

The Crisis at Corinth – Lack of Spirituality

When the World Invades the Church

1 Corinthians 3:1-23

Pastor Greg Long

June 26, 2011

Stop **boasting** in **men** and start **building** the **ministry**!

I. Stop **Boasting** in **Men** (5-10).

A. Because we are all God's **servants** (5).

B. Because we each have different **roles** (6-7).

1. We have our **roles**.

2. God has His **role**.

- “No one can come to Me unless the Father...draws him.” (Jn. 6:44)
- “God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world.” (Eph. 1:4)
- “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may *grow up* in your salvation” (1 Pet. 2:2);
- “...but *grow* in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 3:18);
- “So the Word of God *spread*. The number of the disciples...increased rapidly...” (Acts 6:7)
- “But the Word of God continued to *increase* and spread.” (Acts 12:24)
- “...the Word of the Lord *spread* widely and grew in power” (Acts 19:20)
- “And in him the whole building is joined together and *rises* to become a holy temple in the Lord.” (Eph. 2:21)
- “...the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, *grows* as God causes it to *grow*.” (Col. 2:10)

C. Because we are all working **together** (8-9).

1. With **each other** (8).

2. With **God** (9).

II. Start **Building** the **Ministry** (10-17).

A. By using **lasting** materials

1. Work based on **God's** wisdom not **man's** wisdom (1:18-2:16; 3:18-20).

2. Work characterized by **faithfulness** (4:2).

3. Work done with **pure motives** (4:3-5).

B. By looking to the coming **inspection**.

1. What is this inspection? Sometimes called “**Judgment Seat of Christ**” (Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10).

2. When will the inspection be? The **Day of the Lord** (13; 4:5)..

3. Where will the inspection be? **Heaven**.

4. Whose work will be inspected? Only **Christians**.

5. Who is the building inspector? **Jesus Christ** (4:4-5).

6. What is the method of inspection? By **fire** (13).

7. What is the purpose of the inspection? To reveal the **true** nature of our **works** for the Lord in the **church** (13).

8. What is the result of the inspection?

a. Some will receive a **reward** (14).

b. Some will suffer a **loss** of **reward** (15-17).

- Rom. 8:1—“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

c. All will receive **praise** from God (4:5).

Stop boasting in men and start building the church. **Are you using your gifts and serving in the church?**

