

L64 | I Corinthians | The Church Without Blemish | I Cor. 5:1-8

I. Intro/Review:

- Fornication (2 Kinds)
 1. Physical - body used for fleshly affections
 2. Spiritual - body to be used by God
- Fornication in Corinth (tolerance of immorality)
 1. Reported Commonly (house of Chloe)
 2. Such fornication not named among the Gentiles
 - Not other Gentiles (Eph. 4)
 - Could be a Jew
 - Looking at between the Jews or Gentiles or the church and Gentiles
 3. Father's wife (step-mother)
 4. Puffed up - have not done anything about it, allowed it, permitted it, part of the world
 - Mourned - godly sorrow unto repentance to salvation

II. Preview:

- The Corinthians Response, Paul's Response, the Response of Christ
 - Evaluate spiritual condition
- Church Discipline
 1. Problem
 2. Orderly Steps
 3. Reason

III. Sermon:

{:2} - "And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

The Corinthians Response

1. **"puffed up"** - careless, not a big deal, no one would notice, under grace (Rom. 6:14), occasion to the flesh (Gal. 5:13)
 - **"mourned"** - careful, take action, judge
2. **"that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."**
 - The Corinthians have not taken this man from them.
 - Thus they are puffed up - 1 Cor. 10:20, 22 ("are we stronger than He?")
 - Implies this is Paul's response - take him away from you

{:3-4} - "For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,"

Paul's Response

- Church discipline

- Premise - dead to sin and alive to God
 - Romans 6:4 - "walk in newness of life" (not oldness of life)
 - Romans 6:12 - "let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body"
 - Romans 12:2 - "be not conformed to this world"
 - Romans 13:13-14 - "cast off the works of darkness"
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9 - unrighteous don't inherit the kingdom (the fornicators)
 - 1 Corinthians 10:8 - Israel committed fornication
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:3ff -
 - Romans 15:14 - "And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another."
 - Romans 16:17-18 - "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."
- Need - sin still in your mortal body, sin experienced in the church (attitude of the offender "unrepentant")
 - The Corinthian culture with their greek philosophers view sex as a biological urge - like drinking water or eating - carelessness led to heightened immorality which has influenced the church.
 - Everyone does it attitude. The problem with abortions today would be dealt with if there was a godly view of sex in marriage. Instead selfishness, self-gratification results in sex than in committing an abortion.
 - "Fornication" - ponia (the more general term) - can include sex before marriage
 - Adultery (sex outside of marriage), lesbianism, homosexuality, incest, bestiality, lewdness, chambering, wantonness
- Process -
 - Can be complex and have some variables, but in general it is straight-forward
 - Can be doctrinal and conduct
 - 1. One on one - Galatians 6:1-2 God has chosen His Word working in you to be
 - 2. Two or three - Titus 3:10-11; 2 Cor. 13:1-3 part of the means of cleansing His church, then
 - 3. The church - 2 Cor. 2:6-11, 1 Cor. 5:4, 11 the church
 - The puffed up nature of this man at Corinth and failure of the church to judge seems to prompt Paul they need to judge swiftly.
 - The Lord's Earthly Ministry
 - Matthew 18:15-20
 1. :15 - your brother trespasses against you tell him his trespass (intention to gain)
 2. :16 - take one or two (two or three) to establish it
 3. :17 - tell it to the church (leaders) - doesn't listen he is on the outside

- The power and authority of heaven
 - :18-20 - bind and loose concerning the brother
- **{:3-4} - "For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,"**
 - Paul not physically there, but is in spirit and is spiritual thus upon hearing make a judgment as if he was there.
 - 1) Judge, 2) Hand him over to Satan
 - **"in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"** - authority (His prerogative, His view of sin)
 - **"when ye are gathered together"** - all have the same mind, same judgment
 - **"and my spirit"** - apostolic authority
 - **"with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,"** - the power and strength to judge and act
 - Remember they think Christ is weak - the action of this judgment will reflect His power
 - Imagine Christ coming before the rapture and come to clean things up in His church
 - A lot of cleaning up to do
 - He would start with the leadership
 - Then to the rest of the body
 - One of the best things you can do is "examine" yourself, "keep your heart", esteem His word
 - 1 Cor. 11:31 - "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."
 - 2 Cor. 13:5 - "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves..."
 - We are not called to uncleanness, but to cleanness. We are not called to tolerate sin. The church cannot tolerate sin. *gentle & meek*
 - Does that mean we will be perfect? No - but we should desire perfection. (perfect holiness - be holy for I am holy - be like Him)

{:5} - to deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."

- How do you deliver such an one unto Satan?
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 - "the god of this world"
 - Not welcome in the church
 - Now in our day both in christendom and the grace movement this doesn't seem like a big deal
 1. Churches don't correct, and
 2. The people don't have the proper view of the church
 - Think church because it isn't a building decide to stay home and do it through zoom - I can only imagine what Paul would say?
 - Well at least we are not coming together for the worse - so we just wont come together.
 - For those that can assemble (called out assembly - this group of people on certain days assemble signifying we are called out of the world) who don't will give an account of that before the Lord.

- So think of your account before Christ now
 - Too far
 - Too tired
 - Don't feel like it
 - I was offended
- Yet none of them consider what Christ has said on the matter
- Part of the problem today is people don't assemble the way they ought to, they come and go at their pleasure, I am free in America (not understanding they are Christ's servant), with no spiritual appetite for the things of God - His Word and His people, it's just one thing they can do.
 - Therefore, they may not be growing, may be rotting in their sin, and keep the church (God's means of cleansing) at arm's reach. (What a mess?)
 - I want the church when they will help me in situations, but not when they correct me for ungodliness - selfish
 - **Pro. 3:11** - "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:"
 - **Pro. 10:17** - "He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth."
 - **Prov. 12:1** - "Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish."
 - **Prov. 13:8** - "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured."
 - **Pro. 15:5** - "A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent."
 - **Prov. 15:10** - "Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die."
 - **Prov. 15:31-32** - "The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise. He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding."
 - **Proverbs 5:1-14** "My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: {2} That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. {3} For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: {4} But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. {5} Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. {6} Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them. {7} Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. {8} Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: {9} Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: {10} Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; {11} And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, {12} And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; {13} And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined

mine ear to them that instructed me! {14} I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly."

- Yet, this is what the church is to do led by the elders and deacons is to have him taken from among you, deliver to Satan, don't grant him access in.
 - But he will just go to another church, that isn't your problem, that's his
 - He may go to many churches and get kicked out, maybe he will learn his lesson in the next church, but if you never had delivered him he maybe never wouldn't have learned what he was supposed to.
 - He will need to give an account to the Lord and so will we, we must be faithful
- **"destruction of the flesh"**
 - Destruction of the flesh now, the fruit of the flesh will be destruction in the time to come
 - Outer Man
- **"that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."**
 - Satan can't touch the inner man (salvation)
 - You give him temporarily over to Satan to be dealt with by the Lord "in the day".
 - His spirit shall be saved, but due to the destruction of the flesh he will not have wasted much of his time and his own purity.
 - 1 Corinthians 1:4:9
 - "confirm you unto the end"
 - God is faithful even when you are not
 - Enjoy His riches, not that of the world
 - 2 Tim. 2:24-26
 - 1 Tim. 1:20
 - Rev. 3:14

IV. Conclusion: