

I CORINTHIANS | "CHRISTIANS WALKING AS MEN" | 1 Cor. 3:1-4 | LESSON 42

I INTRO / REVIEW:

① Addressing the divisions in Corinth stemming from the wisdom of the world that they intertwined with

② Analysis of the fruit of their wisdom and condition unworthy and unable to bear the wisdom of God in a mystery

• Reviewed the fundamentals of "in the Spirit"

① Live in the Spirit (justification) regeneration, (Titus 3)

② Walk in the Spirit (renewing)

• Corinthians an issue of their "walk"
(not spiritual)

① brethren, ② in Christ ③ milk = telling of regeneration

① carnal, ② babes ③ no meat

① envying, strife, divisions ⑤ walk as men

II PREVIEW:

• Examine what it is for a Christian to walk as men

• Straitenard in bowels → not able for the meat

• something at the heart their divisions

III SERMON:

[1] - last. of R+ (identification of their problem)

Reproof - Have wisdom
Correction - Can't give wisdom

• Paul can only speak certain "things" to them

• What restrains him?

• Their inability

even < ① Carnal → Rom. 8
Rom. 15:27

② Babes in Christ - Gal 4:19, 23, 29

① Carnal = always has to do with flesh, temporary, earthly things

Fleshly { • Rom. 15:27 - "carnal things"
• 1 Cor. 9:16 - "reap your carnal things"

Lusts { • Rom. 8:5-8 - "carnally minded"
• Lusts of the flesh (Rom. 6:12)

• How do we discern which one? Context

①: 3 = envying, strife, divisions

②: 26 = wise, mighty, noble after the flesh
"scribe" "disputer" (:20)

③: 4:8 = "full", "rich", "reigned as kings"

• Equals their lusts (negative carnality)

[:2] - At the heart of their embrace of the wisdom of the world and rejection of the wisdom of God.

• "I have fed you with milk."

• that which he "speaks" (:1)

① What is the milk?"

(Rom. 1-8) • The gospel

- legal

(Rom. 8-11) • The firstfruits of the Spirit

- promised inheritance

(Rom. 12-16) • The grace-teaching of love

- live in that inheritance

② Isn't the milk good?

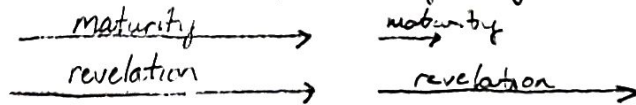
• Yes, but means to the meat

• "meat" = actuals, food

• By the way who is usually feeding you when you get to the meat

• You are

• Equates to "the word of God" completed regarding revelation



③ What is the meat?

• wisdom in a mystery

• prepared

• deep things

• freely given

① ordained before the world (of Him)

> not fleshly, earthly, temporal things

② unto our glory

(to Him)

• Why important:

• "For hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able"

- Inability because they have an estranged relationship to the meat.
- To the eternal things because of the temporal things

[3] - Explanation of the heart and cause of their inability

• "For ye are yet carnal" (1, Rom 8)

d.2 discern
+
judge
+
instruct

"for whereas there is among you"
• envying - uneasy, mortified or discontent at the sight of superior excellence, reputation
• effort to depreciate the person

• "I am of" - elevates the one, depreciates the other

• strife - exertion or contention for superiority

• divisions - separation (not perfectly joined together)

• Brief Examination of "envying & strife"

• Rom. 13:11-14 = works of darkness (world system → makes provision for your flesh)

① rioting & drunkenness - lust of flesh

② chambering & wantonness - lust of eyes

③ strife & envying

- pride of life

1 Jn. 2:15-17
• Rom 12:2 → seeking to conform you
• Gal. 1:4 → present evil world
• Php. 2:15 → crooked & perverse nation

• All part of the course of the world to keep you entangled, but we are and are to be delivered from it. 2 Cor. 12:20

• "works of flesh" = Gal. 5:20; Php. 2:3; 1 Tim 6:1ff (4)

• Contrast to love/charity

• They produce division, the opposite of our inheritance of His kingdom.

• The lust for the temporary for self is at the heart of the Corinthians and God and His wisdom does not provide nor cater to it, but the wisdom of the world does

• "walk as men?" - spiritual walking carnally

• What is the remedy?

• Two-fold

① More milk → 1 Cor. 1 (gospel) - behold not simply the gift, but the giver and
1 Cor. 3 (foundation) how He purchase it

② Tastes of Meat → 1 Cor. 2 - deep things
1 Cor. 3 - build (gold, silver, precious stones)

④ Conclusion:

• Walk as those in Christ