

I CORINTHIANS | "FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP Pt. 2" | 1 Cor. 4:1-7 | LESSON 52

1) INTRO / REVIEW:

- How to judge the minister of Christ
 - ①: 1 = Ministers & Stewards → Balance of esteem but not above what is written or against another.
 - ②: 2-3 = Criteria
 - ③: 4 = Attitude
 - ④: 5 = Judgment

2) PREVIEW:

- ② Criteria
- ③ Attitude
- ④ Judgment

3) SCRIPTURE:

[1:2] - "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful"

- ② Criteria for the minister & steward
 - ⓐ No question Paul is one (minister & steward)
 - servant, slave
 - sent to minister not seek the approbation of men
 - ⓑ As minister & steward he is to be faithful (Luke 12:48)
 - Rom. 12:3 - "the measure of faith"
 - Th. 2:9-10; 1 Pet. 2:18-25; Col. 3:22-41
 - to whom is given is required to give
 - freely received, freely give
- 1 Cor. 7:25; 1 Tim. 1:12

③ Attitude

[3:3] - "But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self."

• man's judgment is often an influence to not be faithful to Christ and God. ②

• 1 Cor. 10:31-33 - Please men

• GAL. 1:6-10 - Not to please men

• Jews religion → MATT. 6:1-4, 5-7, 16-18, 19-23 (treasures)

• Paul will please men every way he can in godly love w/o compromise to the truth for than he would cease to be loving.

• Does not compromise doctrine because he is minister & steward

• Loves other consistent to obedience to Christ

• Discerning Judgment:

① Very small thing (a bigger thing among trusted men)

② Corinthian Judgment > akin, very much alike

③ Man's Judgment

④ Self Judgment

① Pro. 27:17

• GAL. 6:1-5

• Pro 5:12, 10:17, 12:1, 13:18, 15:5, 31-32, 17:10

② 2 Cor. 10:10

• body presence (1 Cor. 2:3)

• speech

(1 Cor. 4:8-13) lifestyle

③ 1 Cor. 1:26 | (:20) | 2:4

• wise

• mighty

• noble

• wise

scribe

disputer

enticing words of man's wisdom

• 2 Cor. 5:12, 10:17 - appearance

• Col. 2:8, 20-23

- (4) **Boast in afflictions** → magnify office
 "not I but the grace of God with him"
 "no longer I who live, but Christ"
 'chief of sinners'

(3)

• Nothing in and of himself everything he has and given to do received from the grace of God.

[4] - "For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but He that judgeth me is the Lord."

- Paul received everything he has
 - 1 Cor. 2:9-16
 - 2 Tim. 1:8-11

• The basis of the Corinthians judgment of men they hearken to much different than what Paul is giving.

- Corinthians is man first, world's good's judgment (so dangerous)
 - Elevation of self

- Paul's is God first, riches of grace judgment
 - Elevation of God, humble posture

- "yet am I not hereby justified"
 - line up with 1 Cor. 1:27-31
 - justified & right when glory in the Lord as prescribed by the Lord

"but He that judgeth me is the Lord."

- present tense

(5) • servant & minister of Christ

- Servant (Rom. 6)

- Rom. 14:4, 10-12

• "I am of" - whom you yield & submit, Lord

• Corinthians are allowing themselves to be ^{judged} by the world

• Taking that judgment and ascribing it to the ministers of Christ

• Ministers of Christ pointing to Christ

• Foolishness of the wisdom of the world

(4)

④ Judgment

5] - "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsel of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God"

• "therefore" - conclusion

• "judge nothing before the time." - we are to make judgments

• mindful to not make final judgment

• not take place of Christ

• 2 Cor. 1:24

• Distinguish one who faithfully ministers to that who is "of"

• Dominion to that of helper

• Rom. 2:29

- 1 Thp 1:11, 4:8

• "until the Lord come, who"

• The Lord will judge not them

• "both will"

① bring to light

② the hidden things of darkness" - wisdom of the world

② make manifest

③ the counsel of the hearts - use of wisdom; motive, intent (WORD OF GOD)

• Pro. 19:21, 20:5, Job 5:13; Ps. 33:10; 107:10-12

• 2 Cor. 10:3-6 - every thought captive

• "and then shall every man have praise of God."

• Rom. 2:29

• 1 Thp. 1:11, 4:9

• leading to a God, judgment consciousness

• focus on "praise of God", not praise of men