 9A. THE **POSITION** OF A STEWARD - I COR. 4:1-8
“stewards of the mysteries of God”

The word “*steward*” is from the Greek word, *oikonomos* used 7 times, or the word *oikonomia* used 10 times. Literally means “the law of the house.” Refers to one who manages or rules over the affairs and possessions of a household that belongs to another - the owner or “lord.”

- 1B. It involves our **ATTITUDE** - 1a
“*ministers of Christ*” (servants) - cf. *II Cor. 4:5-7*
- 2B. It involves our **ACCEPTANCE** of what God has entrusted to us - 1b
“*stewards of the mysteries of God*” - Greek *musterion* used 27 times, and refers to that which was hidden, but is now known to those initiated (true believers)

NOTE: What are the “MYSTERIES”?

- (1) Mysteries of the kingdom of heaven (God) - *Matt. 13*
- (2) Mystery of the blindness of Israel - *Rom. 11:25*
- (3) Mystery that not all believers will die - *I Cor. 15:51*
- (4) Mystery of His will - *Eph. 1:9*

“STEWARDS OF GOD’S MYSTERIES”

Message No. 11 - 1 Corinthians 4:1-8

- (5) Mystery of Jews & Gentiles in one body - *Eph. 3*
- (6) Mystery of Christ in you, the hope of glory - *Col.1:27*
- (7) Mystery of iniquity - *II Thess. 2:7*
- (8) Mystery of the faith - *I Tim. 3:9*
- (9) Mystery of godliness - *II Tim. 3:16*
- (10) Mystery of the seven stars & lampstands - *Rev.1:20*
- (11) Mystery of Babylon the Great - *Rev. 17:5, 7*
- (12) Mystery of marriage - *Eph. 5:32*

3B. It involves our ACTIONS of faithfulness - 2

“it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”

cf. *Matt. 25:21, 23* - cf. *I Tim. 1:12* - Paul said that the Lord *“counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”*

cf. *I Tim. 3:11* - qualification for women who serve in the church - *“faithful in all things”* - cf. *II Tim. 2:2* - *“faithful men”* are needed to *“teach others also”*

cf. *Proverbs 28:20* - *“a faithful man shall abound with blessings”*

cf. *Luke 12:42-44; 16:9-13*

4B. It involves our ACCOUNTABILITY to God - 3-5

1C. The Insufficiency of human evaluations – 3

“a very small thing”

2C. The Importance of a clear conscience - 4a

“For I know nothing by myself, yet am I not hereby justified” - a clear conscience is important, but not the test of whether we have done right or wrong.

3C. The Imperative of leaving matters to God 4b

“but he that judgeth me is the Lord”

4C. The Instruction as to when the motives of our hearts will be judged - 5

“judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes”

1D. Based on God’s timing

“until the Lord comes”

"STEWARDS OF GOD'S MYSTERIES"

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- 2D. Based on God's knowledge
"Who will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts"

- 3D. Based on God's praise
"and then shall every man have praise of God"

- 5B. It involves our **APPLICATION** of all that God has given to us - 6-8

- 1C. It **Eliminates** pride - 6

- 2C. It **Emphasizes** the source of all we have - 7

- 3C. It **Encourages** us to depend upon the Lord, not ourselves - 8
(The verse is strong sarcasm and irony - one of the strongest attacks from Paul - mocking their attitudes.)

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 12

“WE ARE MADE A SPECTACLE”

I Corinthians 4:9-21

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

1A. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY - I COR. 1:10-17

2A. THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS - I COR. 1:18-21

3A. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 1:22-31

4A. THE POWER BEHIND THIS MESSAGE - I COR. 2:1-8

5A. THE PLACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - I COR. 2:9-16

6A. THE PROBLEM OF CARNALITY - I COR. 3:1-7

7A. THE PROMISE OF REWARD - I COR. 3:8-15

8A. THE PICTURE OF THE TEMPLE - I COR. 3:16-23

9A. THE POSITION OF A STEWARD - I COR. 4:1-8

10A. THE PERSPECTIVE OF A FATHER - I COR. 4:9-21

1B. His COMMITMENT to the Lord was unquestioned - 9

1C. It involved Death to selfish ambition - cf. Luke 9:23

2C. It involved public Display

“*spectacle*” (like in a theater where everyone is watching) - used of the Romans’ method of execution - making the punishment and the mocking public for everyone to see.

2B. His COMPARISONS to them were unchallenged - 10-13

1C. In terms of Preaching

“*We are fools for Christ’s sake; but ye are wise in Christ*”

2C. In terms of Power

“*we are weak, but ye are strong*” - *II Cor. 12:9-10*

3C. In terms of Position

“*ye are honorable, but we are despised*”

"WE ARE MADE A SPECTACLE"

Message No. 12- 1 Corinthians 4:9-21

- 4C. In terms of **Possessions**
"unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked"
- 5C. In terms of **Pressure**
"and are buffeted" NIV - *"brutally treated"* NASB - *"roughly treated"*
cf. *II Cor. 12:7*
- 6C. In terms of **Place**
"and have no certain dwellingplace" (homeless) - cf. *Luke 9:58*
- 7C. In terms of **Persecution** - 12-13
- 1D. Their **independence**
"working with our own hands" - cf. *Acts 20:33-35*
- 2D. The **insults** they received
"being reviled, we bless" - *Matt. 5:10-12*
- 3D. The **intimidation** of personal attacks
"being persecuted, we suffer it" - *James 1:12; I Peter 2:19-20*
- 4D. The **indecentcy** of slander
"being defamed, we entreat" - *I Peter 2:23*
NIV - *"answer kindly"* - NASB - *"try to conciliate"*
- 5D. The **impact** of being despised by the world
"we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day." - cf. *II Cor. 4:8-10; 6:4-10*
- 3B. His **CONCERN** for them was unexplainable apart from a father's heart - 14-17
- 1C. His **Reason** for writing to them
"not...to shame you" - a common tactic in dealing with believers who are not walking with the Lord. The word "*shame*" means "to turn in upon" - laying guilt and blame on them, rather than trying to help them.
- 2C. His **Relationship** to them - 14b-15
"as my beloved sons (Greek: *teknon*)"
- 1D. He **loved** them

"WE ARE MADE A SPECTACLE"

Message No. 12- 1 Corinthians 4:9-21

- 2D. He **looked** at them as a father, not as an "instructor" (tutor).
- 3C. His **Responsibility** toward them
"I warn you" - v. 14c - "to admonish" (Greek: *noutheto* - noun used 3 times; verb used 8 times) - cf. *Eph. 6:4*;
cf. *I Cor. 10:11*; *I Thess. 5:12, 14*; *Titus 3:10*

HOW ARE WE TO ADMONISH?

- 1D. With tears - *Acts 20:31*
- 2D. Filled with goodness and knowledge - *Romans 15:14*
- 3D. With all wisdom - *Col. 1:28; 3:16*
- 4D. Treat as a brother, not an enemy - *II Thess. 3:15*
- 4C. His **Reflection** of a godly lifestyle - 16
"be ye followers (imitators) of me" - cf. *Heb. 13:7*
- 5C. His **Reason** for sending Timothy - 17
- 1D. Seen in his **description**
"my beloved son" - *I Tim. 1:2*; *II Tim. 1:2-5*
- 2D. Seen in his **dependability**
"and faithful in the Lord"
- 3D. Seen in the **declaration** he will make
"bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ"
- 4B. His **COMING** to them would be uncompromising - 18-21
- 1C. Their **Pride** was known to Paul - 18-19
- 2C. The **Power** in God's kingdom is not in speaking ability, but in the power of the Holy Spirit - 20 - cf. *I Cor. 2:4-5*
- 3C. His **Presence** would not be the influence of a tutor (and his "rod"), but one of a father with "love" and the "spirit of meekness"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 13

“OUR ATTITUDE ABOUT SEXUAL SIN”

I Corinthians 5:1-8

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

1A. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE PRESENCE OF SEXUAL SIN AMONG THE BELIEVERS - I CORINTHIANS 5:1-8

1B. The REPORT Paul received – 1

1C. The News of it had spread

“*commonly*” - Greek: *holos* - hard to translate; the idea is that this matter was being talked about and was not an isolated incident - no longer a secret and no longer being handled in private counsel - it is out in the open.

2C. The Nature of it was serious

“*such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father’s wife*” - *Lev. 18:8* - “*the nakedness of thy father’s wife shalt thou not uncover*” - *Deut. 22:20* - “*A man shall not take his father’s wife*”

NOTE: The word “*fornication*” is from the Greek word *porneia* from which we get our word “pornography.”

It refers to the wrong use of sexual desire and activity.

It refers to sex that is not between a husband and a wife.

Related Greek forms of the word appear 65 times in the NT. Other words that imply sexual sin include “uncleanness” and “lasciviousness” and “adultery” “without natural affection” and “vile affections” and “effeminate” and “inordinate affection” and “evil concupiscence.”

The total makes sexual sin the number one mentioned sin in the Bible. In the *Torah*, God’s law, the list of sexual sins includes: Incest, Adultery, Homosexuality, Bestiality, Sex before marriage, and Rape.

"OUR ATTITUDE ABOUT SEXUAL SIN"

Message No. 13 - 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

The penalty for most cases was death by stoning.

Interestingly, Roman law forbids incest - even the non-believers were not allowed to engage in such immorality.

Some have argued that it might have been a stepson – his father having married a younger woman after the death of his first wife - a situation that caused confusion among the believers as to what to do (no proof of this).

2B. The **REASON** why nothing was being done about this case - 2

1C. A lack of **Humility**

"ye are puffed up" - pride and arrogance

2C. A lack of **Sorrow**

"have not rather mourned" - NIV - *"filled with grief"*

3C. A lack of **Discipline**

"he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you" - NIV - *"put out of your fellowship"* - NASB - *"might be removed"*

3B. The **RESPONSIBILITY** they had - 3-5

1C. Based on the **Persuasion** of Paul - 3

2C. Based on the **Power** of the Lord - 4

3C. Based on the **Purpose** of such action - 5

1D. To **remove** the protection of the church itself

"to deliver such an one to Satan" - cf. *I Tim. 1:20*

2D. To **realize** the consequences of continuing in this sin

"for the destruction of the flesh"

3D. To **remind** all the believers of the nature of eternal salvation

"that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus"

4B. The **RESULT** of tolerating this sin - 6

"OUR ATTITUDE ABOUT SEXUAL SIN"

Message No. 13 - 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

- 1C. Our **Evaluations** are not always right
"Your glorying (boasting) is not good"

Boasting in our achievements or outward successes has no place in any believer's heart, but the point is that no matter how successful we think the church is, if sexual sin is being tolerated, God is not pleased.

- 2C. Our **Expectations** may not be possible
"Know ye not that a little leaven (yeast) leaveneth the whole lump?"
If we think that this incident will not affect others, we are mistaken.

cf. *Matthew 16:6-12* - case of bad teaching - cf. *Galatians 5:6-13* - case of legalistic requirements (like circumcision)

- 5B. The **REQUIREMENTS** in dealing with this sin - 7-8

- 1C. **Remove** the unrepentant believer for the benefit of the whole body - 7a
2C. **Remember** that your position of being cleansed and forgiven is the result of what Jesus Christ has done for you - 7b

"as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us."

- 3C. **Respond** to worship celebrations with a new understanding of the meaning of using "unleavened bread" - 8a

"Therefore let us keep the feast"

- 4C. **Rededicate** yourself to being a person of sincerity and truth - 8b

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 14
“JUDGING THE IMMORAL”
I Corinthians 5:9-13

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

1A. OUR **ATTITUDE** TOWARD THE PRESENCE OF SEXUAL SIN AMONG THE BELIEVERS - I COR. 5:1-8

2A. OUR **ASSOCIATION** WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED IN SEXUAL SIN
I COR. 5:9-13

1B. **REALIZE** who is involved - 9-11

Apparently, the Corinthians took his advice in a previous letter as referring to non-believers.

The words “*to company with*” are from the Greek, *sunanamignumi*, which means more than social contact - “to mix up with” – implies intimate, close contact.

1C. The **Problem** of the non-believer - 10

We are commanded to evangelize and witness to non-believers.

cf. *Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 15:1-2; Acts 11:2-3, 17-18;*
I Cor. 9:19-22; 10:33

2C. The **Profession** of the believer - 11a

“*is called a brother*” - Greek means “*to bear the name*”

cf. *Matt. 7:21-23*. The danger of mere profession is implied by Paul when we continue in sinful habits. - cf. *Gal. 5:19-21*

3C. The **Practices** of the believer - 11b

In addition to “*fornicator*” Paul adds: “*covetous*” - greedy person

cf. *Eph. 5:5* - cf. *I Tim. 6:6-10* “*railer*” - a slanderer or reviler
“*drunkard*” and “*extortioner*” - a swindler.

"JUDGING THE IMMORAL"
Message No. 14 - 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

- 2B. **REFUSE** to fellowship with them - 11c
"with such an one no not to eat"
cf. *II Cor. 6:14-18; II Thess. 3:6-15*
- 3B. **REMOVE** them from the church - 12-13
- 1C. The **Principle** of judgment - 12-13a
The Greek word is *krino* which involves a decision or rendering a verdict.
- 1D. It does not involve judging a person's motives - cf. *I Cor. 4:5*
- 2D. It involves a decision based on facts that are known - *I Cor. 5:1*
"It is reported commonly..."
- 3D. It does not involve judging non-believers - 12a
God will judge them - *Rev. 20:11-15*
- 4D. It is the church's responsibility to judge those who are believers in their midst

"do not ye judge them that are within?"
- 5D. It is a judgment of those who are continuing in sinful practices and do not respond to confrontation
- 2C. The **Process** of removal - 13b
- 1D. The person is **confronted** in a biblical manner - *Matt. 18:15-20*
- 1E. A private confrontation by the one who suffered from the sin - 15
- 2E. A private confrontation with two or three witnesses if the person does not respond - 16
- 3E. A public confrontation by the church (and/or its leaders) if the person does not respond - 17a
- 4E. A public decision to regard the person as someone outside of their fellowship - 17b

"JUDGING THE IMMORAL"
Message No. 14 - 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

- 2D. The person is **cast** out if the sin is continued "*that wicked person*"
- 3D. The person is **contacted** in order to restore him - *Galatians 6:1-2*
- 4D. The person is **comforted** when the sinful behavior has ceased
2 Cor. 2:4-11

(four problems to face)

- 1E. The problem of forgiveness - 7
- 2E. The problem of discouragement on the person's part - 8
- 3E. The problem of obedience - 9
- 4E. The problem of demonic activity - 11

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 15

“WHO SHOULD JUDGE BELIEVERS?”

I Corinthians 6:1-8

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

- 1A. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE PRESENCE OF SEXUAL SIN AMONG THE BELIEVERS - I COR. 5:1-8
- 2A. OUR ASSOCIATION WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED IN SEXUAL SIN - 5:9-13
- 3A. OUR ACCEPTANCE OF SECULAR LAW COURTS TO SETTLE MATTERS AMONG BELIEVERS - I COR. 6:1-8

Forms of the word “judge” or “judgment” appear 600 times in the Bible - 177 times in the NT. Forms of the Greek word *krino* appear 228 times in NT.

The word *diakrino* appears 22 times, and *diakrasis* another 3 times - it means to “discern”.

NOTE: *krino* means to render a verdict or to make a judgment; *diakrino* means to evaluate between two opposites or to make a difference.

John 5:22 reveals that *krino* has been committed to the Son, and *James 4:12* and *Hebrew 10:30* makes it clear that such judgment belongs to God alone.

THREE REASONS WHY WE SHOULD SETTLE OUR DISPUTES BEFORE BELIEVERS, AND NOT BEFORE SECULAR COURTS:

1B. Believers are more COMPETENT to settle disputes between believers - 1-3

1C. Recognize that the situation demands it - 1

“Dare” - Greek: *tolmao* - 16 times - it expresses shame on their part, not boldness.

The point is that it is astonishing that believers would even consider going to law against one another.

"WHO SHOULD JUDGE BELIEVERS?"

Message No. 15 - 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

- 1D. The **cause** of this dispute
Greek word *pragma* is used 11 times – our word “pragmatic” comes from it. - cf. *II Timothy 2:4*.

The issue is not about breaking the law, or showing a disregard for secular authority; it is a *pragma* - it is not clear what is right.

- 2D. The **complaint** is reciprocal
The “another” is *heteros* - there is a strong difference of opinion – both believe that they are right, and the other person is wrong.

- 3D. The **character** of the unbeliever
“*unjust*” - the result of depravity.

Without the control of the Holy Spirit and the wisdom of God’s Word there is little that an unbeliever can do in such a situation.

- 2C. **Realize** the reasons why believers are more competent - 2-3

- 1D. Because they shall judge the world - 2
Therefore, they can handle “*the smallest matters*”

cf. *Matthew 19:28; Revelation 2:26; 3:21; 20:4*

- 2D. Because they shall judge angels - 3
Therefore, they can judge “*things that pertain to this life*” - Greek: *biotika* from *bios*, your means of livelihood or occupation.

cf. *II Peter 2:4; Jude 6*

- 2B. Believers are more **CAPABLE** to make decisions with God’s wisdom - 4-6

- 1C. The **Nature** of the disputes - 4a
“*judgments* (Greek: *kriterion* - criteria) *of things pertaining to this life*”

Some things can be legal, but not moral or ethical (such as “abortion”).

Some things may be right under human authority, but wrong under God’s authority. It may be lawful, but it may not edify - *I Cor. 10:23*

"WHO SHOULD JUDGE BELIEVERS?"

Message No. 15 - 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

2C. The **Need** of wisdom - 4b-5a

1D. We should be **aware** of how God can use any believer
"set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church"

2D. We should be **ashamed** that we even considered unbelievers for this need

"I speak this to your shame" - cf. James 3:13-18

3C. The **Necessity** of discernment - 5b

"one that shall be able to judge (Greek: diakrino) between his brethren"

4C. The **Negative** involved - 6

"and that before the unbelievers"

3B. Believers are more **CONSTRAINED** to apply God's love and forgiveness
7-8

1C. The specific **Problem** is clear - 7a

"there is utterly (Greek: holos - cf. 5:1) a fault among you"

The word "fault" is the Greek *hettema*, which appears here and in *Rom. 11:11* - second word "fall" - the Greek *hetton* is found in *I Cor. 11:17* and translated "worse" and in *II Cor. 12:15* as "less".

2C. The difficult **Possibility** is better - 7b

"take wrong" and "suffer yourselves to be defrauded" - NIV - "cheated"
"take wrong" - Greek: adikeo - to be unjust - "defraud"

Greek: *apostereo* - to hold back what should be given.

3C. The obvious **Decision** is made - 8

"ye do wrong and defraud, and that your brethren"

By not ending the dispute and suffering whatever wrong there is, we wind up doing wrong (hurt) to others and keep back what should be given - namely, forgiveness and forgetting it!

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 16
“SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU!”
I Corinthians 6:9-14

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

1A. OUR **ATTITUDE** TOWARD THE PRESENCE OF SEXUAL SIN AMONG THE BELIEVERS - I COR. 5:1-8

2A. OUR **ASSOCIATION** WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED IN SEXUAL SIN
I COR. 5:9-13

3A. OUR **ACCEPTANCE** OF SECULAR LAW COURTS TO SETTLE MATTERS AMONG BELIEVERS - I COR. 6:1-8

4A. OUR **APPLICATION** OF SALVATION - I CORINTHIANS 6:9-14

1B. The **POSSIBILITY** of deception - 9a
“*Be not deceived*” (Greek: *me planasthe*)

Literally - “Stop being deceived”

Greek verb *planao* - used 43 times; the noun *plane* is used 10 times, and translated “deceit” or “delusion” or most commonly “error.”

1C. The various **Causes** of deception

1D. Satan - *Rev. 12:9; 20:3, 8, 10*

2D. False Prophet - *Rev. 13:14; 19:20*

3D. False Messiahs - *Luke 21:8*

4D. False Prophets - *Matt. 24:11, 24*

5D. Evil Men - *II Timothy 3:13*

6D. Those who cause divisions - *Romans 16:17-18*

7D. Sin - *Romans 7:11*

8D. Yourself - *Deut. 11:16; I Cor. 3:18; Gal. 6:3; James 1:26*

"SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU"
Message No. 16 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-14

2C. The **Circumstances** that lead to deception

- 1D. As to reaping what you sow - *Galatians 6:7*
- 2D. As to the source of wisdom - *I Cor. 3:18*
- 3D. As to spiritual immaturity - *Eph. 4:14*
- 4D. As to pride - *Galatians 6:3*
- 5D. As to an uncontrolled tongue - *James 1:26*
- 6D. As to the presence of sin - *I John 1:8*
- 7D. As to who is righteous - *I John 3:7*

3C. The **Context** of this passage - 9

Deals with the assurance and evidence of salvation

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?" - cf. Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5-6

2B. The **PRACTICES** that will not inherit the kingdom of God - 9b-10
cf. *II Peter 2:1-3, 12-17; Rev. 21:8; 22:15*

1C. They are nouns, not verbs - refer to habits of life, and no repentance

2C. They are samples, not a complete list
(Gal. 5:19-21 adds several other sins.)

3C. Two of these practices are greatly debated as to meaning:

1D. "effeminate"

Greek: *malakos* - translated "clothed in soft raiment"
or "soft to the touch" - used figuratively for a soft person who allows himself to be sexually abused, contrary to nature.

2D. "abusers of themselves with mankind"

Greek: *arsenokoites* - used 4 times in two verses - here and in I Tim. 1:10, where it is translated "*them that defile themselves with mankind.*"

The word *arsen* refers to a male, with the word *koites* - sexual act in bed - refers to a man who lies in bed with another man - a homosexual.

"SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU"
Message No. 16 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-14

- 3B. The **POSITION** we now have - 11
- 1C. A **Supernatural Change** had occurred
"such were some of you" - there is hope for anyone and for all of us!
cf. *II Cor. 5:17*
 - 2C. A **Strong Contrast** with the old life
happened - "but" (Greek: *alla* - strong contrast - used three times for
powerful emphasis!)
 - 3C. A **Spiritual Cleansing** had taken place
"but ye are washed" (aorist passive tense)
 - 4C. A **Sinful Conformity** to worldly lifestyles had been broken
"but ye are sanctified"

Separated from the penalty and power of sin - cf. *Hebrews 10:10, 14*
 - 5C. A **Serious Condemnation** was removed
"but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of
our God"
- 4B. The **PROBLEM** of our liberty - 12
- 1C. The **Definition** of "all things"
It does not include sin or the violation of God's commands
cf. *I Cor. 9:21-22*
 - 2C. The two **Dangers** that comes with our liberty:
 - 1D. As to the **profit** involved
"all things are not expedient" - Greek: *sumpherei* - to bear or bring
together Some things have no benefit of the Lord or His people - we
can make the decision to exclude them as well as include them.
 - 2D. As to the **power** involved
"I will not be brought under the power of any"
It is easy to be controlled by things that might be OK or even good at
times.

"SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU"
Message No. 16 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-14

3D. As to the **purpose** involved
"all things edify not" - cf. 1 Cor. 10:23

5B. The **PURPOSE** of our bodies - 13

1C. In terms of God's **Design**
"meats for the belly, and the belly for meats"

2C. In terms of their **Duration**
"but God shall destroy both it and them"

3C. In terms of **Dedication**
"Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body"

Immorality affects the purpose of the body! It was not designed for sexual sin!

6B. The **PROMISE** of the resurrection - 14
"And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by His own power."

cf. *Phil. 3:20-21*

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 17
“GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY!”
I Corinthians 6:15-20

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

- 1A. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD SEXUAL SIN AMONG THE BELIEVERS - 5:1-8
- 2A. OUR ASSOCIATION WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED IN SEXUAL SIN - 5:9-13
- 3A. OUR ACCEPTANCE OF SECULAR LAW COURTS FOR BELIEVERS - 6:1-8
- 4A. OUR APPLICATION OF THESE MATTERS TO OUR SALVATION - 6:9-14

- 5A. OUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE PURPOSE OF OUR PHYSICAL BODIES - 6:15-20

v. 20 - “therefore glorify God in your body”

The English word *body* is used 135 times in the NT, and the plural “*bodies*” another 33 times. The Greek word *soma* appears 147 times. Many of these usages are metaphors referring to all believers as the “*body of Christ.*”

Several usages refer to our Lord Jesus Christ’s physical body on earth. II Corinthians 5:1-8 speaks of our physical bodies as “*our earthly house of this tabernacle*” and that when we die, we are “*absent from the body*” and “*present with the Lord.*”

In the discussion of I Corinthians 15 about the “body” will we have in the future after we die, we learn several things about our present physical bodies:

- (1) They are called “*flesh*” that is “*terrestrial*” or “*earthy.*”
- (2) They are called “*natural*” in contrast to that which is “*spiritual*”
- (3) They are “*sown in corruption,*” & “*dishonour,*” & “*weakness.*”
- (4) They are also referred to as “*flesh and blood.*”

Romans 6:13 calls the body “*your mortal body*” and *Philippians 3:21* speaks of our “*vile body*” that will be changed. Paul spoke of the “*marks of the Lord Jesus*” that he bore in his own “*body.*” *James 2:26* says “*the body without the spirit is dead.*” He also reminds us that our “*tongue*” has the capacity to defile “*the whole body*” (3:6).

"GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY"
Message No. 17 - 1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Paul said in *I Cor. 9:27* that he could keep his "**body**" under subjection or control.

Note: Three times he says "**know ye not**"?

While certainly a reference to intellectual knowledge, the question is not "**Do you know?**" but rather surprise that they don't know or understand the basic truth about the physical body - the way it is asked assumes that all believers should understand clearly the issues about sex and our physical bodies and be committed to what the Bible teaches about those issues.

1B. The **PROTECTION** of the body - 15-17

1C. It is very **Important** to understand the meaning of our relationship to Jesus Christ - 15a

cf. *Romans 12:4-5; I Cor. 12:12, 20, 27; Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18, 27; 2:19*

3C. It is extremely **Inconsistent** for a believer to associate our Lord with sexual sin - 15b

3C. It is quite **Impossible** to avoid being affected by such sin in our relationship to Jesus Christ - 16

1D. The physical **connection** is obvious
"***joined to an harlot is one body***"

2D. The marital **commandment** is clear
"***for two, saith He, shall be one flesh***"
cf. Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:4-6

3D. The sexual **conclusion** is applied
Physical sex involves much more than mere physical activity (we are more than animals on this point alone!).

cf. *Proverbs 6:32-33; 7:4-27*

4C. It is clearly **Interrelated** to our spiritual relationship with the Lord - 17

The words "***one spirit***" are contrasted with the words "***one flesh***" in v. 16.

"GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY"
Message No. 17 - 1 Corinthians 6:15-20

- 2B. The **POLLUTION** of the body - 18
- 1C. The **Instruction** is clear
"Flee fornication" - cf. *II Tim. 2:19-22*
cf. *Proverbs 5:3-13; 6:23-26; 7:4-5, 24-27*
- 2C. The **Impact** of most sins
"every sin that a man doeth is without the body"
They affect our souls and spirits!
- 3C. The **Interpretation** of what sexual sin does to the physical body
"but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body"
- 1D. **Dishonors** the body - *Rom. 1:24, 27*
- 2D. **Despises** the call of God - *I Th. 4:7-8*
- 3D. **Diminishes** the blessing of sexual vitality - *Prov. 5:18-23*
- 4D. **Destroys** bodily functions - *Prov. 5:11*
- 3B. The **PURPOSE** of the body - 19-20
- 1C. A **Place** of worship
"the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you"
- 2C. A **Possession** of God
"which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"
- 3C. A **Purchase** of God
"For ye are bought with a price" - *I Peter 1:18-19*
- 4C. A **Praise** of God
"therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" the relationship of the "body" & "spirit" is crucial to the argument.

The phrase "in your spirit" in KJV – from the majority of MSS - it is left out in the Egyptian texts - Codex Alexandrinus, Sinaiticus, and Vaticanus.

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 18
“HOW TO AVOID IMMORALITY”
I Corinthians 7:1-5

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

1A. THE **PURPOSE** BEHIND THIS DISCUSSION - 7:1

“Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me”

“Now concerning” - Greek: *peri de* - cf. 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1

1B. To **ANSWER** some questions about sex, marriage and singleness (7:25)

2B. To **AVOID** sexual sin - 1b-2a
cf. *I Thess. 4:1-8*

“It is good for a man (Greek: anthropos) not to touch a woman” - NIV reads
“not to marry” common Jewish idiom for sexual intercourse used by God in
Abimelech’s dream - *Gen. 20:6* Boaz to Ruth in *Ruth 2:8-9* - *Prov. 6:29, 32*

NOTE: Roman law and accepted practices included the following relationships:

(1) Toleration of adultery, homosexuality, polygamy, and other forms of sexually deviant behavior.

(2) *Contubernium* - slaves - “tent companionship” - as long as the owner allowed.

(3) *Usus* - common law marriage - those who had lived together for a period of time were allowed to be married.

(4) *Coemptio in manum* - father sells his daughter to a prospective husband.

(5) *Confarreatio* - marriage ceremony for the noble class - the patricians - it was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church and came into Protestantism as well - all of our present customs in weddings. Divorce - common for Romans to have been married and divorced 20 or more times.

"HOW TO AVOID IMMORALITY"

Message No. 18 - 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** THAT LIMIT SEXUAL FULFILLMENT WITHIN MARRIAGE – 7:2-4

- 1B. Sexual desire is **CONFINED** in marriage to one person – 2
“to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband”

Purposes of marriage also include:

- (1) Companionship - *Gen. 2:18* - *“not good to be alone”*
- (2) Conception of children - *“be fruitful and multiply” Gen. 1:28*
- (3) Contentment - *Prov. 5:18* - *“let her breasts satisfy thee at all times”*

- 2B. Sexual need is **COMMITTED** to the loving care of your spouse - 3
“Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.”

NASB/NIV - *“fulfill his duty”*

NRSV - *“conjugal rights”*

“benevolence” - Greek: *eunoia* - kindness or good will or to agree
cf. *Eph. 6:7*. Verb - *eunoeo* - *Matt. 5:25*.

- 3B. Sexual function is **CONTROLLED** by your spouse - 4
“The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.”

NIV - *“does not belong to her”*

NASB - *“authority”*

3A. THE **PROBLEM** THAT SEXUAL INACTIVITY CREATES – 7:5

- 1B. The **EXHORTATION** is simple and clear
“Defraud ye not one the other”
Literally - *“Stop doing it”* - it assumes it is a common practice among those married. Greek: *apostereo* - “to deprive or defraud”

Mark 10:19 implies that it refers to the command *“Thou shalt not covet”*
Used in *I Cor. 6:7-8* - translated *“destitute”* in *I Timothy 6:5* - used of keeping back wages that belong to laborers in *James 5:4*.

"HOW TO AVOID IMMORALITY"

Message No. 18 - 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

- 2B. The **EXCEPTION** should be rare
"except it be with consent (NIV - "mutual consent") for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer"

Ask yourself three questions?

- 1C. Does your spouse agree with you?

Greek: *sumphonou* - mutual consent

- 2C. Is the time limited?

cf. *Exodus 19:10-15* - three days

- 3C. Is the purpose justified?

"that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer"

- 3B. The **ENEMY** will use it against you

"come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency"

- 1C. It is a problem of **Sexual** desire

"tempt" - cf. *James 1:13-15*

- 2C. It is a problem of **Self**-control

"incontinency" - Greek: *akrasia*
cf. *Matthew 23:25* - "excess"

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 19
“HANDLING MARITAL PROBLEMS”
I Corinthians 7:6-16

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

1A. THE **PURPOSE** BEHIND THIS DISCUSSION - 7:1

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** THAT LIMIT SEXUAL FULFILLMENT WITHIN MARRIAGE - 7:2-4

3A. THE **PROBLEM** THAT SEXUAL INACTIVITY CREATES - 7:5

4A. THE **PROBLEMS** OF MARRIAGE - I CORINTHIANS 7:6-16

1B. The problem of **FORMER** MARRIAGES - 7:6-9

1C. The **Meaning** of permission

“I speak this by permission, and not of commandment”

Greek: *suggnomen* - a joint opinion, or a common understanding or awareness.

2C. The **Manner** in which God has gifted you - 7

1D. The **position** of Paul

“For I would that all men were even as I myself” - (cf. v. 8 - *“I say therefore to the unmarried and widows...”* and v. 17 *“virgins”*)

It appears that Paul was not a virgin, but perhaps a widower.

cf. *Romans 16:13* - The *“unmarried”* is clearly a divorced person, one who is not a virgin and not a widow.

2D. The **principle** of giftedness

“every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that”

Greek: *charisma* - either a gift of celibacy or a gift of marriage – it comes from God Himself.

“HANDLING MARITAL PROBLEMS”

Message No. 19 - 1 Corinthians 7:6-16

3C. The **Message** to understand - 8-9

1D. The **preference** is to remain single
“It is good for them if they abide even as I”

He explains why later on.

2D. The **passion** that cannot be controlled should lead to marriage - 9
“burn” - Greek: *purousthai* -inflamed cf. *Rom. 1:27* - *“burned in their lust”* *“contain”* - Greek: *egkrateuontai*

cf. *I Cor. 9:25; Gal. 5:23*

2B. The problem of **DIFFICULT** MARRIAGES - I Corinthians 7:10-11

1C. The spiritual **Condition** of the married
“and unto the married”

Since *verse 12* speaks of a mixed marriage, the clear assumption is that he is speaking to believers who find themselves in a difficult marriage.

2C. The Divine **Command**
“I command, yet not I, but the Lord”

cf. *Matthew 19:4-9* - the reason for the divorces in Moses’ day
“hardness of heart”

3C. The specific **Counsel**
“let not the wife depart from her husband” and v. *11b*

“and let not the husband put away his wife”

4C. The possible **Causes** for leaving - 11
“But and if she depart”

1D. Lack of care - *Eph. 5:25-29*

2D. Lack of kindness - *Col. 3:19*

3D. Lack of obedience to God - *I Pet. 3:1*

“HANDLING MARITAL PROBLEMS”

Message No. 19 - 1 Corinthians 7:6-16

4D. Lack of understanding - *I Pet. 3:7*

5C. The **Consequences** that result from leaving

1D. **Remaining** single
“let her remain unmarried”

2D. **Reconciling** the marriage
“be reconciled to her husband”

3B. The problem of **MIXED** MARRIAGES - I Corinthians 7:12-16

1C. The **Importance** of this teaching
“But to the rest speak I, not the Lord”

2C. The **Illustrations** clearly indicate a believer who is married to a non-believer - cf. *II Cor. 6:14-18*

3C. The **Issue** on the part of the non-believer
“be pleased to dwell with”

4C. The **Instruction** is clear
“let not the husband put away his wife” and *“let her not leave him.”*

The believer should not divorce the non-believer who wants to stay with the marriage.

5C. The **Impact** of the believer upon the spouse and the children - 14
The word *“holy”* does not refer to that which God alone can do; it refers to the fact of the influence of the believer upon the whole family.

6C. The **Insights** regarding divorce and remarriage in these examples - 15

1D. The **decision** to divorce is made by the unbeliever and should not be resisted by the believer

“But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart”

“HANDLING MARITAL PROBLEMS”

Message No. 19 - 1 Corinthians 7:6-16

2D. The **divorce** does not put the believer
“*under bondage*” - cf. ***1 Cor. 7:39***

cf. Rom. 7:1-3

3D. The **desire** of God is for peace - 15c

7C. The **Intent** is obvious - 16
The salvation of the unbelieving spouse is far more important than
compatibility and happiness in the marriage!

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 20
“AS THE LORD HATH CALLED”
I Corinthians 7:17-24

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

1A. THE **PURPOSE** BEHIND THIS DISCUSSION - 7:1

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** THAT LIMIT SEXUAL FULFILLMENT WITHIN MARRIAGE - 7:2-4

3A. THE **PROBLEM** THAT SEXUAL INACTIVITY CREATES - 7:5

4A. THE **PROBLEMS** OF MARRIAGE - I CORINTHIANS 7:6-16

5A. THE **POINT** OF YOUR CONVERSION - I CORINTHIANS 7:17-24

1B. **RECOGNIZE** the will of God in your circumstances - 17

1C. Based on His **Control**
“as God hath distributed to every man”

NASB/NIV - *“assigned”* - God has allowed these circumstances to occur.

2C. Based on His **Calling**
“as the Lord hath called every one”
cf. *Rom. 8:28-30; I Cor. 1:9; II Tim. 1:9*

3C. Based on our **Conduct**
“so let him walk” - *“walk”* - Paul’s favorite term

cf. *Gal. 5:16; Eph. 4:1, 17, 5:2, 8, 15*

4C. Based on **Counsel** of Paul
“and so ordain I in all churches” - not an isolated issue!

NIV - *“This is the rule I lay down”*

NASB - *“And this I direct”*

"AS THE LORD HAS CALLED"
Message No. 20 - 1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- 2B. **RESPOND** to God's call - 18-19
cf. *II Cor. 5:17*
- 1C. The **Illustration** makes it clear that some things (circumstances) do not need to be changed - 18
- 2C. The **Instruction** makes it clear that some things are not as important as others - 19
- 3B. **REFUSE** to change your marital status based on your conversion to Jesus Christ - 20
- 4B. **RELY** upon the Lord's will for your life - 21-23
- 1C. It **Eliminates** worry and distraction - 21a
"care not for it"
NIV - *"Don't let it trouble you"*

NASB - *"Do not worry about it"*
- 2C. It **Encourages** you to solve what can be solved - 21b
"but if thou mayest be free, use it rather"
- 3C. It **Enforces** your real purpose in life - 22
"Christ's servant" - cf. *I Cor. 9:19-22*
- 4C. It **Explains** the reason behind it - 23a
"For ye are bought with a price"
cf. *I Cor. 6:20; I Peter 1:18-19*
- 5C. It **Enables** you to avoid being a slave to anyone else - 23b
"be not ye the servants of men"
- 5B. **REMAIN** as you are when you are converted - 24

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 21

“ADVICE TO SINGLES”

I Corinthians 7:25-40

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

1A. THE **PURPOSE** BEHIND THIS DISCUSSION - 7:1

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** THAT LIMIT SEXUAL FULFILLMENT WITHIN MARRIAGE - 7:2-4

3A. THE **PROBLEM** THAT SEXUAL INACTIVITY CREATES - 7:5

4A. THE **PROBLEMS** OF MARRIAGE - I CORINTHIANS 7:6-16

5A. THE **POINT** OF YOUR CONVERSION - I CORINTHIANS 7:17-24

6A. THE **PLAN** OF GOD FOR SINGLES - I CORINTHIANS 7:25-35

1B. The **IMPORTANCE** of this advice - 25-26

1C. To **Answer** a previous question
“*Now concerning virgins*”

1C. To **Acknowledge** that it has not been taught previously
“*I have no commandment of the Lord*”

3C. To **Accept** the experience of the Apostle Paul
“*yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful*” - NASB/NIV - “*trustworthy*” - cf. *I Tim. 1:12-17*

4C. To **Assist** believers in facing difficult situations and times
“*this is good for the present distress...for a man so to be*”

2B. The **INSTRUCTION** concerning marriage - 27-28

1C. Be **Contented** about your present situation 27
(whether married or divorced) - cf. *Philippians 4:11; I Timothy 6:6*

"ADVICE TO SINGLES"
Message No. 21 - 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

2C. Be **Clear** about what is right and wrong - 28a
"not sinned"

1D. It is not a sin for a divorced person (before conversion) to remarry.

2D. It is not a sin for a virgin to marry a divorced person
(before conversion).

3C. Be **Careful** about future troubles that may arise - 28b
"such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you."

Greek: *thlipsis* - pressed together or under pressure

3B. The **IMPACT** of this teaching - 29-31

1C. As to the **Brevity** of life
"the time is short"

cf. *James 4:14* - it will affect the following areas in our commitment to the Lord:

1D. **Priorities**
"they that have wives be as though they had none"

2D. **Passions**
"they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not"

3D. **Possessions**
"they that buy, as though they possessed not"

4D. **Pleasures**
"they that use this world, as not abusing it"
NIV - *"as if not engrossed in them"*

2C. As to the **Benefits** of this world - 31b
"for the fashion of this world passeth away"

cf. *I John 2:15-17*

"ADVICE TO SINGLES"
Message No. 21 - 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

4B. The **INTENT** of Paul's instruction - 32-35

1C. To **Explain** the differences between the married and the single person in serving the Lord - 32-34

1D. In terms of **concerns** - married people seek to please their spouses, and rightly so; single people do not have that problem!

2D. In terms of **commitments** – married people must give their physical and emotional energy and time to their spouses; single people do not have that problem - they can be "*holy*" or separate in "*body and in spirit.*"

2C. To **Eliminate** wrong pressure in being single - 35a
"not that I may cast a snare upon you" - NIV - "not to restrict you" or NASB "not to put a restraint upon you"

3C. To **Encourage** total commitment to Christ - 35b
"that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction"
NIV - "undivided devotion"

NASB - "undistracted devotion"

7A. THE **PERSUASION** OF MARRIAGE - I CORINTHIANS 7:36-40

1B. The **FACTORS** involved in getting married - 36-38
"toward his virgin" - daughter?

NIV suggests that he is deciding whether to marry her, not just give her away to someone else – 38

"giveth her in marriage" is in NIV "*marries the virgin*" - Greek: *ekgamizo* used only here and in *Matthew 22:30* and *24:38*

1C. The **Danger** of forbidding marriage
"behaveth...uncomely" - NIV - "acting improperly"

Presenting the possibility of seduction and sin when the desires are there

cf. *I Timothy 4:1-5*

“ADVICE TO SINGLES”

Message No. 21 - 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- 2C. The **Development** of the daughter
“pass the flower of her age” (beyond the bloom)
suggests sexual and physical maturity

- 3C. The **Desires** of the daughter
“and need so require”

- 4C. The **Decision** of the father
“let him do what he will, he sinneth not; let them marry”
 - 1D. It is based on his own **determination**
“standeth stedfast...power over his own will...decreed in his heart”

 - 2D. It is based on his **daughter’s** need
“having no necessity”

- 2B. The **FREEDOM** to get married - 39-40
 - 1C. The **Restrictions** - 39
 - 1D. Husband must be dead

 - 2D. Prospect must be a believer

 - 2C. The **Reason** not to do it - 40
“happier” - Greek: *makarios* - “blessed”

 - 3C. The **Reliability** of what is being taught
“I think also that I have the Spirit of God”

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 22

“DON’T CAUSE OTHERS TO STUMBLE!”

I Corinthians 8:1-13

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

1A. OVER THE **SACRIFICES** TO IDOLS - I CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

1B. The **PROBLEM** of the Corinthians - 1-3

1C. They **Exalted** the importance of knowledge

“*knowledge puffeth up*” - Greek: *phusioo* used 7 times; 6 in *I Cor.* - 4:6, 18, 19; 5:2; 8:1; 13:4 - NASB - “*makes arrogant*”

2C. They **Excluded** love from their ministry to one another

“*but charity edifieth*” - Greek: *oikodomeo* - 40 times
cf. *I Cor.* 8:1, 10; 10:23; 14:4, 17

cf. *Eph.* 4:16; *I Thess.* 5:11

3C. They **Eliminated** the possibility of more knowledge

“*and if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know*”

Real knowledge keeps learning; it never believes it has arrived at the whole truth!

4C. They **Evidenced** a failure to love God - 3

cf. *I John* 4:7ff

2B. The **PRESENCE** of idolatry - 4-6

1C. The **Reality** of idols - 4

“*idols*” - Greek: *eidolothuton* or *eidolon* used 34 times in NT

“DON'T CAUSE OTHERS TO STUMBLE”

Message No. 22 - 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

- 1D. Their **connection** with the food offered to them
“As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols

NOTE: Since it was usually better quality - the pagan priests would sell it to the marketplace, and it was so identified.

- 2D. Their **character**
“an idol is nothing in the world” - cf. Psalm 115:4-8

- 3D. The **confusion** that is caused
“there Is none other God but One”
cf. *Deut. 6:4; Isa. 44:6, 8-20*

- 2C. The **Recognition** of idols by the world - 5
“called gods, whether in heaven or in earth (as there be gods many, and lords many)”

Heroes of mythology - power rangers of today's culture!

- 3C. The **Relationship** of all things to God - 6
*“But (Greek: *alla* - great contrast) to us” - cf. Acts 17:16, 22-31*

- 1D. He is the **Origin** of all things
*“of (Greek: *ek*) Whom are all things”*

- 2D. He is the **Object** of all human life
*“and we in Him” - Greek: *eis* - unto*
NIV - *“for Whom we live” - NASB - “we exist for Him”*

- 3D. He is the **Operator** of all things
*“by (Greek: *dia*) Whom are all things and we by Him” - cf. Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2*

- 3B. The **PRACTICE** of eating that which is sacrificed to idols - 7-8
*“Howbeit” - Greek: *alla* - strong contrast*

- 1C. A weak **Conscience** is defiled - 7
cf. *Romans 2:14-15; 14:14, 20*

“DON’T CAUSE OTHERS TO STUMBLE”

Message No. 22 - 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

2C. A wrong **Conclusion** is drawn - 8
cf. *Romans 14:17*

4B. The **PRINCIPLE** of Christian liberty - 9-13

1C. Based on a specific **Purpose** toward the weak brother - 9
Don’t become a stumblingblock!
Greek: *proskomma* - used 6 times - cf. *Romans 14:13, 21*

2C. Based on the **Persuasion** of your example - 10

1D. The **issue** is clear
“see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol’s temple”
cf. *I Thess. 5:22*

2D. The **impact** is strong
“emboldened (Greek: *oikodomeo* - “edified”) *to eat...”*

3C. Based on the **Problem** of the weaker brother - 11
He can’t handle it!

1D. The **extent** of the problem
“perish” - Greek: *apollumi* - 32 times. It has tragic consequences in terms of his spiritual development and growth

2D. The **example** of our Lord
“for whom Christ died” - Can’t we refrain from something that would cause him to stumble?

4C. Based on the **Possibility** of sin - 12
cf. *James 4:17* - *“wound their weak conscience”* - Greek: *tupto* - to beat with a stick

5C. Based on the **Priority** of others - 13
“if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend”

1D. The **moment** of salvation - I Th. 1:9
“my brother” - we are now in the same family!
cf. *Acts 15:20, 29; 21:25*

"DON'T CAUSE OTHERS TO STUMBLE"

Message No. 22 - 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

2D. The **message** of John - ***1 John 5:21***
Obviously, a great danger - ***Col. 3:5***

3D. The **meaning** of "***offend***"
Greek: *skandalizo* - 32 times - ***Rom. 14:21***

NIV- "***fall into sin***" NASB- "***stumble***"

4D. The **motive** behind it
"***lest I make my brother to offend***"

cf. ***Galatians 5:13-14***

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 23
“SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL”
I Corinthians 9:1-18

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

1A. OVER THE **SACRIFICES** TO IDOLS - I CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

2A. OVER THE **SUPPORT** OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 9:1-18

1B. The **REASON** for Paul’s remarks - 1-3

(People were questioning his authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ)

The word “*apostle*” in its various forms appears 83 times in the NT; However, the Greek word from which it is derived, *apostello* is found 148 times, of which 109 are in the four gospels. The Greek word refers to “one who is sent from someone on a mission.”

1C. His **Experience** should answer those who questioned him - 1

“*Am I not an apostle?*” The question assumes the answer

“Of course you are!”

The twelve apostles that Jesus called to follow Him (Matthew 10:2), are also mentioned in *Luke 22:14* at the last Passover Jesus had on earth. The only other time they are mentioned is in *Rev. 21:14* where we learn that their names are in the twelve foundations of the heavenly city - “the new Jerusalem”

NOTE: Some believe that these phrases are dependent upon one another, therefore they believe that one of the qualifications of an apostle was to have physically seen Jesus Christ. From there, the argument goes that the disciples chose the wrong man to replace Judas, and that it really should have been Paul. They also use the argument that “casting the lot” was not trusting the Holy Spirit to lead them (cf. *Prov. 16:33*).

"SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL"
Message No. 23 - 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

But, the Holy Spirit includes Matthias in the twelve - read *Acts 1:16-26; 2:14*. There were other apostles besides the twelve, including Andronicus and Junias (*Rom. 16:7*), Barnabas (*Acts 13:1-4; 14:4; Gal. 2:9*), Silvanus and Timothy (*I Thess. 1:1; 2:6*), Titus (*II Cor. 8:23*), Epaphroditus (*Phil. 2:25*), and James the Lord's brother (*Gal. 1:19*). Paul mentions the "signs of an apostle" in *II Cor. 12:12*.

The church is built upon "the foundation of the apostles and prophets" according to *Eph. 2:20*, and the mystery of the church was revealed unto his "holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit" (*Eph. 3:5*) - These were the "holy men of God" who were used by the Holy Spirit to write the Bible (*II Peter 1:19-21*).

2C. The **Evidence** of his right was his ministry among them - 2

v. 1 - "are not ye my work in the Lord?"

v. 2 - "the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord"

cf. *Acts 14:21-28* - the work of an apostle:

1D. **Evangelism** - "preached the gospel"

Greek: *euaggelizo* - 170 times

2D. **Discipleship** - "taught many"

Greek: *matheteuo* - cf. *Matt. 28:19*

3D. **Confirmation** - "confirming the souls of the disciples"

Greek: *episterizo* - cf. *Acts 15:32, 41; 18:23*

4D. **Exhortation** - "exhorting them ..."

Greek: *parakaleo* - 107 times

5D. **Selection** of leaders - "ordained them elders in every church"

Greek: *cheirotoneo* - cf. *II Cor. 8:19*

2B. The **RIGHT** of God's servants to live like others and be supported - 4-7

1C. His **Comparison** to others in matters of food, marriage, and work - 4-6

2C. His **Connection** with military service, farming, and shepherding - 7

"SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL"
Message No. 23 - 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

- 3B. The Biblical **REVELATION** that teaches us to support God's servants - 8-11
 - 1C. The **Practice** of Deuteronomy 25:4
Gentiles had the practice of muzzling the oxen while being driven to plow
- the law of Moses was much more humane.
 - 2C. The **Point** is to be applied to us - 10
cf. *1 Timothy 5:17-18*
 - 3C. The **Principle** we learn - 11
"carnal things" - means "material things"

- 4B. The **RESPONSE** of Paul in not using his right - 12
 - 1C. His **Endurance** was a key to his effectiveness
"suffer all things"
 - 2C. His **Explanation** reveals his wisdom and true motivations
"lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ"

- 5B. Our **RESPONSIBILITY** to support God's workers - 13-14
 - 1C. It was **Evidenced** in the ministry of the temple - 13
 - 2C. It was **Established** by our Lord Himself - 14
cf. *Matt. 10:10; Luke 10:7*

- 6B. The **REACTION** of Paul to his rights and responsibilities - 15-16
 - 1C. His **Purpose** was not manipulative or selfish
*"I have used none of these things neither have I written these things,
that it should be done unto me"*
 - 2C. His **Priorities** were clear
*"for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my
glorying void"*
 - 3C. His **Preaching** was based a divine call, not a promise of support - 16

"SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL"
Message No. 23 - 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

7B. The **REWARD** Paul expected - 17-18

1C. It was a strong **Commitment** that brings its own reward - 17

2C. It was a specific **Challenge** to trust God to meet his needs regardless of the support involved - 18

cf. Phil. 4:10-13, 19

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 24
“BY ALL MEANS SAVE SOME”
I Corinthians 9:19-27

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

1A. OVER THE **SACRIFICES** TO IDOLS - I CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

2A. OVER THE **SUPPORT** OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 9:1-18

3A. OVER THE **SALVATION** OF THE LOST - I CORINTHIANS 9:19-27

1B. The **DEDICATION** that is needed - 19-23

1C. His **Priority** - 19

“*servant unto all*”

Greek word: *edoulosa* from *douloo* - verb used 13 times; noun used 127 times “to become a slave” - cf. *Rom. 6:18, 22*

(companion word – *diakonos* or *diakoneo* used 22 times as a noun, 40 as a verb – “to serve” – English word “deacon”)

Paul calls himself a “*doulos*” in *Rom. 1:1* and *Titus 1:1*

1D. No obligation

“*free from all men*”

cf. *II Cor. 9:7* – the case of giving

2D. No hesitancy

“*yet have I made myself*”

he was not forced or pressured to do so – cf. *II Cor. 4:5*

3D. No partiality

“*unto all*”

cf. *Rom. 1:14-16; 2:11; James 2:1-10* - cf. *II Tim. 2:24-26*

"BY ALL MEANS SAVE SOME"
Message No. 24 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

2C. His **Practices** - 20-22

1D. Based on a willing **decision**

"I became" – not compromise, but cultural adaptability

A willingness to change and be flexible in lifestyle v. 22

"I am made all things to all men" – literally *"I have become..."*

2D. Based on a clear **dependency** upon the Lord and His Word

"being not without law to God, but under the law of Christ"

cf. *James 4:17*

3D. Based on a strong **desire** to win all people to faith in Jesus Christ

"that I might gain them" - 4 times Greek: *kerdaino* – 16 times

Cf. *Phil. 3:8; I Peter 3:1*

4D. Based on a constant **determination** to identify with those he wanted to reach – including:

1E. Those **conformed** to religious tradition – 20a

2E. Those **committed** to oral and extra-Biblical requirements – 20b

3E. Those **controlled** by secular thinking and lifestyles - 21

4E. Those **characterized** by spiritual or emotional weakness - 22

2B. The **DISCIPLINE** that is necessary - 24-27

1C. The **Race** makes it clear - 24

cf. *Heb. 12:1-2* - Greek: *stadion* – 6 times

2C. The **Reasons** demonstrate it - 25-27

1D. To **receive** an incorruptible crown - 25

1E. It will be a **struggle** – *"striveth"*

Greek: *agonizomai* – 7 times *II Tim. 4:7* – *"I have fought a good fight"* – Greek "agony"

"BY ALL MEANS SAVE SOME"
Message No. 24 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

2E. It will require **self-control**
"temperate" – cf. *I Cor. 7:9*

Greek: *egkradeuomai*

2D. To **restrict** the body's tendency to sidetrack us - 26-27a

1E. Causing a lack of **resolve**

2E. Causing a lack of **results**

3D. To **resist** the danger of being disqualified - 27b
Greek: *adokimos* – 8 times

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 25

“FACING TEMPTATION”

I Corinthians 10:1-14

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

1A. OVER THE SACRIFICES TO IDOLS - I CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

2A. OVER THE SUPPORT OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 9:1-18

3A. OVER THE SALVATION OF THE LOST - I CORINTHIANS 9:19-27

4A. OVER THE SERIOUSNESS OF TEMPTATION - I CORINTHIANS 10:1-14

NOTE: “*I would not that ye should be ignorant*”

Used often in the context of prophecy: (also – *I Cor. 12:1*)

(1) Don’t be ignorant about the resurrection of dead delievers – *I Thess. 4:13*

(2) Don’t be ignorant about the blindness of Israel - *Romans 11:25*

(3) Don’t be ignorant about the timing of the Day of the Lord – *II Peter 3:8-9*

1B. REMEMBER the FAILURES of Israel – 10:1-11

1C. Their Privileges - 1-4

1D. The presence and direction of the Lord
“*under the cloud*” – *Exodus 13:21-22; 40:34-38*

2D. The protection of the Lord
“*and all passed through the sea*” - *Exodus 14:21-22, 29-31*

v. 2 – “*all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea*”

Identified with Moses as their leader

"FACING TEMPTATION"
Message No. 25 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-14

NOTE: The word "**baptism**" is used in the following ways in the New Testament:

- (1) Figuratively – *I Cor. 10:2* (cloud and sea)
- (2) Emotionally – *Matt. 20:22-23* (His suffering)
- (3) Physically – *Acts 8:35-38* (water)
- (4) Spiritually – *I Cor. 12:13* (the Holy Spirit)
- (5) Eternally – *Matt. 3:11-12* (fire – Hell)

3D. The **provision** of the Lord – 3-4
"eat the same spiritual meat and did all drink the same spiritual drink" - *John 6:32-33, 35, 48-51; 7:37-39* - *"that Rock was Christ"*
Word used 119 times, 13 in the NT – refers to the Messiah
cf. *Matt. 16:18; Rom. 9:33 I Peter 2:8.*

2C. Their **Problems** - 5-10
"with many of them God was not well pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness"

1D. Lack of **contentment** with God's provision – 6
cf. *Num. 11:4, 34*

2D. Lack of **conviction** about idolatry and all that Egypt offered them - 7
cf. *Exodus 32:1-10*

23,000 died in one day – the others later, making the total – 24,000

3D. Lack of **control** over sexual desires – 8
cf. *Numbers 25:1-3, 9*

4D. Lack of **confidence** in the Lord's purposes and direction - 9
cf. *Numbers 21:4-9* cf. *John 3:14*

5D. Lack of **commitment** to God's plan for leadership and authority - 10
"murmur" – Greek: *gogguzo* – used 8 times – cf. *Numbers 16:1-3, 13, 35, 41, 49*

3C. The **Purpose** of the Lord – 11

1D. Their failures were **illustrations**
"all these things happened unto them as ensamples"

"FACING TEMPTATION"

Message No. 25 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-14

- 2D. Their failures are **instruction** for us today
"for our admonition upon whom the ends of the world (ages) are come" "admonition"

Greek: *nouthesia* or the verb form *noutheteo* – used 11 times – cf.
Rom. 15:4; I Cor. 4:14; Eph. 6:4; Col. 1:28; 3:16; I Th. 5:12, 14; II Th. 3:15

- 2B. **RECOGNIZE** the **FACT** of temptation – 10:12-13a
"Wherefore" – Greek: *hoste* – used 74 times in NT, 13 in I Cor. – *I Cor. 15:58*
Refers to the result of all that was said previously

NOTE: The word *temptation* is the Greek *peirasmos*, used 21 times, or the verb *peirazo* used 41 times. It does not always refer to the solicitation to do evil – it can refer to the difficult trials of life – *James 1:2, 12*

- 1C. It **Admonishes** us not to trust ourselves – 12
"take heed lest he fall" - cf. *Matt. 26:41*

- 2C. It **Affects** all believers – 13a
"common to man" – cf. *Heb. 4:15*

- 3B. **REST** in the **FAITHFULNESS** of God – 10:13b
"but God is faithful"

- 1C. His **Protection**
"Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able"

- 2C. His **Provision** - "will with the temptation also make a way of escape"

- 3C. His **Plan** - "that ye may be able to bear it"
cf. *James 1:2-4*

Our ability to endure it IS the way out of temptation; God puts His strength in us and uses the temptation to make us strong and teaches us to depend totally upon Him! cf. *II Cor. 12:7-10; I Pet. 5:8-11*

- 4B. **RESPOND** with **FAITH** in the Lord alone – 10:14
"flee from idolatry" – cf. *I John 5:21*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 26

“DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD!”

I Corinthians 10:15-33

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

1A. OVER THE SACRIFICES TO IDOLS - I CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

2A. OVER THE SUPPORT OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 9:1-18

3A. OVER THE SALVATION OF THE LOST - I CORINTHIANS 9:19-27

4A. OVER THE SERIOUSNESS OF TEMPTATION - I CORINTHIANS 10:1-14

5A. OVER THE SITUATIONS OF FELLOWSHIP - I CORINTHIANS 10:15-33

1B. RESIST wrong relationships and associations - 15-22

1C. The problem of Communion – 16-18

1D. Our realization of what the bread and the cup teach - 16
cf. *Matthew 26:19-20, 26-30*

“*communion*” – Greek: *koinonia* - fellowship
cf. *II Cor. 6:14-18*

2D. Our relationship to the Lord – 17
cf. *John 6:35, 47-51*

3D. The reference to Israel – 18

2C. The problem of Compromise – 19-22

1D. The importance of the idol – 19

NOTE: Idolatry is described in *Deut. 4:15-19, 23-24*

It includes the following:

"DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD"

Message No. 26 - 1 Corinthians 10:15-33

- (1) The worship of any image or statute
- (2) The worship of angels – *Col. 2:18*
- (3) The worship of demons – *Rev. 9:20*
- (4) The worship of the dead – *Psalms 106:28-29; Isaiah 8:19-20*
- (5) The worship of material things – “*covetousness*” - cf. *Eph. 5:5; Col. 3:5*
- (6) The worship of sensual pleasures – *Phil. 3:18-19*

2D. The **involvement** of demons – 20
cf. *Deut. 32:16-17; Psa. 106:36-37*

3D. The **impossibility** of partaking at both tables – 21
cf. *Matthew 6:24* (“*two masters*”)

4D. The **insinuation** of what we are doing - 22
Cf. *Deut. 32:21*

2B. **RESPOND** to non-believers in the right way - 23-30

1C. The problem of **Conformity** – 23-24

(three questions to ask)

1D. Is it profitable? (Literally “to bear together”)

2D. Does it edify? (four things edify)

1E. The Bible – *Acts 20:32; II Timothy 3:16-17*

2E. Preaching – *I Cor. 14:3-4*

3E. Love – *I Cor. 8:1*

4E. Ministry to others – *Eph. 4:12*

3D. Is it unselfish? - cf. *Phil. 2:3-4*

2C. The problem of **Conscience** – 25-30

1D. **Remember** that there is nothing wrong with the food itself – 25-26
cf. *Romans 14:14; I Timothy 4:1-5*

2D. **Respond** to the invitation of a non-believer without asking questions – 27

"DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD"

Message No. 26 - 1 Corinthians 10:15-33

3D. **Refuse** to eat what was sacrificed to idols if an issue is made of it
– 28

4D. **Resist** feeling guilty for what troubles another person if you have
been able to thank God for the opportunity – 29-30

(cf. *Romans 14:22-23*)

3B. **REMEMBER** your basic purpose in life – 31-33

1C. Being **Committed** to glorifying God – 31

2C. Being **Careful** not to offend – 32

3C. Being **Concerned** for the salvation of others – 33

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 27
“A COVERING FOR THE HEAD”
I Corinthians 11:1-16

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** – NOT HONORED! *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

1A. THE **RECOGNITION** OF PAUL’S EXAMPLE AND EXHORTATIONS - 11:1-2

1B. His **EXAMPLE** was powerful

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ”

cf. *Phil. 3:17; Heb. 13:7*

2B. His **EXHORTATIONS** were practiced

“Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.”

“ordinances” (Greek: *paradosis*) – “traditions”

used 13 times - cf. *II Thess. 2:15; 3:6*

“delivered” (Greek: *paradidomi*) – same word

2A. THE **RELATIONSHIP** OF THE HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE - 11:3

NOTE: The failure to indicate the Greek words for “man” in this text creates a misunderstanding of the issue of submission in male/female relationships. The

Greek word for “women” is the same for a single woman as well as a “wife.” A “wife” is meant in translation only when the word for “man” is the Greek *aner* or *andros*, NOT the general term for man or humanity – the Greek *anthropos*.

The Greek word *aner* is used 212 times in the NT – 11 times in our passage in *I Cor. 11:3-16*. Interestingly, it is the same word in *I Cor. 14:34-35* and *I Timothy 2:12*. *Ephesians 5:22* makes it clear that a “wife” is to submit to her “own husband” NOT to other men!

"A COVERING FOR THE HEAD"
Message No. 27 - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16

- 1B. The **IMPERATIVE** of a husband's submission to the Lord
"the head of every man is Christ"

The great breakdown in husband and wife relationships is usually the failure of the husband to submit to the Lord's authority in his life. It is easy for a wife to submit to the authority of a husband who is first submissive to the Lord!

- 2B. The **IMPORTANCE** of a wife's submission to her husband
"and the head of the woman is the man" (Definite article not in text in this case only in first case above) – *Eph. 5:22*

- 3B. The **ILLUSTRATION** of submission
"and the head of Christ is God"

The submission of our Lord – *"not My will, but Thine be done."*

- 3A. THE **REASONS** FOR THIS INSTRUCTION - 11:4-15

- 1B. Public **DISHONOR** – 4-6

- 1C. The **Culture**

Men who covered their heads were offensive to the Greeks and Romans; married women would always cover their heads, usually with a veil, in public. In Orthodox Judaism, and in Islamic circles, women still cover their heads and usually their faces as well when in public.

- 2C. The **Context** of praying or preaching

There were women prophets, and the Philip's daughters prophesied – *Acts 21:9* - cf. *I Timothy 2:9-10*

- 3C. The **Concern**

"dishonoureth his (or her) head" – it brings shame in that it violates the relationship of husband and wife.

- 4C. The **Comparison** of uncovering the head and having the head shaved.

The Talmud speaks of a woman with a shaved head as being extremely ugly.

Chrysostom said that a woman who committed adultery should have her head shaved as prostitutes did.

"A COVERING FOR THE HEAD"
Message No. 27 - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16

2B. Original **DESIGN** – 7-9

1C. The **Plan** of God is for a wife to reflect her husband's character and attitudes.

"the glory of the man"

2C. The **Position** of the woman in terms of the timing and creation of God is to reflect the husband's authority and leadership

"the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man"

3C. The **Purpose** of creating the woman was for the benefit of the man
Gen. 2:18

3B. Angelic **DEFILEMENT** – 10

1C. If fallen angels

The issue is sensuality. Wives who fail to stay under the umbrella of their husband's leadership become more susceptible to demonic temptations.

Cf. *I Tim. 5:11-15; II Tim. 3:6*

2C. If good angels

The issue is service. *Heb. 1:14* – "*ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation*" - their ministry is hindered by a wife's refusal to submit to her husband.

4B. Mutual **DEPENDENCY** – 11-13

1C. A joint **Experience** – 11

"in the Lord" – cf. *I Peter 3:7*

2C. A Biblical **Explanation** – 12

Our dependency upon each other is clear from the facts of how we come into the world – the One Who is behind it all and planned it all – "*all things of God*"

cf. *Romans 11:36*

"A COVERING FOR THE HEAD"
Message No. 27 - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16

3C. An obvious **Evaluation** – 13
"Judge in yourselves"

5B. Natural **DECISION** – 14-15

1C. The **Conclusion** one draws from conscience or instinct
"nature" – Greek: *phusis*

1D. Long hair for men – *"shame"*

2D. Long hair for women – *"glory"*

2C. The **Covering** of a woman
"for her hair is given her for a covering"

The Greek word *"for"* is *anti* – "in stead of"

4A. THE **REALIZATION** OF THIS PRACTICE IN THE CHURCHES - 11:16
"contentious" – Greek: *philoneikos* – "loves a fight" or "fond of strife"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 28

“THE BREAD AND THE CUP”

I Corinthians 11:17-34

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** – NOT HONORED! *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** – NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

1A. THE **PROBLEMS** AMONG THESE BELIEVERS

I Cor. 11:17-22 (vv. 17, 22 – “*I praise you not*”)

1B. The **POINT** of meeting together was being hurt – 17

“*not for the better, but the worse*”

NIV – “*do more harm than good*”

Instead of spiritual growth, fellowship, and love, there was hurt and a lack of unity and fellowship.

2B. The **PRESENCE** of “divisions”

Greek word: *schisma* – 8 times cf. *I Cor. 1:10; 12:25* - cf. *John 10:19-21*

3B. The **POSSIBILITY** of “heresies”

Greek: *hairesis* – 9 times – cf. *Gal. 5:20; II Pet. 2:1*

“sect” – *Acts 5:17; 15:5; 24:5*

4B. The **PURPOSE** of the Lord’s Supper was being abused – 20-22

1C. In their **Application** of it – 20-22a

2C. In their **Attitude** toward the church - 22b

“*despise ye the church of God?*”

3C. In their **Actions** of “shame” toward those who had nothing to eat - 22c

"THE BREAD AND THE CUP"
Message No. 28 - 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** BEHIND THE LORD'S SUPPER - 11:23-26

1B. They were **COMMUNICATED** by the Lord Himself – 23
"I have received of the Lord"

2B. They were **CONNECTED** to the Jewish Passover – 24-25

1C. As to the **Timing** of these actions by our Lord
"when He had supped" – or literally, "after supper"

2C. As to the **Truth** about His body
"which is broken for you" (not in NIV or NASB)

3C. As to the **Testament** represented
"the new testament (covenant) in My blood"

4C. As to the **Tasting** of the Bread and Cup
"Take eat" and *"drink it"* - *I Peter 2:2-3*

3B. They were **CENTERED** in remembering what the Lord has done for us
24-25

"in remembrance of Me"

4B. They were **CHARACTERIZED** as proclaiming the Lord's death - 26
"till He come"

3A. THE **PRACTICES** OF BELIEVERS THAT WILL BE JUDGED BY THE LORD
I CORINTHIANS 11:27-34

1B. The **ACT** of participating in an unworthy manner - 27-30

1C. The **Indication** of guilt - 27
When we fail to show love toward others, we are hurting those for whom the Lord died, and in reality, we are hurting Him and guilty of not understanding His total forgiveness and cleansing which He alone has provided.

2C. The **Importance** of self-examination - 28

“THE BREAD AND THE CUP”
Message No. 28 - 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

- 3C. The **Issue** that is involved
“not discerning the Lord’s body”

- 4C. The **Impact** upon the physical life of the believer – 30

- 2B. The **ABSENCE** of self-judgment – 31-32
Greek: *diakrino* – 22 times – *“judge ourselves”*
 - 1C. The **Promise**
“we should not be judged”

 - 2C. The **Punishment**
“we are chastened of the Lord” – disciplined – Greek: *paideuo* used 13 times – cf. **Heb. 12:6, 7, 10**

 - 3C. The **Purpose** of the Lord’s judgment
“that we should not be condemned with the world”
Greek: *katakrino* – 19 times

- 3B. The **ATTITUDE** toward other believers - 33-34
 - 1C. A loving **Patience**
“tarry one for another”

 - 2C. A spiritual **Purpose**
“eat at home”

The purpose is not to satisfy hunger, but to manifest love, unity, and worship of our blessed Lord!

FIRST CORINTHIANS
Message No. 29
“DIFFERENCES IN THE GIFTS”
I Corinthians 12:1-6

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE PROBLEM OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

1B. The **DISCUSSION** focuses on the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer - 1-3

1C. The **Nature** of these spiritual gifts – 1a
“*spiritual*” – Greek: *pneumatikos* – that which has spiritual qualities to it

1D. They are not natural talents or abilities

2D. They are not the same as the “fruit” of the Holy Spirit

3D. They are not evidence of spiritual maturity and growth – *I Cor. 1:7*

4D. They are not given to you because you pray or ask for them
I Cor. 12:11

5D. They are not acquired abilities or talents which a person is able to learn and/or produce

6D. They are the result of God’s grace – we do nothing to earn or to deserve them - *Romans 12:6*

"DIFFERENCES IN THE GIFTS"
Message No. 29 - 1 Corinthians 12:1-6

- 2C. The **Need** for understanding 1b-3
 - 1D. The **problem** of ignorance – 1b
cf. *Rom. 11:25; I Thess. 4:13; II Peter 3:8-9*
cf. *Ephesians 4:17-18*
 - 2D. The **practice** of idolatry – 2
“*carried away*” – Greek: *apago*
 - 3D. The **principle** of interpretation – 3
 - 1E. **Negatively**
“*no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed*”

cf. *I John 4:1-6*
 - 2E. **Positively**
“*no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost*”

cf. *Rom. 10:9-10*
- 2B. The **DIFFERENCES** among the believers are caused by God – 4-6
 - 1C. Every believer has at least one spiritual gift – *I Peter 4:10-11*
 - 2C. The differences in the nature and use of spiritual gifts are the result of God’s grace - cf. *Romans 12:6*
 - 3C. Not all believers have the same gift
“*diversities of gifts*”
 - 4C. All spiritual gifts are given by the same Holy Spirit
“*but the same Spirit*”
 - 5C. Believers who have the same gift will use it in different ways
“*differences of administrations*”

"DIFFERENCES IN THE GIFTS"
Message No. 29 - 1 Corinthians 12:1-6

6C. Every believer's gift should be used to serve the Lord
"but the same Lord"

7C. The extent to which each believer's gift is used is determined by our
sovereign God

*"diversities of operations, but it is The same God which worketh all in
all" - cf. I Peter 4:11*

SUMMARY – different words for “gifts”

(1) *dorea* – the gift of the Holy Spirit Himself - cf. *Acts 2:38*

(2) *charisma* – special abilities given by the Holy Spirit – cf. *I Cor. 12* and other
passages

(3) *doma* – gifted men given to the church to equip the believers to use their gifts–
Eph. 4:11-12

(4) *merismos* – special miraculous sign gifts to confirm the message of the apostles –
Heb. 2:1-4 - cf. *Mark 16:17-20*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 30

“HOW GIFTS ARE GIVEN”

I Corinthians 12:7-11

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE PROBLEM OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

1B. The DISCUSSION focuses on the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer - 1-3

2B. The DIFFERENCES among the believers are caused by God - 4-6

3B. The DESIGN of the gifts relates to others, not yourself - 7

1C. The Producing of the gifts is the work of the Holy Spirit
“*the manifestation of the Spirit is given...*”

Greek: *phanerosis* – used twice – other forms of the word used 93 times in NT

NOTE: The work of the Holy Spirit involves the following 12 things:

- (1) CONVICTION of sin, righteousness, & judgment *John 16:7-11* (Conviction)
- (2) CONVERSION – *John 3:1-8; Titus 3:5-7; I Peter 1:2, 22-25* (Regeneration)
- (3) CONVINCING of our present relationship to Jesus Christ – *Rom. 8:14-17; I John 3:24; 5:6-13* (Assurance)

"HOW GIFTS ARE GIVEN"
Message No. 30 - 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

- (4) **CONFIDENCE** in our future blessings in Jesus Christ – *II Cor. 1:20-22; Eph. 1:13-14* (Sealing)
- (5) **CONNECTION** to the body of Jesus Christ – *I Cor. 12:13* (Baptism)
- (6) **CHRISTLIKENESS** in all we think, say, and do – *Rom. 12:1-2; II Cor. 3:18* (*Transformation*)
- (7) **CONTROL** of our sinful desires – *Gal. 5:16-26; Eph. 5:3-14* (Fruit)
- (8) **CHANGE** in our attitudes – *Eph. 5:15-21* (Filling)
- (9) **COMFORT** in our trials – *John 14:16-18; Rom. 8:26-30* (Intercession)
- (10) **CALLING** to do the Lord's will – *Acts 16:6-10; 21:10-14; 23:11* (Guidance)
- (11) **CONCERN** about the lost – *Acts 1:8; I Cor. 2:2-5* (Power)
- (12) **COMMITMENT** of different ministries for the encouragement of believers
I Cor. 12:11 (*Gifts*)

2C. The **Place** of every believer
"to every man" – cf. *I Peter 4:10*

3C. The **Purpose** of the gifts
"to profit withal" – Greek: *pros to sumpheron*

"toward the bearing together" (to bring unity and harmony in the body of Jesus Christ)

4B. The **DESCRIPTION** of the gifts reveals that we all have different ministries
8-10

1C. It is a **Sampling** of the gifts – only nine are listed

1D. Seven in *Romans 12:6-8*

2D. Nine in *I Cor. 12:8-10* (prophecy is repeated from *Rom. 12:6*)

"HOW GIFTS ARE GIVEN"
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- 3D. Eight in *I Cor. 12:28* (three were repeated from *I Cor. 12:8-10*)
- 4D. Four in *Eph. 4:11* (three repeated from *I Cor. 12:28*)
- 5D. Perhaps one from *I Peter 4:9-10*

NOTE: The gifts can be put into the following categories for easy remembrance:

- (1) **SPECIAL** GIFTS – to *equip* God's people
 - Apostles Evangelists
 - Prophets Pastor/Teachers

- (2) **SPEAKING** GIFTS – to *explain* God's truth
 - Prophecy
 - Teaching
 - Exhortation
 - Word of wisdom
 - Word of knowledge

- (3) **SERVING** GIFTS – to *enable* God's work
 - Leadership
 - Administration
 - Ministering
 - Showing Mercy
 - Faith
 - Discernment

- (4) **SUPPORT** GIFTS – to *enable* God's people
 - Helps
 - Giving
 - Hospitality

- (5) **SIGN** GIFTS – to *establish* God's authority
 - Working of miracles
 - Gifts of healing
 - Kinds of tongues
 - Interpretation of tongues

"HOW GIFTS ARE GIVEN"
Message No. 30 - 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

- 2C. It is the **Same** Spirit Who gives the gifts - 8
"to one is given by the Spirit...by the same spirit (also v. 9)"
- 3C. Some are **Similar** to other gifts:
- The "word of wisdom" is similar (Greek: *allos* – another of the same kind) to the "word of knowledge" The "kinds of tongues" are similar to the "interpretation of tongues" (*allos*)
- 4C. Some are **Supernatural** in terms of what they accomplish:
"working of miracles" and "gifts of healing" and "kinds of tongues" etc.
- 5B. The **DISTRIBUTION** of the gifts rests upon the sovereignty of God - 11
- 1C. The Holy Spirit **Works** the gifts through the believers
"all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit"
- 2C. The Holy Spirit **Wills** the distribution of the gifts
"dividing to every man severally as He will"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 31

“ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS”

I Corinthians 12:12-27

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST - 12:12-31

1B. The **NATURE** of the body of Christ – 12-13

1C. It is **Compared** to the physical body
“one body....many members”
(Many are one, but one is not many!)

2C. It is **Carried** out by the Holy Spirit

NOTE: the baptism of the Holy Spirit

(1) The word “*baptism*” or “*baptized*” in its various forms is used 116 times in English, but the Greek word appears 123 times in its various forms.

(2) There are various kinds of “baptism” in the NT:

“*the cloud and the sea*” – *I Cor. 10:1-2*

“*suffering*” – *Matt. 20:22-23*

“*fire*” – *Matt. 3:11-12*

“*water*” – *Acts 8:35-38*

“*Spirit*” – used 7 times, six of which are contrasted with the water baptism of John the Baptist.

“ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS”

Message No. 31 - 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

- (3) There are differences in how the Bible speaks of Spirit baptism – seven times it uses *en* with the dative - “*by means of*” – it is a work done by Jesus Christ – He is the Baptizer!

In our text, we are told that the purpose of the Spirit’s baptism is to make us a part of the body of Jesus Christ – the preposition is *eis* – “*into one body*” – In *Acts 1:4-5* we have another usage of Spirit baptism, but in verse 8 it says that the Holy Spirit will come “*upon*” us – the Greek is *epi* – the issue is not said to be the body of Christ, but rather the power to witness.

Acts 2:4 describes the experience as being “*filled with the Holy Spirit.*” The phrase “*filled with the Holy Spirit*” appears 8 times in the NT (*Luke 1:15, 61, 67; Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 9:17; 13:9*). The command “*be Filled with the Spirit*” appears once in the NT in *Ephesians 5:18*.

- 3C. It is **Connected** with salvation
“*all made to drink into one Spirit*”

cf. *Acts 10:44-48 and 11:15-18; 19:2*
cf. *Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12-15*

- 4C. It is **Concerned** with making Gentiles a part of the body with Jews
cf. *Gal. 3:27-28; Eph. 2:14-16; 3:4-6; 4:4-6*

- 2B. The **NEED** of the members of the body of Christ – 14-27

- 1C. It is **Characterized** by diversity and unity - 14-17, 19-20

1D. The members are **described** as being numerous and different from one another, but one body – 14, 19-20

2D. The members are **defined** by a specific function that is different from others - 15-16

3D. The members are **dependent** upon one another for the proper functioning of the body - 17

- 2C. It is **Controlled** by God Himself - 18

“*But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased Him*”

“ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS”

Message No. 31 - 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

3C. It is **Concerned** with the attitudes and responses the members have toward each other – 21-27

1D. As to the **interdependency** of the members upon each other - 21-22

2D. As to the **importance** of each member - 23-24

“more feeble” – are necessary!

“less honorable” – abundant honor!

3D. As to the **intent** of God behind the relationship of the members
25-26

“have the same care one for another”

Greek: *merimnosi* – used 19 times - cf. *Matt. 6:25, 27, 28, 31, 34*
I Cor. 7:32-34; Phil. 4:6

1E. **Prevents** division – 25a

“that there should be no schism in the body”

Greek: *schisma* – 8 times - cf. *John 7:40-43; 9:16; 10:19*
I Cor. 1:10; 11:18

2E. **Provides** encouragement in times of trial – 26a

“suffer with it”

Greek: *pascho* – used 41 times - cf. *Phil. 1:29;*
I Peter 2:19-21; 3:14, 17; 4:19; 5:10

3E. **Promotes** joy in times of blessing - 26b

“rejoice with it”

4C. It is **Centered** in our relationship to Jesus Christ - 27

“ye are the body of Christ”

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 32

“A MORE EXCELLENT WAY”

I Corinthians 12:28-31

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE PROBLEM OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

2A. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

1B. The NATURE of the body of Christ – 12-13

2B. The NEED of the members of the body of Christ – 14-27

3B. The NECESSITY of the gifts - 28-31

Notice the *men...de* construction in these verses:

men – “on the one hand” – v. 28 *de* – “but on the other hand” – v. 31

1C. The placing of the gifts in the church – 28

“*And God hath set some in the church*” – it is His sovereign act.

1D. The importance of certain gifts

1E. For the planting of a church – *first* – *APOSTLES*

cf. *Acts 14:4, 21-28*

(Forms of word used 218 times)

NOTE: Other than the twelve, the following are called “apostles” in the NT: Paul, Barnabas, Timothy, Titus, andronicus, Junias, Epaphroditus, and James, the Lord’s brother.

2E. For the preaching of the Word – *second* – *PROPHETS*

(Forms of word used 180 times)

"A MORE EXCELLENT WAY"
Message No. 32 - 1 Corinthians 12:28-31

NOTE: There were "prophets" in the church of Antioch (Acts 13:1) and in Corinth (*I Cor. 14:29*) – Agabus, Judas, and Silas are called "prophets" in the NT.

The terms "apostles and prophets" are used together in speaking of the "foundation of the church (*Eph. 2:20*)" and the "revelation about the church (*Eph. 3:5*)." We also have the issue of the "confirmation" of the Word – used in *Hebrews 2:3-4*.

- 3E. For the **progress** of the church – *third* – **TEACHERS**
cf. *Eph. 4:11* (forms of the word "pastor" are used 35 times,
and the word "teacher" 228 times in its various forms)
- 2D. The **impact** of certain gifts in Confirming the spoken Word -
"miracles" and "gifts of healings" - cf. *Mark 16:17-20; Heb. 2:3-4*
- 3D. The **illustration** of gifts meeting the needs of the church
"helps" and "governments"

NOTE: The Greek word for "governments" or "administration" is *kubernesis* which refers to a "helmsman" – not the owner of a ship, but the one in charge of seeing that the vessel, its cargo and its passengers, arrive safely in port – used in Acts 27. The root word was used by Plato, and referred to one who knew all the times of the sky and knew the days of the year and the currents (like our word "navigator").

The word "helps" – Greek: *antilepseis* – to take the place of someone or "to bear the burden with someone" – like *Exodus 18:22*

- 4D. The **involvement** of the church in the exercise of the gift of tongues
- 2C. The **Probability** that these gifts could be Exercised by anyone and everyone - 29-30

The grammar requires that it be read as a question:
"All are not apostles are they?" – the required answer is "NO."

- 3C. The **Practice** of the Corinthians believers - 31a
"But covet earnestly the best gifts" – Greek: *zeloute* – zeal or desire

The form of the word: imperative or declarative – a command or simply a statement of fact? (The grammar allows either one)

"A MORE EXCELLENT WAY"
Message No. 32 - 1 Corinthians 12:28-31

- 1D. The **coveting** of personal desire vs. the sovereignty and will of God in distributing the gifts – ***I Cor. 12:11***
- 2D. The **character** of the church – called "***carnal***" in ch. 3
- 3D. The **comparison** of "***best gifts***"

Greek: *ta kreittona*

The argument of the equality of the gifts and that everyone is needed and important – suffers when this is taken as a command.

- 4C. The **Priority** of a better way – 31b
"and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way"
 - 1D. It can be seen – "*yet shew I...*"
 - 2D. It is much better than the gifts
"more excellent"
 - 3D. It involves a lifestyle – "*way*"
 - 4D. It far exceeds anything else which we might argue is important in life!

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 33

“WHEN LOVE IS NOT THERE”

I Corinthians 13:1-3

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 12:1-11

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE **POWER** OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

Key verse: *I Corinthians 12:31* - “*a more excellent way*”

- (1) God’s love is a lifestyle, not simply a momentary act or feeling.
- (2) God’s love is greater than anything else you may pursue.
(Greek: *hyperbole* - 14:1)
- (3) God’s love can be seen and understood - “*and yet I shew you...*”

NOTE: The Greek language has four words for love:

- (1) SEXUAL LOVE - *eros* - gives a sense (physical or emotional response) of intimacy
- (2) FAMILY LOVE - *storge* - gives a sense of belonging
- (3) FRIENDSHIP LOVE - *phile* - gives a sense of value and worth
- (4) SPIRITUAL LOVE - *agape* - gives a sense of Security

"WHEN LOVE IS NOT THERE"
Message No. 33 - 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Notice five unique qualities of spiritual love:

It is **UNENDING**
"love never faileth" Jer. 31:3; 1 Cor. 13:8

It is **UNCONDITIONAL**
"love covers a multitude of sins" - Prov. 10: 12; 17:9; 1 Peter 4:8

It is **UNUSUAL**
*"let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth"
1 John 3:17-18*

It is **UPLIFTING**
"love edifieth - 1 Cor. 8:1

It is **UNSELFISH**
"lay down our lives for the brethren" - 1 John 3:16

NOTE: There are three paragraphs in chapter 13:

- (1) **13:1-3** - It shows that God's love is necessary for all that we say and do, and that without it, life becomes meaningless and empty. GOD'S LOVE IS **ESSENTIAL!**
- (2) **13:4-7** - It shows that God's love is different from natural human behavior. GOD'S LOVE IS **EXPLAINED!**
- (3) **13:8-13** - It show that God's love is greater than spiritual gifts and greater than faith and hope. GOD'S LOVE IS **EXALTED!**

NOTES:

- (1) One phrase three times - *"but have not love"*
- (2) The word "*though*" (if) - shows that the examples are hypothetical
- (3) The conclusions are different:
 - v. 1 - "*I have become*" - your **impact** is weakened
 - v. 2 - "*I am nothing*" - your **importance** is diminished
 - v. 3 - "*It profits me nothing*" - your **involvement** is unprofitable

"WHEN LOVE IS NOT THERE"
Message No. 33 - 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

1B. GOD'S LOVE IS **ESSENTIAL** - I Corinthians 13:1-3

1C. Without it, our communication is **Ineffective** - 1

1D. The unrealistic **claim**

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels"

2D. The actual **condition**

"have not charity"

3D. The obvious **conclusion**

"I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal" your **impact**

2C. Without it, our understanding is **Incomplete** - 2

1D. The unrealistic **claim**

"though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains"

cf. *Matt. 17:14-21* - casting out a demon; *21:18-22* - cursing a fig tree (Both deal with the power of prayer!)

2D. The actual **condition**

"and have not charity"

3D. The obvious **conclusion**

"I am nothing" - your **importance**

3C. Without it, our giving is **Insufficient** - 3

1D. The unrealistic **claim**

"though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned" - cf. *Matt. 6:14*

2D. The actual **condition**

"and have not charity"

3D. The obvious **conclusion**

"it profiteth me nothing" - your **involvement**

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 34

“HOW LOVE REALLY WORKS!”

I Corinthians 13:4-7

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE PROBLEM OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 12:1-11

2A. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE POWER OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

1B. GOD’S LOVE IS ESSENTIAL - 1-3

1C. Without it, our communication is Ineffective – 1

2C. Without it, our understanding is Incomplete – 2

3C. Without it, our giving is Insufficient – 3

2B. GOD’S LOVE IS EXPLAINED - 13:4-7

NOTE: There are only 41 words in Greek in these verses (54 in KJV English) – all of the verbs (15 of them in Greek) are in the present tense, indicating a habit of life or a lifestyle reminding us of I Cor. 12:31 – “*a more excellent way*” – the first two are positive, and then there are eight negatives explaining the positive.

1C. The Character of God’s love – 4
(*longsuffering* and *kind*)

The definite article “*the*” appears before the word “*love*” which is used only twice in the Greek text of these verses – in front of “*patient*” and “*kind*.”

"HOW LOVE REALLY WORKS"
Message No. 34 - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- 1D. Love **SUFFERS** long with people
"Charity suffereth long"

Greek: *makrothumeo* – 29 times in its various forms – in the OT it is used for the words *"slow to anger."*

NOTE: It is used of the Lord – *1 Peter 3:20; Rom. 9:22*
Exodus 34:5-7; Numbers 14:18-19; Psalm 86:15

- 1E. It is SLOW TO ANGER!

1F. It means you have great understanding – *Prov 14:29*

2F. It means you avoid hostile arguments – *Prov. 15:18*

3F. It means you control your own spirit – *Prov. 16:32*

4F. It means you overlook transgressions against you
Prov. 19:11

- 2E. It is MERCIFUL AND COMPASSIONATE
Psalm 103:8; 145:8; 1 Timothy 1:12-17

- 3E. It is WILLING TO FORGIVE!
Exodus 34:5-7; Matt. 18:21-35

- 4E. It is WILLING TO ENDURE THE FAULTS OF OTHERS!
Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:12-13

- 5E. It is WILLING TO LISTEN - Acts 26:3

- 2D. Love **SERVES** the needs of people *"and is kind"*
Forms of the Greek word appear 19 times in the NT

It refers to that which is useful or of service to others...beneficial.
Used often in OT to translate the word *chesed*, as "lovingkindness."

- 1E. It SHOWS COMPASSION for the needs of others!
Jeremiah 52:31-34

"HOW LOVE REALLY WORKS"
Message No. 34 - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- 2E. It **DESIRES TO FORGIVE!**
Ephesians 4:32
- 3E. It **DOES GOOD** to the unthankful and evil person - *Luke 6:35*
- 4E. It **SEEKS TO RELIEVE** the burdens of others - *Matt. 11:28-30*
"My yoke is easy"
- 2C. The **Contrasts** with God's love – 5-6

(eight negatives)

1D. **ENVIIOUS** – not jealous
"envieth not" - cf. *Genesis 37:11* cf. *Acts 7:9*
Gal. 5:20; James 3:14-15

2D. **BOASTFUL** – *"vaunteth not itself"*
NASB – *"does not brag"*

3D. **ARROGANT** – *"not puffed up"*
(Middle voice in Greek – you do it to yourself – from within!) – it refers to the inflation of one's importance, abilities, appearance, or achievements - cf. *I Cor. 4:18-19; 5:2; 8:1*

4D. **SHAMEFUL** – *"doth not behave itself unseemly"*
English word from the Greek: *scheme*

Refers to the shape of something – also means *"rude"* and *"improper"* - *Rom. 1:27; Rev. 16:15*

5D. **SELFISH** – *"seeketh not her own"*
cf. *Phil. 2:3-4*

6D. **PROVOKING** – *"is not easily provoked"*
The word *"easily"* is not in the text

Greek is a compound of the word *"to sharpen"* and the word *"alongside of"* – in the middle voice.

cf. *Acts 15:36-41; I Peter 2:21-23*

"HOW LOVE REALLY WORKS"
Message No. 34 - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- 7D. **REVENGEFUL** – *"thinketh no evil"*
NIV – *"keeps no record of wrongs"*
NASB – *"does not take into account a Wrong suffered"*

(Definite article in front of "evil") Opposite – *Phil. 4:8*
Cf. *Rom. 12:17-21*

- 8D. **GOSSIPING** – *"rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth"*

- 3C. The **Circumstances** which God's love controls – 7
"all things" – *Rom. 8:28; 11:36*

- 1D. It reflects God's **PROTECTION** – *"beareth all things"*
Greek word refers to the roof of a house – God's love covers all things *1 Pet. 4:8*

- 2D. It rests in God's **PURPOSE** – *"believeth all things"*
God has a purpose and a plan for it all - *Romans 8:28*

- 3D. It relies upon God's **PROMISES**
"hopeth all things" – *Rom. 8:18-25; Hebrews 6:13-20*

- 4D. It reveals God's **PATIENCE** – *"endureth all things"*
Patience toward circumstances – *James 1:2-4*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 35

“LOVE NEVER LEAVES”

I Corinthians 13:8-10

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 12:1-11

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE **POWER** OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

1B. GOD’S LOVE IS **ESSENTIAL** - 1-3

1C. Without it, our communication is **Ineffective** – 1

2C. Without it, our understanding is **Incomplete** – 2

3C. Without it, our giving is **Insufficient** – 3

2B. GOD’S LOVE IS **EXPLAINED** - 13:4-7

1C. The **Character** of God’s love – 4

2C. The **Contrasts** with God’s love – 5-6 (*eight negatives*)

3C. The **Circumstances** which God’s Love controls – 7

3B. GOD’S LOVE IS **EXALTED** - 13:8-13

1C. Because it endures – “*never faileth*”

1D. **Remember** what does NOT endure!

1E. Your stuff – *Lk. 16:9; I Tim. 6:7*

"LOVE NEVER LEAVES"
Message No. 35 - 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

- 2E. Your strength – *Psalm 31:10; 38:10; 71:9*
- 3E. Your body – *Psalm 110:24*
- 4E. Your heart – *Psalm 40:12; 73:26*
- 5E. Your eyes – *Psalm 69:3*
- 6E. Your marriage – *Matt. 22:30*
- 7E. Your spiritual gifts – *I Cor.13:8*
- 2D. **Rejoice** in what does endure!
 - 1E. The Word of God – *Isaiah 40:8; I Peter 1:25*
 - 2E. The Lord Himself – *Deut.31:6,8; Joshua 1:5; Psa. 9:7; 102:11-12*
 - 3E. The glory of the Lord – *Psalm 104:31*
 - 4E. The Name of the Lord – *Psalm 72:17; 135:13*
 - 5E. The mercy of the Lord – used 41 times – 34 in the Psalms
 - 6E. The goodness of the Lord – *Psalm 52:1*
 - 7E. The righteousness of the Lord – *Psalm 111:3; 112:3, 9*
 - 8E. The truth of the Lord – *Psalm 100:5; 117:2*
 - 9E. The judgments of the Lord – *Psalm 119:160*
 - 10E. The faithfulness of the Lord – *Psalm 89:33*
 - 11E. The praise of the Lord – *Psalm 111:10*
 - 12E. The seed of David – *Psalm 89:29*, and his throne
Psalm 89:36

"LOVE NEVER LEAVES"
Message No. 35 - 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

- 13E. The compassion of the Lord – **Lam. 3:22**
- 14E. The kingdom and dominion of the Lord – **Psalm 145:13**
- 15E. Treasure in the heavens – **Luke 12:33-34**
- 2C. Because it **Exists** when gifts are no more – 8-10
 - 1D. The **inability** of gifts to last forever – 8b
 - 1E. **PROPHECIES**
(the result of prophesying – the revelation that is given) – they shall be phased out or become ineffective
Greek - *katargethesetai*
 - 2E. **KNOWLEDGE**
Same as above - some believe that it refers to the Bible itself.
 - 3E. **TONGUES**
“cease” – come to an abrupt stop – they will not be replaced by something better, but rather cease to be needed.
 - 2D. The **incompleteness** of these gifts – 9
“*in part*”
 - 3D. The **impact** of that which is perfect – 10
Greek: *to teleion* – neuter word used 75 times in NT
 - 1E. The **usage** of the word “perfect”
 - 1F. Completing a task - **John 4:34; 17:4; Acts 20:24**
 - 2F. Biological growth - **I Cor. 14:20**
 - 3F. Maturity – **Eph. 4:13; Col. 1:28**
 - 2E. The **understanding** of the word “perfect”
 - 1F. Refers to the Bible
The complete revelation of God - **James 1:22-25**

"LOVE NEVER LEAVES"

Message No. 35 - 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

- 2F. Refers to spiritual maturity - *1 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:13*
 - 3F. Refers to Jesus Christ – 12
“face to face” – but the adjective is neuter – if referring to Christ, it would need to be masculine.
 - 4F. Refers to the 2nd Coming of Christ as an event
(or the future state of eternity or the Millennium)
 - 5F. Refers to love itself - *1 John 4:18*
The problem with this view is that the “perfect thing” had not arrived as yet at the writing of I Corinthians, but God’s love was certainly available!
-
- 3C. Because it **Excludes** immaturity – 11
 - 4C. Because it **Enables** us while we wait for a greater knowledge – 12
 - 5C. Because it **Excels** all other spiritual blessings – 13

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 36

“LOVE IS THE GREATEST!”

I Corinthians 13:11-13

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** – NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE **POWER** OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

1B. GOD’S LOVE IS **ESSENTIAL** - I Corinthians 13:1-3

1C. Without it, our communication is **Ineffective** – 1

2C. Without it, our understanding is **Incomplete** – 2

3C. Without it, our giving is **Insufficient** – 3

2B. GOD’S LOVE IS **EXPLAINED** - I Corinthians 13:4-7

1C. The **Character** of God’s love – 4

2C. The **Contrasts** with God’s love – 5-6 (eight negatives)

3C. The **Circumstances** which God’s love controls – 7

3B. GOD’S LOVE IS **EXALTED** - I Corinthians 13:8-13

1C. Because it **Endures** – “*never faileth*”

2C. Because it **Exists** when gifts are no more – 8-10

"LOVE IS THE GREATEST"
Message No. 36 - 1 Corinthians 13:11-13

3C. Because it **Excludes** immaturity – 11

The word for "**child**" is the Greek *nepios* used 14 times; once as a verb in *I Cor. 14:20* – it refers to a baby who is without clear and intelligent speech – toddler!

CHARACTERISTICS:

- 1D. Capable of praising the Lord – *Matt. 21:16*
- 2D. In need of teaching – *Rom. 2:20*
- 3D. Controlled by the flesh – full of jealousy, envy, strife, & division among believers – *I Cor. 3:1-3*
- 4D. Tendency toward legalism – *Gal. 4:1-3*
- 5D. Easily deceived – *Eph. 4:14*
- 6D. Unskillful in righteousness, not discerning right from wrong
Heb. 5:13-14

4C. Because it **Enables** us while we wait for a greater knowledge - 12
"*For now...but then...*"

1D. Our present **BURDEN**:

1E. Limited vision
"*we see through a glass (mirror) darkly*" - Greek: *ainigmati* -
obscurity

2E. Insufficient knowledge
"*now I know in part*" – cf. v. 9

2D. Our future **BLESSING**:

1E. A clear **picture**
"*then face to face*" – used 11 times

1F. Refers to direct & personal communication
Exodus 33:11; Num. 14:14; Deut. 5:4; Ezek. 20:35;
II John 12; III John 14

2F. Refers to a special relationship and knowledge
Gen. 32:30; Deut. 34:10

"LOVE IS THE GREATEST"
Message No. 36 - 1 Corinthians 13:11-13

- 2E. A greater **perspective**
"then shall I know even as also I am known"
cf. *Psalm 139:1-6*
- 5C. Because it **Excels** all other spiritual blessings - 13

1D. WHY IS LOVE **SIMILAR** TO FAITH AND HOPE?
"abide" – singular, not plural

One thing continues to abide and it is best described by three words:
faith, hope, and love.

- 1E. All three are the **result** of God's work in the heart of the believer

"faith" and "love" are a part of the "*fruit of the Spirit*" in *Galatians 5:22-23*. "Hope" is based on the promises of God upon which our faith depends.

- 2E. All three are a **reminder** of the nature of Christian maturity
Col. 1:4-5; 27-28; I Th. 1:3; 5:8

- 3E. All three are a **reality** that exists forever – found in heaven as well as on earth

"faith" – *Eph. 2:7-9; Heb. 11:6*
"hope" – *Col. 1:5*
"love" – *I John 4:7-8*

2D. WHY IS LOVE **GREATER** THAN FAITH AND HOPE?

- 1E. Because God is LOVE – *I John 4:8*

- 2E. Because without it, we would have no faith or hope
John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; I John 4:9-10, 19

- 3E. Because of its wider application - *I John 3:17-18; 4:20-21*

Faith and hope are both directed toward God alone; love is first to God, and then to others, both believers and non-believers

*“LOVE IS THE GREATEST”
Message No. 36 - 1 Corinthians 13:11-13*

- 4E. Because it is the primary motive for obedience and service
John 14:15; II Cor. 5:14; Gal. 5:13; I John 5:2-3

- 5E. Because love edifies other believers
I Cor. 8:1; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 3:12-14

- 6E. Because love can do what faith and hope cannot do
(Faith and hope do not forgive!)
Eph. 4:32-5:2; I Pet. 4:8

- 7E. Because it does not depend upon things outside of itself in order to function!

(Faith requires an object to be trusted (*Rom. 10:17*) and hope is based on promises – *Romans 8:24-25; Heb. 6:18-19*)

CONCLUSION: *Matthew 22:37-40*

LOVE IS THE GREATEST....

- (1) It is **DIRECTED** toward God Himself – *“Thou shalt love the LORD thy God”*

- (2) It is **DEVELOPED** as the consuming passion of our personalities
“with ALL thy heart, and with ALL thy soul, and with ALL thy mind”

- (3) It is **DESIGNED** as the main priority of our lives
“the first and great commandment”

- (4) It is **DEMONSTRATED** in our relationships with others
“and the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”

- (5) It is **DESCRIBED** as the fulfillment of ALL the Law and the prophets
Rom. 13:8; Gal. 5:14; James 2:8

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 37

“EDIFY THE CHURCH”

I Corinthians 14:1-12

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE PROBLEM OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 12:1-11

2A. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE POWER OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

4A. THE PRACTICE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE CHURCH – 14:1-40

1B. The INSTRUCTION about the need for edification – I Corinthians 14:1-5

2B. The ILLUSTRATIONS that reveal the importance of understanding what is said – I Corinthians 14:6-11

Verse 6 emphasizes a natural break – “*Now, brethren...*”

3B. The IMPORTANCE of this instruction – I Corinthians 14:12-19

verse 12 reveals another natural break – “*Even so ye...*”

(Greek: *houto kai humeis*)

4B. The INTENT of God behind the use of the gift of tongues – I Cor. 14:20-25

5B. The INTERPRETATION that is necessary in the meetings of the church
I Corinthians 14:26-33

6B. The INVOLVEMENT of women – I Corinthians 14:34-36

7B. The IMPACT of this teaching – I Corinthians 14:37-40

"EDIFY THE CHURCH"
Message No. 37 - 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

1B. The **INSTRUCTION** about the need for edification – I Corinthians 14:1-5

1C. A threefold **Exhortation** – 1

1D. **Realize** that love is the most important priority in ministry
"Follow after charity"

2D. **Respond** with enthusiasm for spiritual gifts
"and desire spiritual gifts"

3D. **Recognize** the importance of prophecy (the public proclamation of God's Word)

"but rather that ye may prophesy"

2C. A simple **Explanation** – 2-5

1D. The **problem** of speaking in an *unknown* tongue – 2, 4a

NOTE: Speaking in tongues in *Acts 2:4-8* was the ability to speak in known foreign languages (Greek: *dialecto*) without previous knowledge of the language. The word "*other*" in *Acts 2:4* is the Greek *heteros* – that which was different from what the speaker understood normally.

According to *I Corinthians 12:10* the correct name of the spiritual gift is "*kinds of tongues*" – the Greek word *gene* referring to a family or group of languages. The Corinthians church was "carnal" not spiritual, so references to their practices are difficult to evaluate.

The issue of interpreting the gift of tongues in the church of Corinth is whether Paul is commending the use of tongues for private edification or prayer, or is he condemning the practice of the Corinthians, arguing that it is counterfeiting or abusing the true spiritual gift.

1E. Communication to others is lacking
"speaketh not unto men, but unto God"

2E. Understanding is lacking
"no man understandeth him" - "in the (definite article not in the Greek text) spirit he speaketh mysteries"

"EDIFY THE CHURCH"
Message No. 37 - 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

- 3E. Self-edification is the result
 "edifieth himself" - cf. **Romans 15:2-3**

- 2D. The **purpose** of prophesying – 3, 4b
 - 1E. **EDIFICATION**
 "to build up" - cf. **Eph. 4:11-12, 16** - cf. **I Thess. 5:11**

 - 2E. **EXHORTATION**
 "one called alongside of" (counsel, etc.) - cf. **II Timothy 4:2**

 - 3E. **ENCOURAGEMENT**
 Greek *paramuthian* – "to speak close" – with tenderness and a measure of intimacy and sensitivity. Used in **John 11:31** comforting Mary at the loss of her brother.

- 3D. The **priority** of preaching – 5
 "greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying."

- 2B. The **ILLUSTRATIONS** that reveal the importance of understanding what is being said – I Corinthians 14:6-11
 - 1C. The **Profit** to others depends on the content of what is being said – 6

 - 2C. The **Purpose** of musical instruments is destroyed if one cannot hear the melody – 7

 - 3C. The **Preparation** for battle is impossible if the trumpet's call is not clear Verse 8

 - 4C. The **Principle** is clear; we must understand what is being said - 9

 - 5C. The **Problem** that is created if you do not understand - 10-11

- 3B. The **IMPORTANCE** of this instruction – I Corinthians 14:12-19
 - 1C. Your main concern
 "seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 38

“THE SIGN OF TONGUES”

I Corinthians 14:13-22

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 12:1-11

2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE **POWER** OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

4A. THE **PRACTICE** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE CHURCH – 14:1-40

1B. The **INSTRUCTION** about the need for edification – I Corinthians 14:1-5

2B. The **ILLUSTRATIONS** that reveal the importance of understanding what is said – I Corinthians 14:6-11

Verse 6 emphasizes a natural break – “*Now, brethren...*”

3B. The **IMPORTANCE** of this instruction – I Corinthians 14:12-19

verse 12 reveals another natural break – “*Even so ye...*”

(Greek: *houto kai humeis*)

1C. Your main **Concern** - 12

“*seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church*”

2C. Your own **Comprehension** – 13-15

“*Wherefore*” (Greek: *dio* – “*on account of*”) – refer to v. 5

If you can't translate so that the people understand what you are saying, then it has no profit - it's not the true gift!

"THE SIGN OF TONGUES"

Message No. 38 - 1 Corinthians 14:13-22

1D. The **need** for interpretation – 13
"pray that he may interpret"

2D. The **nature** of praying in a tongue – 14
"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful"

The word "*if*" is in Greek *ean* with the subjunctive – if Paul meant that this is what he did, it would have to be *ei* with the indicative.

It is not the Holy Spirit that is praying through You in this verse, but rather (literally) "*the spirit of me*"

3D. The **necessity** of understanding – 15
"the spirit" and *"the understanding"*

(when praying or singing) Religious experience that is divorced from mental comprehension is not valid, profitable, or Biblical.

3C. The **Consequences** upon those who hear – 16-17

1D. The **inability** of others responding to what you are doing – 16

2D. The **importance** of edification – 17

4C. A simple **Comparison** – 18-19

1D. Paul's own **experience** - 18
"I speak with tongues more than ye all"

2D. Paul's **explanation** proves that the problem in Corinth was that no one was understanding what was being said – 19

4B. The **INTENT** of God behind the use of the gift of tongues – I Cor. 14:20-25

NOTE: The word "*tongue*" is the Greek, *glossa*, and it appears 50 times in the NT.

The word *dialektos* is translated as "*tongue*" several times in Acts.

(1) The **PREDICTION** of tongues – *Mark 16:17-20*

"THE SIGN OF TONGUES"
Message No. 38 - 1 Corinthians 14:13-22

(2) The **PRACTICE** of tongues (before Corinth)

Acts 2 – JEWS in Jerusalem

Acts 8 – SAMARITANS in Samaria

Acts 10 – GENTILES in Caesarea

Acts 19 – DISCIPLES OF JOHN in Ephesus

(3) The **PURPOSE** of tongues

To confirm the word – *Mk. 16:17-20; Heb. 2:3-4*

To fulfill Joel's prophecy – *Acts 2:4, 16*

To prove the baptism of the Spirit – *Acts 10:44-48; 11:15-18; 19:1-7*

To edify believers – *I Cor. 12-14*

1C. The **Requirement** of maturity – 21

2C. The **Revelation** of the OT – 22

"in the law it is written" – *Isa. 28:11-12*

(Isa. 29 speaks of the judgment that God will bring)

cf. *Deut. 28:49; Isa. 33:19; Jer. 5:11, 15*

The gift of tongues was a sign of the removal of God's blessing upon Israel as a nation, and the coming of His blessing on all nations (Gentiles) of the world.

5B. The **INTERPRETATION** that is necessary in the meetings of the church
I Corinthians 14:26-33

6B. The **INVOLVEMENT** of women – I Corinthians 14:34-36

7B. The **IMPACT** of this teaching – I Corinthians 14:37-40

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 39

“WHEN THE CHURCH GATHERS”

I Corinthians 14:23-33

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

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2A. THE **PRINCIPLES** OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST – 12:12-31

3A. THE **POWER** OF LOVE IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 13:1-13

4A. THE **PRACTICE** OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE CHURCH – 14:1-40

1B. The **INSTRUCTION** about the need for edification – I Corinthians 14:1-5

2B. The **ILLUSTRATIONS** that reveal the importance of understanding what is said – I Corinthians 14:6-11

3B. The **IMPORTANCE** of this instruction – I Corinthians 14:12-19

4B. The **INTENT** of God behind the use of the gift of tongues – I Cor. 14:20-25

NOTE: The word “*tongue*” is the Greek, *glossa*, and it appears 50 times in the NT. The word *dialektos* is translated as “*tongue*” several times in Acts.

(1) The **PREDICTION** of tongues – *Mark 16:17-20*

(2) The **PRACTICE** of tongues (before Corinth)

(3) The **PURPOSE** of tongues

To confirm the spoken word

To fulfill Joel’s prophecy

To prove the baptism of the Spirit

To warn Israel of coming judgment

To announce the salvation of Gentiles

"WHEN THE CHURCH GATHERS"
Message No. 39 - 1 Corinthians 14:23-33

- 1C. The **Requirement** of maturity – 20
- 2C. The **Revelation** of the OT – 21
- 3C. The **Reason** for tongues – 22
- 4C. The **Results** of tongues – 23-25

- 1D. In the **context** of the church assembly - 23
"the whole church"
 - 1E. The **coming** of the unlearned or unbelieving
(Greek: *idiots* – 5 times) - cf. *Acts 4:13*
Greek: *apistos* – used 23 times
 - 2E. The **conclusion** they will draw
"will they not say that ye are mad?"

Greek: *mainomai* – 5 times – "to rave as a maniac"
cf. *John 10:20; Acts 26:24-25*

- 2D. In **comparison** to prophecy – 24-25
 - 1E. **Conviction** of sin
"convinced of all"

Greek: *elegxetai* - verb used 17 times – cf. *Eph. 5:11,13; I Tim. 5:20; II Tim. 4:2; Tit. 1:9*
 - 2E. **Consciousness** of judgment
"judged" – Greek: *anakrinetai* – 16 times
cf. *I Cor. 2:14; 10:25, 27*
 - 3E. **Confession** of motives
"secrets of his heart made manifest" Greek: *kruptos* – 19
times – cf. *I Cor. 4:5; II Cor. 4:2*
 - 4E. **Commitment** to worship
"falling down on his face he will worship God"
Greek: *proskuneo* – "to kiss Toward" – 60 times

"WHEN THE CHURCH GATHERS"
Message No. 39 - 1 Corinthians 14:23-33

5B. The **INTERPRETATION** that is necessary in the meetings of the church
I Corinthians 14:26-33

1C. The **Purpose** of edification – 26
"Let all things be done unto edifying"

1D. The **place**
"when ye come together"
used 48 times (8 in I Corinthians)

2D. The **practices**:

1E. "psalm"
12 times – verb means "sing" or "strike string"
cf. *Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16*

2E. "doctrine"
cf. *Acts 2:42; I Tim. 4:16; II Tim. 3:16; 4:2*

3E. "tongue"
singular use of it

4E. "revelation"
apokalupsin

5E. "interpretation"
hermeneian

2C. The **Principles** that should govern the use of tongues and prophecy
27-32

1D. As to the **number** of people involved – 27, 29, 30
"two or three" "by course" – NIV: "one at a time"

2D. As to the **necessity** of interpretation – 27b, 28

1E. Only one interprets – 27b

2E. If no interpreter, keep silent – 28

"WHEN THE CHURCH GATHERS"
Message No. 39 - 1 Corinthians 14:23-33

- 3D. As to the **need** of discernment – 29b
"let the others judge" – *diakrinetosan*
verb used 25 times - cf. *I Cor. 12:10; Heb. 5:14*

- 4D. As to the **nature** of prophecy – 31-32
 - 1E. The issue of **content** – 31
 - 1F. "all may learn" – Greek:
manthanosi – used 25 times
 - 2F. "all may be comforted"
Greek: *parakalontai* – used 107 times
 - 2E. The issue of **control** – 32
"the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets"

- 3C. The **Peace** that originates with God Himself – 33
"author of confusion" – *akatastasias* 5 times – cf. *James 3:16*

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 40

“DO THINGS RIGHT!”

I Corinthians 14:34-40

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

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3B. The **IMPORTANCE** of this instruction – I Corinthians 14:12-19

4B. The **INTENT** of God behind the use of the gift of tongues – I Cor. 14:20-25

5B. The **INTERPRETATION** that is necessary in the meetings of the church
I Corinthians 14:26-33

6B. The **INVOLVEMENT** of women – I Corinthians 14:34-38

NOTE: Most believe that the last phrase of verse 33 is actually the opening of the paragraph that begins in verse 34 – “*As in all churches of the saints, let your women keep silent in the churches.*”

1C. The **Requirement** of silence

Greek: *sigao* – used 17 times - cf. *I Cor. 14:28, 30* - cf. *I Tim. 2:11*

Greek: *hesuchia* – 4 times (*Acts 22:2; II Th. 3:12; I Tim. 2:12*)

"DO THINGS RIGHT"
Message No. 40 - 1 Corinthians 14:34-40

hesuchios - 2 times (*I Tim. 2:2 and I Peter 3:4*) – verb root **hesuchazo**
used 7 times (*Luke 14:4; 23:56; Acts 11:18; 21:14; I Thess. 4:11*)
Greek antonym “agitate” & “fierce” or “violent”

2C. The **Reasons** for this teaching

1D. The **instruction** of the law – 34

No women were permitted to speak in Jewish synagogues – based on
Genesis 3:16 - cf. *I Tim. 2:11-14*

1E. The **principle** of a husband’s authority in marriage

2E. The **problem** of deception

2D. The **impact** on the husband – 35

1E. It **diminishes** his leadership

*“And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands
at home”*

2E. It **disgraces** the wife and the marriage itself

“for it is a shame (Greek: aischron – cf. I Cor. 11:6)

3D. The **importance** of God’s Word to all the churches – 36-38

1E. This **church** had no right to their own interpretations – 36
(They were NOT the source from which God’s Word came,
NOR were they the only ones to receive it!

2E. The **commandments** of God will control the prophet or the one
speaking in tongues – 37

3E. The **consequence** of ignoring this teaching – 38

7B. The **IMPACT** of this teaching – I Corinthians 14:39-40

1C. **Respond** with enthusiasm for the ministry of the Word – 39a
“covet to prophesy” - Greek: zeloo – used 17 times

cf. *I Cor. 12:31 & 14:1*

"DO THINGS RIGHT"

Message No. 40 - 1 Corinthians 14:34-40

- 2C. **Refuse** to eliminate the gift of speaking in tongues
"and forbid not to speak with tongues" – 39b
- 3C. **Realize** the importance of order in the public meetings of the church - 40
- 1D. The **extent** of it – *"all things"*
- 2D. The **effect** it produces – *"decently"*
Greek: *euschemonos* – "good scheme"
cf. *Rom. 13:13; I Thess. 4:12*
- 3D. The **exercise** of it – *"in order"*
Greek: *taxis* – used 10 times – 7 times of the *"order of Melchizedek"*
in *Hebrews 5-7*.

In *Luke 1:8* it refers to Zacharias performing his priestly service in the appointed order of his division.

In *Col. 2:5*, Paul rejoiced in hearing of their *"order"* and the *"steadfastness of your faith"* - Greek antonym – "confusion"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 41

“WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?”

I Corinthians 15:1-11

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - *I Corinthians 15:1-11*

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - *I Corinthians 15:12-19*

3A. THE RESULTS OF HIS RESURRECTION - *I Corinthians 15:20-34*

4A. THE REALITY OF OUR RESURRECTION - *I Corinthians 15:35-49*

5A. THE REWARDS THAT WILL COME - *I Corinthians 15:50-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - *I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11*

1B. The IMPORTANCE of the gospel – *1-3a*

1C. As to its Relationship to spiritual gifts
“*Moreover*” – Greek: *de* – “but”

2C. As to its Reception by them – 1
“*which also ye have received*”

Greek: *parelabete* – aorist tense – refers to a welcomed reception
“*wherein ye stand*” – perfect tense – it is a foundation which constantly undergirds the believer – cf. *Gal. 1:6; 5:1*

3C. As to the Result – 2
“*by which also ye are saved*”

"WHAT IS THE GOSPEL"
Message No. 41 - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

- 1D. The **commitment** that is involved
"if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you"

Greek: *ei* with the indicative – it was true of them! Greek: *katecho* – to hold down or to hold firmly (NIV) – the Greek text has the word *logo* – cf. *John 1:1, 14*

- 2D. The **content** that is so important
"unless ye have believed in vain"

Faith in the gospel would be without any effect at all if we did not believe in the facts concerning the death and resurrection of our Lord.

- 4C. As to its **Reliability** – 3
"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received"
Gal. 1:11-24

- 2B. The **INGREDIENTS** of the gospel – 3b-8

- 1C. His **Redemption** – 3b
"Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures"

- 1D. The **proof** of history
NOTE: Pagan historian Tacitus wrote over 70 years after Christ that he was put to death under Tiberius Caesar by Pontius Pilate. Seutonius and Pliny also refer to it as does Josephus.

- 2D. The **point** of death
"died" – aorist - It was *"once for all"* – *Heb. 10:10-14*

- 3D. The **purpose** of His death
"for our sins" – Greek: *huper* – "in behalf of"

cf. *Matt. 20:28; 1 Tim. 2:5-6*
cf. *Matt. 26:28; Rom. 5:6-11*

- 4D. The **prophecy** that was fulfilled – Isaiah 53

"WHAT IS THE GOSPEL"
Message No. 41 - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

- 2C. His **Removal** from the cross to a rich man's grave – 4a
"and that He was buried" – *Isa. 53:9* – "He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death" – cf. *Matt. 27:57-66*
- 3C. His **Resurrection** from the dead – 4b
"He rose again the third day according to the scriptures"

Psalm 16:8-11

NOTE: Mohammed died on June 8, 632 a.d. at the age of 61. Today, thousands of Muslims visit his tomb to mourn his death, never to celebrate his resurrection!

The tomb of Nicolai Lenin, the founder of communism, and leader of the Bolshevik revolution, is in Red Square in Moscow, Russia, and is visited by thousands, mourning his death, not celebrating his resurrection!

- 4C. His **Revealing** of Himself after His resurrection – 5-8
- 1D. To Cephas (Kepha – or Peter)
John 1:42 – cf. *Luke 24:34*
- (He appeared first to Mary Magdalene – *John 20:11-18*)
- 2D. To the Twelve – *Luke 24:36ff*
(only ten apostles the first time – minus Judas Iscariot & Thomas)
- John 20:19-20, 24-29* (2nd time – could have included Matthias – *Acts 1:22-26; 2:14*)
- 3D. To the 500 believers – 6
- 1E. It could have been in Galilee – cf. *Matthew 28:10, 16-17*
- 2E. It was at one occasion – "at once"
- 3E. At the writing of this book, some were still alive who were there!
- "the greater part remain unto this present"* - cf. *Acts 1:3*

"WHAT IS THE GOSPEL"

Message No. 41 - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

- 4D. To James (Ya'acov) – 7a
The Lord's brother (Herod had killed the brother of John – Acts 12)

John 7:3 – he did not believe in the Lord at that time – later became the leader of the church in Jerusalem – **Acts 15:13, 19; 21:17-18**

- 5D. To All the Apostles – 7b
(there were more than the Twelve!)

- 6D. To Paul – 8
"one born out of due time" – since it happened much later and

especially after He ascended to heaven – Greek: **ektroma** – only here – root: to wound – used of miscarriage or abortion – NIV: **"abnormally born"**

Refers to an "untimely birth" – **Acts 9:3-6; I Cor. 9:1**

- 3B. The **INSIGNIFICANCE** of those who preach the gospel – 9-11

- 1C. The **Reason** he felt so unworthy – 9
"because I persecuted the church of God"

- 1D. His **relationship** to other apostles
"the least of the apostles"

- 2D. His **right** to be an apostle
"am not meet to be called an apostle"
NIV – **"do not deserve..."**

- 2C. The **Resource** that made it all possible – 10
"the grace of God" - cf. **I Timothy 1:12ff**

- 3C. The **Result** that makes it all worthwhile – 11
"so we preach, and so ye believed"

Greek: **kerusso** – 61 times - cf. **I Cor. 1:18, 21; 2:4-5**

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 42

“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD”

I Corinthians 15:12-28

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - *I Corinthians 15:1-11*

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - *I Corinthians 15:12-19*

3A. THE RESULTS OF HIS RESURRECTION - *I Corinthians 15:20-34*

4A. THE REALITY OF OUR RESURRECTION - *I Corinthians 15:35-49*

5A. THE REWARDS THAT WILL COME - *I Corinthians 15:50-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - 15:1-11

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - 15:12-19

1B. The PREACHING of Christ’s resurrection requires belief in the resurrection of the dead - 12-13

2B. The PROBLEMS that are created if Jesus Christ did not arise from the dead - 14-19

1C. Our Preaching is empty of content - 14a

2C. The Principle of faith is ineffective - 14b

3C. The Proclamation of it by witnesses is completely false - 15-16

4C. The Pardon we thought we received is not possible - 17

5C. The People who have died believing it are perished - 18

“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD”

Message No. 42 - 1 Corinthians 15:12-28

6C. The **Promise** of hope beyond the grave is not true, and leaves living believers with a miserable life - 19

3A. THE **RESULTS** OF HIS RESURRECTION - 15:20-34

Key words - *“But now”*

1B. The **CERTAINTY** of our resurrection - 20-23

1C. The **Definition** of “Firstfruits” - 20

cf. *Leviticus 23:9-14* - the sign of what is coming in the barley harvest – it is a singular noun - referring only to Jesus Christ.

Means the “first of its kind” - a resurrection that is permanent - never to die again (unlike Lazarus, Jairus’ daughter, and widow’s son of Nain).

“Firstfruits” - are the pledge and promise of the harvest - the guarantee!

2C. The human **Dilemma** - 21-22a

“in Adam, all die”

(Greek: *“in THE Adam”*)

cf. *Romans 5:12; Hebrews 2:15; 9:27*

3C. The Divine **Deliverance** – 22b

“even so in Christ shall all be made alive” - v. 22b

(Greek: *“in THE Christ”*)

4C. The glorious **Day** this will happen - 23

“at His coming” – cf. I Thess. 4:16

cf. *Dan. 12:1-2, 12; Rev. 20:4-6, 11-15; cf. John 5:28-29*

2B. The **CONQUEST** of all enemies - 24-26

“Then cometh the end” - the purpose of God is completed

1C. The **Giving** of the kingdom back to the Father - 24

cf. *Rev. 11: 15; 22:3*

"CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD"

Message No. 42 - 1 Corinthians 15:12-28

- 2C. His **Government** over all - 24b-25a
"He must reign" When? *"when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power"*

The end of the tribulation period, and perhaps the end of the Millennium as well - *Rev. 20:7-10*

- 3C. The **Goal** - 25b
"till He hath put all enemies under His feet"
cf. *Psalm 110:1; Ephesians 1:19-23; Hebrews 1:13; 2:8-9*

- 4C. The **Granting** of final victory – 26
"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death"

- 3B. The **CLIMAX** of all history - 27-28

- 1C. Based on the **Preeminence** of the Father

- 1D. Seen in His **superiority**
"He is excepted, which did put all things under Him"

- 2D. Seen in the **submission** of His Son
"then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him..." (proves that equals can be submissive to each other by their own choice!)

- 2C. Based on God's ultimate **Plan** to glorify Himself – 28
"that God may be all in all" - Rev. 4:9-11

(everything in every way *and* everything to every one)

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 43

“BAPTIZED FOR THE DEAD”

I Corinthians 15:29-34

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - I CORINTHIANS 15:12-19

3A. THE RESULTS OF HIS RESURRECTION - I CORINTHIANS 15:20-34

Key words – “*But now*”

1B. The CERTAINTY of our resurrection - 20-23

2B. The CONQUEST of all enemies - 24-26

3B. The CLIMAX of all history - 27-28

4B. The CONVICTION about baptism - 29

1C. The Meaning of baptism

NOTE: English words appear 115 times; Greek forms of *baptizo* appear 123 times. Ceremonial washing was common among Jewish people - *mikvah*.

The practice of baptizing people in water to indicate their repentance and faith in the Messiah was brought to new levels under the ministry of John the Baptist (*Mark 1:2-5*).

The command to baptize in water for those who believed that Yeshua was the Messiah was given by Yeshua Himself (*Matthew 28:19*).

"BAPTIZED FOR THE DEAD"
Message No. 43 - 1 Corinthians 15:29-34

When the church began, 3000 were baptized the first day (*Acts 2:41*).

Baptism required a person's faith and confession (*Acts 8:35-38*) of belief in the Messiah.

There is no record of any babies being baptized in the NT.

1D. It **implies** salvation has occurred
Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:35-38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21

2D. It **illustrates** death & resurrection
Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12

2C. The **Motive** for being baptized
"for the dead" (Greek: hyper)

NOTE: Over 30 interpretations of this verse have been given, including the idea of proxy baptism which is taught and practiced by the Mormon church.

1D. The **phrase** *"they ...which are baptized"*
is referring to people who are physically alive and have become believers in Jesus Christ.

2D. The **preposition** *"for"*
From the Greek, *hyper*, has many possible meanings, including the words *"because of"* or *"in behalf of"* or *"in reference to"*

3D. The **people** called *"the dead"* are believers who have died, believing in a future bodily resurrection.

4D. The **point** that is being made is powerful as it relates to the future resurrection of the believer

Why get baptized at all, if there is no bodily resurrection? Who cares about the example of believers who have died believing it, if it is not true?

3C. The **Message** of baptism - it pictures and points to the reality of resurrection!

"BAPTIZED FOR THE DEAD"
Message No. 43 - 1 Corinthians 15:29-34

- 5B. The **COURAGE** needed in the face of danger - 30-32a
- 1C. It was a constant **Danger** – 30
cf. *II Cor. 11:23-30*
 - 2C. It was a willing **Decision** - 31
"I die daily" - I face it every day!
 - 3C. It was an obvious **Disadvantage** if there is no resurrection - 32a
- 6B. The **CONTROL** of physical appetites - 32b
If no resurrection then *"let us eat and drink: for tomorrow we die"*
Quote from *Isaiah 22, verses 12-14*
- 7B. The **CHANGE** in our conduct - 33-34
- 1C. Stop being deceived!
"evil communications corrupt good manners."
NIV/NASB - "bad *company*" NIV - "*character*" NASB - "morals"
 - 2C. Stop going to sleep spiritually!
"Awake to righteousness"
 - 3C. Stop sinning! - *"and sin not"*
 - 1D. The **problem** - ignorance of God
 - 2D. The **purpose** of Paul
"I speak this to your shame"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 44

“HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED?”

I Corinthians 15:35-49

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DISVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - I CORINTHIANS 15:12-19

3A. THE RESULTS OF HIS RESURRECTION - I CORINTHIANS 15:20-34

4A. THE REALITY OF OUR RESURRECTION - I CORINTHIANS 15:35-49

1B. The FOOLISHNESS of some questions – 35-36a

1C. The Thinking behind these questions contrasts with the seriousness of faith - “*But*” (Greek: *alla*)

2C. The Teaching of that culture had great difficulty with simple faith and trust in what God said.

NOTE: The Roman/Greek culture of that day was constantly questioning and reasoning; they were concerned with their present physical bodies.

Their hostility to Christianity’s teaching about the bodily resurrection was evident in how they burned the bodies of Christian martyrs and scattered their ashes – in absolute derision and mockery of the Christian’s hope of the resurrection.

3C. The Traditions of Judaism were also a problem – some believed that the blind, lame, dumb, deaf, etc., would be raised in the same condition in which they died.

"HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED?"
Message No. 44 - 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

- 2B. The **FACTS** about the resurrection body – 36b-49
- 1C. Its **Relationship** to your present body makes you the same person
36b-38
- 1D. The **requirement** of death – 36a
- 2D. The **reaping** of what is sown – 37
- 3D. The **resource** from which our new bodies will come – 38
"But God giveth it a body"
- 4D. The **reason** behind it – "as it hath pleased Him"
- 5D. The **relationship** to your present body
"and to every seed his own body" –

Everything reproduces "*after its own kind*" – contrary to concepts of evolution (wheat brings forth wheat, not corn)

NOTE: The Hebrew word *miyn* is used 31 times – used in *Genesis 1*, *Leviticus 11*, and *Deuteronomy 14* – it is used of plants, grass, fruit trees, fish, birds, cattle, insects, etc.

- 2C. Its **Recreation** makes you a different person – 39-41
- 1D. The **importance** of a basic principle
"All flesh is not the same flesh"
- 2D. The **illustrations**:
- 1E. Physical **CREATURES** – 39
- 1F. Four different categories:
- HUMANS FISH
- BEASTS BIRDS

"HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED?"

Message No. 44 - 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

2F. One common denominator:
(*"another"* - the same kind)
all living, animate beings!

2E. Material **CREATION** – 41

1F. Three different categories:

SUN, MOON, & STARS

"one star differeth from another star in glory"

2F. One common denominator:
(*"another"* – the same kind)

3D. The **insight** we gain – 40
"another" – Greek: *heteros* – another of a different kind
cf. *Isa. 40:26; Psa. 147:4*

3C. Its **Realities** make you a greater person – 42-49

1D. The **characteristics** of our present body 42-44
"it is sown" - 57 times – Greek: *sperm* – the seed contains the
following:

1E. "corruption"

Not annihilation, but decay – used of crown at Greek games
I Cor. 9:25 and of that which is temporary and does not last –
Gal. 6:8

2E. *"dishonour"* – that which is common in contrast to that which
is valuable – *Rom. 9:21; II Tim. 2:20*

3E. *"weakness"* – no strength - cf. *Matt. 26:41; Rom. 5:6*

4E. *"a natural body"* – Greek:
psuchikos – used 6 times a body controlled by the soul or
personality only - cf. *I Cor. 2:14; James 3:15; Jude 19*

"HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED?"

Message No. 44 - 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

2D. The **changes** we will experience – 42-44
"it is raised in"

1E. *"incorruption"* – never decays; will last forever – *I Pet. 1:4, 23*
(Used of God – *Rom. 1:23*)

2E. *"glory"* – that which has great value and beauty – *Col. 3:4;*
I Peter 5:1, 10

3E. *"power"* – *Eph. 1:19-20; 3:20; Phil. 3:10; 4:13*

4E. "a spiritual body" – Greek:
pneumatikos – used 26 times - a body controlled by the spirit
not the soul!

3D. The **contrasts** between the two "*Adams*" – 45-47

1E. As to **substance** – "*was made*"
Greek: *ginomai* – "*became*"

FIRST MAN ADAM – "*a living Soul*" – *Genesis 2:7*

LAST ADAM – "*a quickening Spirit*"

2E. As to **sequence** – "first...natural; and afterward...spiritual"

3E. As to **source**:

FIRST MAN – "*of the earth*" – word for "dust"

SECOND MAN – "*the Lord from heaven* – cf. *John 3:31*

4D. The **conclusion** we draw from these facts – 48-49

1E. Our new bodies will **reflect** their Divine origin – 48

2E. Our new bodies will **resemble** our Lord's resurrected body – 4

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 45

“WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP!”

I Corinthians 15:50-58

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

1A. THE RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL - I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

2A. THE REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT - I CORINTHIANS 15:12-19

3A. THE RESULTS OF HIS RESURRECTION - I CORINTHIANS 15:20-34

4A. THE REALITY OF OUR RESURRECTION - I CORINTHIANS 15:35-49

5A. THE REWARDS THAT WILL COME I CORINTHIANS 15:50-58

NOTE: Rev. C. A. Blackmore wrote the words to this song to help a lady who had been bedridden for 23 years:

*Some glorious morning, sorrow will cease;
Some glorious morning, all will be peace;
Heartaches all ended, labor all done;
Heaven will open, Jesus will come!
Some golden daybreak, Jesus will come;
Some golden daybreak, battles all won;
He'll shout the vict'ry, break through the blue;
Some golden daybreak, for me, for you!*

1B. The CONDITION for experiencing these rewards – 50

“flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, neither doth corruption inherit incorruption”

"WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP"
Message No. 45 - 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

The term "***flesh and blood***" is used 5 times, and refers to humanity as we now know it. Our present bodies are perishable – they do not last, nor are they able in their present state to do so. We need a change!

2B. The **CHANGE** we will experience – 51-52

1C. The **Mystery** that is now revealed – 51

"we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed" – Greek: *allasso* – used 6 times to change the form or nature of something for the better – also to exchange.

Not all believers will die – *I Thess. 4:16-17*

2C. The **Moment** when this will happen – 52

Greek: *atomos* – "atom" – that which cannot be divided – in reference to time, an indivisible point of time.

Illustration: - *"the twinkling of an eye"*

3C. The **Message** that will be sounded – 52

"at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound"
mentioned in *I Thess .4:16*

NOTE: Some believe it refers to the 7th trumpet of Revelation – but there are trumpets (*Shofar*) to be blown later (*Matt. 24:29-31*) –

It is "*last*" in reference to church-age believers – cf. *Isa. 27:13*

3B. The **CONQUERING** of death – 53-57

1C. The **Point** it happens

"when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality"

2C. The **Prophecy** that will be fulfilled – 54b

"Death is swallowed up in victory" - cf. *Isaiah 25:8-9*

"the Lord God will wipe away tears from off their faces"
cf. *Rev. 7:17; 21:3-4*

"WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP"
Message No. 45 - 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

- 3C. The **Picture** of total victory – 55-57
(application of *Hosea 13:14*)
- 1D. It is **SIN** that brings death
“*the sting of death is sin*” – *Ezek. 18:20; Rom. 5:12; 6:23*
- 2D. It is the **LAW** that reveals the power of sin
Romans 3:19-20; 7:8b, 11
- 3D. It is **JESUS CHRIST** that gives us victory over death
I John 3:4-5, 8
- 1E. He **substituted** Himself for us I Peter 3:18
“*the just for the unjust*” – cf. *Isaiah 53:6*
- 2E. He **satisfied** ALL the righteous demands of the law
Rom. 10:4; Gal. 3:10-13
- 4B. The **CHALLENGE** to the believers – 58
“*Therefore*” – Greek: *hoste* – an adverb that is used as a conjunction – “so that” – before a clause that expresses a result or consequence of the immediate context.
- 1C. The **Results** that should be evident in every believer’s life – 58a
- 1D. Emotional **CONTENTMENT**
“stedfast” – *hedraioi* – refers to a seat or a chair – the idea of being settled
- 2D. Biblical **CONVICTION** “immoveable” – *ametakineto* – that which will not move away
- 3D. Personal **COMMITMENT**
“always abounding in the work of the Lord”
perisseuontes pantote – to be in excess or exceeding in number or measure – to superabound!
- 2C. The **Reason**
“*for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord*”

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 46

“A GREAT DOOR IS OPENED!”

I Corinthians 16:1-9

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

CONCLUSION – *I Corinthians 16:1-24*

1A. REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT – I COR. 16:1-4

1B. It was DIRECTED by Paul - 1

“as I have given order” – NASB: *“directed”*

Greek: *diatasso* – *I Cor. 7:17; 9:14; 11:34*

2B. It was DISCIPLINED as to time– 2a

“upon the first day of the week”

Actually refers to day one of the Sabbath week

3B. It was DISCRETIONARY as to the amount - 2b

“as God hath prospered him” Greek refers to a *“good way”*

cf. *II Cor. 9:6-12*

4B. It was DELIVERED by responsible people – 3-4

cf. *II Cor. 8:16-23* – *“messengers”* is the Greek word for “apostles”

5B. It was DESIGNED to meet special needs – 1

“collection for the saints” v. 3 – *“bring your liberality unto Jerusalem”*

1C. To Sustain other believers in time of need

Acts 4:34-35; 6:1-3; I Tim. 5:3-10, 16; James 2:15-17; I John 3:17-18

"A GREAT DOOR IS OPENED"
Message No. 46 - 1 Corinthians 16:1-9

- 2C. To **Support** the spiritual leaders
cf. *Galatians 6:6; I Timothy 5:17-18*

- 3C. To **Send** workers who take the gospel to others
Rom. 10:14-15; I Cor. 9:9-14

- 2A. **REMEMBER** THE **ISSUE** OF THE WILL OF GOD - I CORINTHIANS 16:5-9
 - 1B. The **OUTCOME** depends upon circumstances and support - 5-6

 - 2B. The **ORDERS** must come from the Lord - 7
"if the Lord permit" – James 4:13-17

 - 3B. The **OPPORTUNITIES** guide you - 8-9a
 - 1C. They are **Created** by the extent of them
"a great door"

 - 2C. They are **Continued** by the effectiveness of them – *"effectual"*

 - 3C. They are **Controlled** by the Lord Who opens and shuts doors
"is opened unto me" – Rev. 3:7-8

 - 4B. The **OPPOSITION** will always be there - 9
"and there are many adversaries"

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 47

“DO IT WITH LOVE!”

I Corinthians 16:10-24

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL **DIVISIVENESS** - NOT REMOVED! - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

MORAL **DISCERNMENT** - NOT PRACTICED! - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

MARITAL **DIFFICULTIES** - NOT RESOLVED! - *I Corinthians 7:1-40*

LIFESTYLE **DISAGREEMENTS** - NOT SETTLED! - *I Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

MALE/FEMALE **DISTINCTIONS** - NOT HONORED! - *I Corinthians 11:1-16*

SPIRITUAL **DEVOTION** - NOT EXPERIENCED! - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

MINISTRY **DIFFERENCES** - NOT ACCEPTED! - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

ESSENTIAL **DOCTRINES** - NOT BELIEVED! - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

CONCLUSION – *I Corinthians 16:1-24*

1A. **REALIZE** THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT - 16:1-4

2A. **REMEMBER** THE ISSUE OF THE WILL OF GOD - 16:5-9

3A. **RECOGNIZE** THE WORK OF OTHERS - 16:10-12

1B. **TIMOTHY** - the problem of acceptance - 10-11

cf. *Acts 16:1-3; 1 Tim. 1:18; 4:12; 6:20-21; 2 Tim. 1:2-8*

“despise” - Greek: *exouthenese* to treat as nothing
(different word in *1 Tim. 4:12* - “to think down”)

2B. **APOLLOS** - the problem of opportunity – 12

cf. *1 Cor. 1: 12-13; 3:4-6* - cf. *Acts 18:24-19:1a*

“convenient time” - Greek: *eukairese*

“a good season or opportunity”

4A. **RECEIVE** THE EXHORTATIONS TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY - 16:13-14

1B. **CAUTION** - “Watch ye...”

Greek: *gregoreite* - verb used 23 times

1C. It refers to being ready for the coming of the Lord because you don't know when it will be - *Matt. 24:42; 25:13*

"DO IT WITH LOVE"

Message No. 47 - 1 Corinthians 16:10-24

- 2C. It refers to dependence upon the Lord, not trusting yourself - ***Matt. 26:41; Col. 4:2***
- 3C. It refers to being aware of the possibility of false teachers and divisive leadership in the church - ***Acts 20:28-31***
- 4C. It refers to resisting the devil - ***1 Pet. 5:8-9***
- 2B. **CONVICTION** - "***Stand fast in the faith***"
Greek: *stekete* - ***verb*** used 8 times
 - 1C. It refers to our liberty in Christ - ***Gal. 5:1***
 - 2C. It refers to our unity - ***Phil. 1:27; 4:1-2***
 - 3C. It refers to our loyalty to the Word of God - ***2 Thess. 3:15***
- 3B. **COURAGE** - "***quit you like men***"
Greek: *andrizesthe* - ***only*** here - ***Joshua 1:8-9***
- 4B. **CONFIDENCE** - "***be strong***"
Greek: *krataiousthe* - used 4 times
 - 1C. It refers to inward strength - ***Luke 1:80; 2:40***
 - 2C. It refers to spiritual strength - ***Eph. 3:16***
- 5B. **CHARITY** - "***Let all your things be done with charity***"
noun & verb used over 250 times - "***love one another***" - 16 times
John 13:34-35 - the test of a genuine disciple of Jesus Christ
- 5A. **RESPOND** TO THE LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY OF OTHERS - 16:15-18
 - 1B. By **SUBMITTING** to them - 15-16
"submit yourselves unto such"
 - 2B. By **SUPPLYING** their needs - 17
"for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied"

“DO IT WITH LOVE”
Message No. 47 - 1 Corinthians 16:10-24

- 3B. By **STRENGTHENING** them inwardly - 18
“they have refreshed my spirit and yours”

- 6A. **REFLECT** THE LOVE OF CHRIST TO ONE ANOTHER - 16:19-24
 - 1B. The **SHOWING** of that love - 20
 - 1C. With **Acceptance** of every believer – *“one another”*
 - 2C. With **Appropriateness** toward one another – *“holy kiss”*
 - 3C. With **Affection** for one another – *“holy kiss”*
 - 2B. The **SERIOUSNESS** of that love – 22
It is rooted in our love for Jesus Christ our Lord!
 - 1C. Without love for the Lord, we are under the curse of sin and hell is our destination! *“Anathema”*
 - 2C. Without love for the Lord, we are not ready for the coming of the Lord
“Maranatha”
 - 3B. The **SOURCE** of that love – 23
“the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ” cf. *Eph. 2:8-9*
 - 4B. The **SPREAD** of that love - 24
“with you all in Christ Jesus”

AMEN!

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message No. 48

“SUMMARY OF I CORINTHIANS”

I Corinthians 1:1-16:24

Background: *Acts 18:1-18*

Introduction: *I Corinthians 1:1-9*

CARNAL DIVISIVENESS - NOT REMOVED - *I Corinthians 1:10-4:21*

- 1A. The PRINCIPLE of unity – 1:10-17
- 2A. The PREACHING of the cross – 1:18-21
- 3A. The PURPOSE of this message – 1:22-31
- 4A. The POWER behind this message – 2:1-8
- 5A. The PLACE of the Holy Spirit – 2:9-16
- 6A. The PROBLEM of carnality – 3:1-7
- 7A. The PROMISE of reward – 3:8-15
- 8A. The PICTURE of the temple – 3:16-23
- 9A. The POSITION of a steward – 4:1-8
- 10A. The PERSPECTIVE of a father – 4:9-21

MORAL DISCERNMENT - NOT PRACTICED - *I Corinthians 5:1-6:20*

- 1A. Our ATTITUDE toward sexual sin among the believers – 5:1-8
- 2A. Our ASSOCIATION with people involved in sexual sin – 5:9-13
- 3A. Our ACCEPTANCE of secular law courts for believers – 6:1-8
- 4A. Our APPLICATION of these matters to our salvation – 6:9-14
- 5A. Our ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the purpose of our physical bodies – 6:15-20

"SUMMARY OF 1 CORINTHIANS"

Message No. 48 - 1 Corinthians

MARITAL DIFFICULTIES - NOT RESOLVED - *1 Corinthians 7:1-40*

- 1A. The **PURPOSE** behind this discussion – 7:1
- 2A. The **PRINCIPLES** that limit sexual fulfillment within marriage – 7:2-4
- 3A. The **PROBLEM** that sexual inactivity creates - 7:5
- 4A. The **PROBLEMS** of marriage – 7:6-16
- 5A. The **POINT** of your conversion – 7:17-24
- 6A. The **PLAN** of God for singles – 7:25-35
- 7A. The **PERSUASION** of marriage – 7:36-40

LIFESTYLE DISAGREEMENTS - NOT SETTLED - *1 Corinthians 8:1-10:33*

- 1A. Over the **SACRIFICES** to idols – 8:1-13
- 2A. Over the **SUPPORT** of the gospel – 9:1-18
- 3A. Over the **SALVATION** of the lost – 9:19-27
- 4A. Over the **SERIOUSNESS** of temptation – 10:1-14
- 5A. Over the **SITUATIONS** of fellowship – 10:15-33

MALE/FEMALE DISTINCTIONS – NOT HONORED - *1 Corinthians 11:1-16*

- 1A. THE **RECOGNITION** OF PAUL'S EXAMPLE AND EXHORTATIONS - 11:1-2
- 2A. THE **RELATIONSHIP** OF THE HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE - 11:3
- 3A. THE **REASONS** FOR THIS INSTRUCTION - 11:4-15
- 4A. THE **REALIZATION** OF THIS PRACTICE IN THE CHURCHES - 11:16

"SUMMARY OF 1 CORINTHIANS"

Message No. 48 - 1 Corinthians

SPIRITUAL DEVOTION – NOT EXPERIENCED - *I Corinthians 11:17-34*

- 1A. The **PROBLEMS** among these believers – 11:17-22
- 2A. The **PRINCIPLES** behind the Lord's supper - 11:23-26
- 3A. The **PRACTICES** of believers that will be judged - 11:27-34

MINISTRY DIFFERENCES – NOT ACCEPTED - *I Corinthians 12:1-14:40*

- 1A. The **PROBLEM** of spiritual gifts – 12:1-11
- 2A. The **PRINCIPLES** of the body of Jesus Christ - 12:12-30
- 3A. The **POWER** of love in the use of spiritual gifts - 12:31-13:13
- 4A. The **PRACTICE** of spiritual gifts in the church - 14:1-40

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – NOT BELIEVED - *I Corinthians 15:1-58*

- 1A. The **RECEPTION** of the gospel - 15:1-11
- 2A. The **REASONS** why it is important - 15:12-19
- 3A. The **RESULTS** of his resurrection - 15:20-34
- 4A. The **REALITY** of our resurrection - 15:35-49
- 5A. The **REWARDS** that will come - 15:50-58

CONCLUSION – *I Corinthians 16:1-24*

- 1A. **REALIZE** the importance of financial support – 16:1-4
- 2A. **REMEMBER** the issue of the will of God – 16:5-9
- 3A. **RECOGNIZE** the work of others – 16:10-12
- 4A. **RECEIVE** the exhortations to spiritual maturity – 16:13-14
- 5A. **RESPOND** to the leadership and ministry of others – 16:15-18
- 6A. **REFLECT** the love of Christ to one another – 16:19-24