

DIVISION IN THE BODY

1 Corinthians 3

The church at Corinth was afflicted with many problems that face _____ churches and _____ converts. The Apostle, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, decided to write this urgent letter to admonish and instruct the church. Among other topics he discussed: the necessity of church discipline (5:1-13); divisions and _____ among Christians (1:10-16; 6:1-11); matters of _____ (8:1-13; 10:19-33); the support of preachers (9:1-27); abuses of the Lord's Supper (10:16-17, 21; 11:17-34); the _____ of spiritual gifts (12:1-14:40); and the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ (15:1-58).

Spiros Zodhiates, *Zodhiates Corinthians Commentary Series - A Richer Life for You in Christ: An Exegetical Commentary on First Corinthians One*, Revised ed. (Chattanooga, TN: AMG, 1972)

- I. The church at Corinth _____ everything they were and had to God alone. They could claim no credit for what He had given to them-which was everything! Cf. 1:4-9
 - A. The believers at Corinth _____ themselves in their wisdom accomplishments and position in life. (These truths we will learn as we go through this book.)
 - B. This pride and arrogance had so blinded them to the sinful behavior they were practicing-following _____ instead of Christ.
- II. Due to their own spiritual blindness Paul _____ the believers at Corinth for this. Vs 1-23
 - A. The spiritual blindness of following human beings instead of Christ Vs 1-8
 - 1. Following people instead of Christ produces _____ weakness Vs 1
 - 2. Following people instead of Christ _____ spiritual growth individually and corporately Vs 2
 - 3. Spiritual blindness evidences by the following behavior patterns: Vs 3
 - a. _____ among believers
 - b. _____ among believers
 - c. _____ among believers
 - d. The proof is in the behavior: "Are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"
 - B. Spiritual blindness _____ to following the teachings of man and not the teaching of the Scripture Vs 4
 - C. Christian servants (_____) are people whom God uses to point people back to God, not other people Vs 5-8
 - 1. God is in control of the _____ of true Biblical teaching Vs 5
 - 2. Christian servants give forth Biblical Truth, and God gives the results from the presentation Vs 6
 - 3. The human servant is nothing except an _____ in God's hands to bring about God's desired results Vs 7-8
 - a. The human instrument whom God choses to use is nothing, so "_____ " should not be made about "_____ ". Vs 7a
 - 1. If something must be said it should be said about the _____ given by that human instrument which _____ people to God Cf. 1 Cor 10:31
 - 2. The instrument is "nothing", God is "_____ "
 - b. The biblical practice of the body of believers is to follow what God blesses, and God blesses what brings _____ to Him no matter whom the human instrument might be Vs 7b
 - c. Those who glorify God by their _____ and are Scripturally sound are "one" with God. Vs 8a

- d. The _____ for the Christian servant will be given according to their keeping with the teaching of Scripture, not what people _____ to hear. Vs 8b
- B. Paul addresses the spiritual _____ of not seeing our individual responsibility is to build on Christ alone. Vs 9-15
1. We are to labor _____ with God in obedience to His Word and plan for His local ministry. Vs 9
 - a. We are God's "husbandry, ye are God's building"-work in _____
 - b. We labor together with God because without Him we labor _____ at all
 2. We use the talents that _____ supplies us with and use them to the best of our ability looking to the Scripture for _____ Vs 10
 3. The foundation on which we build everything must be Christ and whatever is built on Him will be analyzed by God at the "Judgment Seat of Christ" Vs 11-15
 - a. We build with what _____ supplies to us to build with Vs 12
 - b. We let _____ decide how well we and other spiritual ministers are building Vs 13
 - c. The approval or disapproval is a matter between _____ and the spiritual minister
 1. Building on the foundation of Christ will result in a _____ Vs 14
 2. Building on another foundation will result in _____ of reward but not one's salvation Vs 15
- C. Paul addresses the spiritual blindness of taking care of their _____ spiritual state and letting God take care of everyone else Vs 16-17
1. God, the Holy Spirit indwells every believer and every believer is _____ to the Holy Spirit Vs 16
 2. The believer who will not submit to the Holy Spirit and Scripture will pay for their disobedience Vs 17
- D. Paul addresses the spiritual blindness of priding one's self in the _____ that comes from the world and men and not from God and the Scripture. Vs 18-21a
1. Don't become self-deceived by the "wisdom" you draw from people, teaching, or things that are not God-honoring or _____ Vs 18a
 2. To pride one's self in the "information age" with the knowledge they have will actually show them to be _____ Vs 18b
 3. The thinking of man is foolishness (silly and _____) to God and will be exposed by God as the emptiness that they truly are Vs 19-20
 4. Therefore, do not be a follower of man's _____ Vs 21a
 - a. About what God is doing because God is _____ and His ways are not our ways, and His thoughts are not our thoughts.
 - b. God is free to _____ whatever and whomever He chooses to accomplish His Will Cf. Vs 9
- E. Paul addresses the spiritual blindness of not _____ all that God has given to us as believer by being followers of men. Vs 21b-23
1. All things are _____ to the believer by God Vs 21b-22
 2. All things are given by God, the Father through Jesus Christ, God the Son Vs 23
 3. Since all things are given to the believer by God there should be no need to become followers of men and thus end up in _____ in the local body