

From Sinners to Saints

1 Corinthians 14:33-40

- We are at the end of Paul's lesson on having order in the Church, he began in Chapter twelve by telling the Corinthian's that God would not have them ignorant of spiritual gifts and the application of them. He then shared that before we can properly display our gifts, we first must embrace an **attitude of love over attention** if these gifts are to accomplish what God intended, which is edification.
- Finally Paul says in **1Cor 11:17-18** that he has heard of the division and chaotic state of their church and he knows that it is true, therefore in giving these instructions he does not praise them but he is correcting them concerning their worship to The Lord. Way back in **1:11** Paul told them how Chloe had informed him of the contentions within the Church about baptism, communion, and the spiritual gifts, now he is putting order back into the church by addressing the problems head on.

V33-40

- **V33** states plainly "**for God is not the Author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints**". In stating this we see that confusion has no part in God's worship service, for it is a place of peace and not of disorder. Yet in **V26** Paul says people are speaking out of turn in tongues, revelations, Psalms or song, teaching, interpretation, all of this is going on without any order, its chaos he says.
- If you have visited many churches as I have I can fully relate to what he is saying, I have seen these types of things going on in the Name of The Lord and been totally confused by what I just witnessed. In **V23** it says when unbelievers see this won't they think you are out of your mind because of all the confusion that is going on.
- God is not a God of confusion, He is a God of peace, and this comes from **order** not **chaos**. I've had so many conversations with professing believers and pointed out these verses then said "**that's not of God**" concerning one of their experiences they've had, and without fail their reply is "**how can you say that**" and I'll point back to these verses again, and they will say those don't apply to the church today.

- **V34-35** in **11:5** Paul has already said women could pray and prophesy so he is not saying women cannot speak at all in a church service. What he is saying is ladies were interrupting the services to ask questions, and challenge interpretations of verses, and this was ruining the service instead of blessing it, so he tells them to stop interrupting and if they had questions then save them for their husbands.
- What if they aren't married, the same principle applies stop interrupting and wait until after the service. A parallel verse is found in > **1Tim 2:11-15**- where Paul goes back to creation to emphasize the point that men should be leading their homes, and the church, but sadly because that isn't happening Satan has taken advantage and encouraged ladies to take the lead and we see how that has turned out, more confusion in the home as well as in the church because things are out of order.
- Does this mean women cannot teach or do anything in the church? Of course not! **Tit 2:3-5** says ladies can teach other women and children, and evangelize the unsaved > **Philip 4:3**, but when it comes to leading other men in matters of doctrine and leadership scripture says no, men are to step up and lead the Church.
- Many frown upon this citing how anointed someone is, I can't speak on that, but what I can say is, no matter how anointed someone is, if what they're doing and the role they're serving in the church is wrong scripturally, then no matter how anointed they are, it's not right in the sight of God, that I can say with confidence!
- **V36-38** to show how much The Lord knows us look at these next three verses as Paul expected pushback and resistance. Asking "did the Word of God originate from them"? Or "was it you only that heard it"? I love this! If anyone is a prophet or spiritual as they claim, then they will recognize that what he has just said is a commandment and not a suggestion, as it came from The Lord and not from him.
- **V39-40** in closing Paul says desire those gifts that are a blessing to others rather than just a blessing to yourself > Prophecy. But don't forbid speaking in tongues only exercise them with order. So here we don't read that tongues or the sign gifts have stopped what we read is that they are to be exercised with biblical order, not chaos.