

L62 | I Corinthians | Fornication | I Cor. 5:1-8

I. Intro/Review:

- Summary of 1 Corinthians 1-4
 - 1 Corinthians is an epistle of consistent and layered reproof (ungodly thoughts), correction (ungodly actions), and instruction in righteousness (the proper godly actions) (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
 - 1 Corinthians reveals the numerous divisions taking place with the believers there
 - 1 Corinthians is an epistle about sanctification (1 Cor. 1:2)
 - 1 The. 4:1-9
 - Chapters 1-4 have dealt with Paul correcting the Corinthians fancy for the wisdom and riches of this world - thus it is the wisdom and riches of the world they serve although they belong to God.
 - Paul has established his apostleship and stewardship and his ways which be in Christ to thereby follow Christ.
 - Paul has just warned them of their high-mindedness concerning his coming to hold them accountable
 - 1 Corinthians 1:4-9
- 1 Corinthians Outline:
 - 1 Corinthians 1:1-4:21 - Reproof, Correction, and Instruction concerning their thinking (of the wisdom of God)
 - 1 Corinthians 5:1-10:33 - Reproof, Correction, and Instruction concerning their conduct (the use of that wisdom in their body)
 - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16:24 - Reproof, Correction, and Instruction concerning their activity in ministry (the use of that wisdom in the body of Christ)
- Corinthians Problems
 - I. ~~Wisdom of the World~~ (1 Cor. 1-4)
 - II. Immorality/Fornication (1 Cor. 5:1-13)
 - III. Lawsuits (1 Cor. 6:1-8)
 - IV. Defilement (1 Cor. 6:9-20)
 - V. Marriage (1 Cor. 7:1-40)
 - VI. Christian Liberties (1 Cor. 8-10)
 - VII. Church Conduct (1 Cor. 11:1-34)
 - VIII. Abuse of Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor. 12-14)
 - IX. Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:1-58)
 - X. Financial Giving (1 Cor. 16:1-9)

II. Preview:

- Back to Romans again
- Understanding fornication
- Such as is not named among the Gentiles

III. Sermon:

- **Back to Romans again**

- Paul is following the establishing doctrine found in his epistle to the Romans and is how to established every church (1 Cor. 4:17)
 - The difference in from Romans to 1 Corinthians is Romans sets the order of the doctrine, whereas 1 Corinthians assumes that doctrine was first learned and thus reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness given from it. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
 - Romans | Justification, Sanctification (Identity & Walk), Dispensational Identity, Instruction to Walk Worthy
 - 1 Corinthians | Identity, Wisdom of God, therefore you shouldn't be doing this or that
- 1) We are bought with a price
 - Romans 3:24 - justified through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (when we believe - :22, 26)
 - Romans 6:1ff - Bought and brought to God through baptism into Christ's death, burial, and resurrection (:6, 11-13)
 - Romans 6:16 - master and obedience change (free to yield)
 - Romans 8:13 - bought to fulfill the righteousness of the law (:4) and mortify the deeds of the body (:13)
 - 2) We are bought to glorify God in our bodies and spirit by walking after the Spirit (mind to body)
 - Romans 6:14 - under grace
 - Romans 8:1 - walk after the Spirit
 - Romans 8:5 - 1) minding, and 2) what we mind
 - Romans 8:10-11 - resurrection life from the one dead to sin and alive to God that minds the things of the Spirit
 - 3) The Spirit leads our minds with His teaching
 - Romans 8:14-15 - led by the Spirit of adoption (things to learn that correspond with our inheritance)
 - Romans 8:26-28 - we don't know but the Spirit intercedes for us (intercessory ministry fulfilled) (1 Cor. 2:6-16) - this teaching composed the word of truth that we now "study"
 - All we are to know has been revealed therefore we are to know it.
 - 4) Our responsibility to learn and do
 - Romans 12:1-2 - presenting of our bodies is done by the renewing of our mind

- We learn the will of God
 - We are to do the will of God
- The interaction between the spirit and body - your body does that which the spirit thinks (Prov. 23:7)

- **Understanding fornication**

- The root cause of sexual fornication comes from sin and spiritual fornication, that is, the embrace of our own inner lusts darkened by the wisdom of the world. For the believer when we do not uphold the word of God and the wisdom of God we commit spiritual fornication and may sexual fornication.
 - Matthew 15:19; Romans 1:21-32 (:29 - "fornication"); Eph. 4
 - Revelation 18, 19:2
 - **"fornication"** {porneia} (pornography) - the incontinence or lewdness of unmarried persons, male or female - the criminal conversation of a married man with an unmarried woman.
 - Adultery (harlotry)
 - Incest
 - Idolatry (a forsaking of the true God) - idols and their groves (sexual lewdness)
 - Galatians 5:19 - works of the flesh
 - **Ezekiel 16:26** - "committed fornication....and hast increased thy whoredoms, to provoke me to anger."
 - **Matthew 5:32** - "shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery."
 - **Matthew 19:9** - "shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."
 - **John 8:41** - "...we be not born of fornication;"
 - **Acts 15:20** - "that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood."
- 1 Corinthians 6:13, 18, 7:2; 2 Corinthians 12:21; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3
- **Summary** - fornication proceeds from the heart and is a sin against the intended use of God's design for our bodies to serve Him in.
 - **Titus 2:10-11**
- Work of darkness - **Romans 13:13** - "...chambering and wantonness..."

- All Scripture Profitable

- 1 Corinthians 5:1-2 - Reproof (blame expressed to the face; censure for a fault; blame cast (with blame))
- 1 Corinthians 5:3-8 - Correction (the act of bringing back, from error or deviation, to a just standard, to truth; that which is substituted in the place of the wrong)
- 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 - Instruction in Righteousness (that which should have been done at the start, continuation in the positive of the correction)

- Such Fornication Not Named Among the Gentiles

{:1} - **"It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife."**

- "reported" - heard, (passive)
- "commonly" - everywhere; utterly; frequently (well-known)
 - Pure church isn't to have immorality
 - So saturated in the culture it is difficult to "mortify the deeds of the body"
 - Sexual immorality before marriage and within marriage is fornication (general)/adultery/lewdness/chambering/wantonness/homosexuality/bestiality
 - Greek culture - man could have sex at a whim; but the woman, the wife could not
 - Sex was like eating and drinking
- "as is not so much as named among the Gentiles" - uncommon with Gentiles and illegal under Roman law
 - "that one should have his father's wife." - stepmother
 - If it was his mother it would have said so
 - Step-mother (father's wife, not mother), same stigma
 - Incest forbidden under the law (Lev. 18:7-8, 29; Deut. 22:30)

{: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."**

- "puffed up" - proud; inflate; haughty
 - How are they "puffed up"?
 - Did not take away the man away from them?
 - Permissible; arrogant and carnal; excuse this filthiness
 - God's attitude of sin when one is justified and sanctified doesn't change. He hates it.
 - Paul addresses this in Romans 6:11-15

- **"God forbid"** - God forbids sin - grace is the provision to restrain sin to not let it reign and to mortify the deeds of the body
- When you think, as a believer, God doesn't care about sin - you are puffed up!
 - I am justified - declared righteous
 - I am sanctified - dead to sin
 - To continue in sin is careless at best and blasphemous at least
- **1 Thessalonians 4:1-8** - called unto holiness
 - As a Christian, especially if you claim maturity as a Christian or have been a Christian for years and you are not "perfecting holiness" then you are puffed up just as the Corinthians
 - Need to know this because there may be someone in the church engaging in this sin or in other sin, that is puffed up, that needs to be corrected.
- Ephesians 5:3-4 - "as becometh saints"
- Notice, **"and YE"**
 - This fornication between this man and this woman who is his father's wife became a church-wide sin.
 - **1 Timothy 5:21-22** - "...neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure."
 - The churches failure to judge has made the church partaker of this sin ("yet")
 - Bragging about worldly wisdom (I am of Paul...; I am of Cephas)
 - Bragging about spiritual gifts
 - Now puffed up about immorality (maybe a good example of how they were free in Christ - or how gracious they were)
- **"mourn"** - in hope to gain your brother
 - "godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation" - **2 Corinthians 7:10**
 - When church doesn't mourn about sin its purity diminishes and becomes ineffective
 - When the church is no longer shocked by sin we lose our defense and purity
 - We cannot take it lightly, cannot tolerate it, cannot become careless
 - Not looking to make you feel better
- **"that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."**
 - **"done this deed"** - Romans 8:13 (not mortifying)
 - 1) Need - not just sin, but puffed up about sin
 - 2) Method - go to brother and correct him (Gal. 6:1ff), two or more, than to

church

- Discipline
 - He needs the church, yes, but we don't need him - impacting the church negatively
 - "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?" (:6)
 - **"in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"** - He is Lord and Master and conducting yourself in His name (authority)
 - Lord's table - provisions
 - Lord's supper - practice
- **"taken away from among you."**
 - Get him or her out, stop the leavening, purify the church

IV. Conclusion: