

## 1Corinthians – Week 54

### I. Quiz and Review:

#### A. 1Cor. 14:20-35

- i. Paul urges them spiritually grow up and handle their God-given gifts properly and be like infants when it comes to evil behavior.
- ii. Tongues is a sign for unbelievers while prophesy is a sign for believers
- iii. Let everything be done for the edification, encouragement and consolation of the believer and for the conviction of the lost.
- iv. Women are to remain silent in the churches.
  1. This directive was the same in all the churches.
    - a. If the woman has a question, she is to ask her man (husband or any male relative) at home.
    - b. It is shameful for a woman to speak in church.
      - i. Those who promote women speaking in church are promoting that which is considered shameful by the Lord.

### II. Continuation

A. Now, Paul knew his teaching would cause tension, and that's why he says...

- i. 1Cor. 14:36 (ESV), *“Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached?”*
  1. In other words, Paul is telling them, “Are you the Mother Church?”
    - a. No! They were initially taught by their gospel father: the apostle Paul (Acts 18; 1Cor. 4:15).
    - b. And they are adopting practices that are foreign to the other churches!
- ii. 1Cor. 14:37 (ESV), *“If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.”*
  1. The forbidding of women to speak in public worship was not a matter of the culture as some would say but a matter of divine commandment.
  2. He challenged them by saying that anyone who truly has the gift of prophesy or discernment, he would recognize that Paul speaks truth!
- iii. 1Cor. 14:38 (ESV), *“If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.”*
  1. Anyone who ignores this apostolic teaching is not a true teacher of truth and should be ignored.
  2. And anyone who refutes apostolic teachings are not recognized or known by God!
    - a. 1Cor. 8:2-3 (ESV), *“If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But if anyone loves God, he is known by God”*
  3. This sentiment is found in Revelation
    - a. Revelation 22:11 (ESV), *“Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”*
      - i. If a man will not heed God's inspired words and submit to them, then there is no alternative but for him to continue in his ways.
      - ii. In the same way, if a man refuses to recognize Paul's inspired words and obey them, there is no alternative but for that man to continue in his ignorance.

- iv. 1Cor. 14:39-40 (ESV), *“So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. <sup>40</sup> But all things should be done decently and in order.”*
  - 1. The speaking of tongues is a necessary gift, but it must be used appropriately.
    - a. There must be an interpreter (vv. 27-28)
    - b. Not more than three may speak in one meeting, each in turn (vs. 27)
    - c. Everything should be done orderly and appropriately.

### III. Chapter 15: The Resurrection of the Dead

A. Now, Paul directs his focus on those who teachers who were denying the future resurrection of the dead.

i. He begins to refute the false teaching by reminding them of the gospel (good news)...

B. 1Cor. 15:1-2 (ESV), *“Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.”*

- i. This was not a new doctrine to the Corinthians, but it was necessary that they should be reminded of it at this critical time.
- ii. Paul reminds them that years ago, he preached the gospel to them and they received it!
- iii. This very gospel is what saved them because it is the power of God to the salvation of those who believe (cf. Romans 1:16).
- iv. He reminds them how they left their pagan practices and took a stand for the gospel.
- v. He reminds them how this gospel must be held onto, fixed in their minds; otherwise, there is no hope of salvation.
- vi. To believe something that is not true is vanity!
- vii. Now he defines the gospel...

C. 1Cor. 15:3-4 (ESV), *“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures”*

- i. The first thing Paul did was to share the gospel with them (cf. Mark 16:15).
  - 1. He taught them the good news of how Christ died for their sins and rose again from His grave on the third day.
  - 2. This saving gospel includes the resurrection.
    - a. Paul later on explains the message of the gospel includes the future resurrection of the dead.
    - b. And to say there is no resurrection of the dead is to deny the very gospel message!
  - 3. Where in the Scriptures did it speak of Christ’s death for our sins?
    - a. Isaiah 53:5-6 (ESV), *“But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”*
  - 4. Where in Scriptures did it speak of Christ’s burial?
    - a. Isaiah 53:9 (ESV), *“And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.”*
  - 5. Where in Scriptures did it speak of Christ’s resurrection?
    - a. Psalm 16:9-10 (ESV), *“Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. <sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.”*
      - i. In Acts 2:24-23, Peter used this passage as referring to the resurrection of Christ as he spoke to a crowd of Jews.
  - 6. Paul then proceeds to mention the eye witnesses to Christ’s resurrection...

- ii. **1Cor. 15:5-7 (ESV), “*and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.*”**
  - 1. **“Cephas” is the Greek name for “Peter.”**
    - a. **This is touching, because this faithless apostle who denied the Lord three times is graciously privileged to have a private appearance of that same Lord in resurrection.**
    - b. **Truly, how great is the grace of the Lord!**
  - 2. **Then Paul mentions his own eye witness to the resurrection...**
- iii. **1Cor. 15:8-9 (ESV), “*Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*”**
  - 1. **This took place on the road to Damascus, when the Lord appeared to him in a vision (Acts 9).**
  - 2. **The phrase “untimely born” refers to a miscarriage or an abortion.**
    - a. **This term seems to be proverbial, meaning that Paul say himself inferior, unworthy to be considered an apostle. Much like a baby that is prematurely born and dies.**
    - b. **This sentiment is understood due to the fact that he calls himself the least of the apostles and was undeserving of God’s grace because he persecuted the Lord’s Church.**