

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

**1 CORINTHIANS 3**

**GOD’S METHOD OF SALVATION –  
THE SIMPLE GOSPEL MESSAGE OF  
JESUS CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED.**

Paul has been telling the Corinthians that God’s work doesn’t depend on man’s wisdom. God is wise all by Himself. God has chosen the way He has chosen to save mankind. And the reasons are **so simple a child can understand it, yet so profound that it will tax the minds of the greatest theologians not just for one lifetime but for a hundred lifetimes!** There is a simplicity and a depth to all of it.

God has chosen to save man through a very, very, simple message, a very simple gospel, His testimony **how that Jesus died on the cross for our sins.** That **He was buried and rose again on the third day,** according to the Scriptures. And **if a person will believe in Him and trust Him for their Savior, for the forgiveness of their sins, they’ll be forgiven of their sins, washed, cleansed, made into a new creation and receive everlasting life as a gift.**

That message that was being declared by Paul, was an affront to the so called of intellectual minds of the Greeks at Corinth. This message is never going to get any traction in Corinth. It’s too simple. The great philosophers will listen to it and say “a 5 year old could understand it”! They were always looking for something so complicated, that only those of great worldly wisdom, like themselves, could understand! But God has chosen a simple gospel message of the cross, usually delivered by simple messengers, so that He gets all the credit! Not based on the message from man’s wisdom. **God’s message is powerful all by itself, based on Him and on His Word!** It works because of His power behind the gospel. No one can know anything about God through man’s wisdom but only by what God reveals to us through His Holy Spirit. **THE SIMPLE GOSPELWORKS!**

**1 CORINTHIANS:**

Brief Outline- (adapted from Dexter Sammons)

INTRODUCTION (1:1-9)

1. PROBLEMS REPORTED BY THE HOUSE OF CHLOE (1:10-6:20)

A. FACTIONS IN THE CHURCH (1:1-4:21)

**SUMMARY:**

**CHAPTER ONE:**

- Weakness, weakness, simple message by design. Weak messengers will never work! Nobody will listen! They are smarter than this, you’ve got to get them another way! Chapter Two – **IT WORKS!** Just like at Corinth, it works in you! What makes the gospel powerful is that He stands behind it and He testifies to the truthfulness of it in every human heart that is eager to know the truth!

**CHAPTER TWO:**

- Not in wisdom & excellence of speech, preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified! – vs. 1-5
- Wisdom of the world/Wisdom of God/Hidden Wisdom – v. 6-11
- Spirit of the world/Spirit of God – v. 12
- Natural man/Spiritual man-Mind of man/Mind of the Lord – vs. 13-16

**CHAPTER 3:**

- Keep growing as Christians!
- Jesus Christ to always be the foundation
- Choosing to grow in spiritual maturity by the ways that God has chosen – the only ways that will work, not seduced by all the worldly things that come along.
- Not spending years in the body of Christ, pursuing worldly wisdom, when that time could have been invested in the Word of God; in prayer; in fellowship with the body of Christ: lifting one another’s arms up,
- Always staying close to the cross.
- Staying in the saddle; persevering;
- Purifying our motives, with fire if necessary in order that there will be an eternal reward, that He want to bless every single one of us!

**REWARDS - CROWNS**

*1Co 3:14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.*

But Crowns also will be given there at the Bema Seat – Before Him! The rewards stand for the good things I’ve done! Faith that works! It’s the love of Christ that constrains me! :

- **The Crown of Rejoicing** – (1Th 2:19-20) –the crown for soul winners!
- **The Crown of Righteousness** (2Ti 4:7-8) – Those who say, “it could be today!!” Those waiting, praying for His second coming with expectancy!
- **The Crown of Life** (Jas 1:12) - that’s where life is found-in Him!
- **The Crown of Glory** (1Pe 5:2-4) - for those who are faithful to serving. Glory – Weightiness! Substance! Heavy! The service we give to Him – worship, serving Him!
- **The Incorruptible Crown** – (1 Cor. 9:25) - Given to those who run the race with discipline! They live their life in moderation.
- **The Crown of Life** - (Rev 2:10) - For those who are martyred.

**The Church’s One Foundation** – S. Stone/S. Wesley – Joslin Choral Society

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord; she is His new creation by Spirit and the Word. From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride; with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.*

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth; one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued. Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore; till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

**1 CORINTHIANS 3    Sectarianism Is Carnal (vs. 1-4);**

***1Co 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal (a believer, but still controlled, characterized by the flesh), as to babes (it’s all about them) in Christ.***

***1Co 3:2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;***

***1Co 3:3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy (zēlos - jealousy), strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?***

***1Co 3:4 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal?***

***v. 1 spiritual people*** - The spiritual man, a man who is governed by the Spirit, walking after the Spirit. I couldn’t talk unto you as a spiritual man, ***but as to carnal***, as to babes in Christ. They were still babes. They should have grown and developed. There should have been spiritual maturity by now. He’s writing four years after he had ministered to them. And yet they were infants spiritually. There is ***a comparison to the change in a person’s physical life*** – the growth from a baby to an adult- ***to that of a person’ spiritual life, in growing from a babe to a mature Christian***. A failure for a baby to grow into an adult breaks a father’s heart – even so does a lack of spiritual growth not also break our Father’s heart?

***v. 2 milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able***; You haven’t grown or developed. You are still in an infant state of spiritual development. Never growing beyond the first principle. You can only grow spiritually through the Word of God and through the whole counsel of God. ***Even now you are still not able*** The tragedy with the church in Corinth was that Paul could not give them meat, that which develops strength. He was still having to give them milk because they hadn’t been able to take meat. (***Heb. 5:12-6:3; Rom. 7:14-25***)

***v. 3 you are still carnal***. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? So the marks of carnality, jealousy, strife, and divisions, we see so often in the church, these “termites”, eating and destroying a church. These, ***jealousies, envying, striving, and the divisions***, that come from them. And ***as long as the things exist***, are you not carnal ***because they are marks of carnality***?

***v. 4 "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal?*** This perhaps, was the beginning of denominationalism as they began to divide into their little party groups. We are of Paul. Well, we are of Apollos and they began to divide. It really doesn’t take much to bring division within the body of Christ, unfortunately. The body of Christ has been fragmented through the ages. Each denomination is a manifestation of the fragmentation of the body of Christ. It is tragic but that in most cases, those who are bound in a denomination, feel that theirs is the only true denomination.

***v. 1*** We have now seen three categories of men. There is the ***natural man (1Co 2:14)***, who is patterned after Adam and rejects the things of the Spirit. There is the ***spiritual man (1Co 2:15)***, who knows the things of God. And there is the ***carnal man who knows the things of God, yet in some significant ways is still characterized by the flesh***. There must always be growth! Which one are you closest to right now?

***v. 2*** It wasn’t that God was preventing the Corinthians from receiving the solid food, but they were attracted to spiritual “junk food,” based on man’s wisdom and his speaking skills. Some “spiritual junk food Christians” are greatly blessed when they get a spiritually solid meal. But others, are not able to receive it, because all they have a taste for is “junk food”. ***What type of spiritual food appeals to you?***

***v. 3*** The Corinthian prevalence of envy, strife, and divisions demonstrate that they are still carnal, fleshly. They were behaving as “mere” or unsaved men. Christians have a higher call than living like the rest of humanity! Pride, lack of humility! It’s amazing what can be accomplished when we are not concerned who gets the credit! ***How do others see your present behavior?***

***v. 4*** Further indication of their present carnality was that of dividing over their leaders! They had divided into “fan clubs” over their own preferences for the messenger based on him and his abilities rather than simply all being of Christ! ***How much preference in your spiritual feeding is based on the pastor/ teacher?***

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

**Watering, Working, Warning –**

**A Great Message on Ministry (vs. 5-17)!:**

***1Co 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers (human instruments) through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one?***

***1Co 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.***

***1Co 3:7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.***

***1Co 3:8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.***

***1Co 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.***

(moving from agrarian examples to those of buildings- not to minimize the importance of the foundation as being essential, but also to recognize the importance of those who will build on the solid foundation of Christ)

***1Co 3:10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it, in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.***

***vs. 5-7 ... the Lord gave to each one?....but God gave the increase..... but God who gives the increase.*** Paul is saying there is no division between Apollos and him. We are one. I planted and Apollos watered, but **God is the One that gave the increase.** He that plants is nothing. He that waters is nothing. It's God! That is where we want to center our devotion and our commitment, not to a man, not to a ministry, but to God. He who plants is nothing. He who waters is nothing. We need to focus on God. Not to divide over those who water and those who plant! In Christ, we are one.

***v. 8 He who plants and he who waters are one:*** In combating the Corinthian desire to divide among leaders, Paul reminds them they are all on the same team. **They're complementing, not competing with one another!** The fact is planters and waterers are both necessary, both need each other, and both are working towards the same goal. ***each one will receive his own reward:*** All work together, but each is rewarded individually. Reward is not given according to gifts, talents, or even success, but ***according to their own labor.*** God knows how to reward properly. On earth, many ministers either receive too much or too little reward.

***v. 9 we are God's fellow workers:*** God has given us the amazing opportunity to work with Him. We cannot work without Him, and generally He will not work without us. God wants you as His working partner! Considering all the ways God can work, it's amazing to know He wants our participation. ***You are God's field, you are God's building:*** The work Paul did with God was to work “on” God's people. They were his “field”, using the picture of a farmer planting and watering, and they were his “building”, using the picture of a builder.

***v. 10 According to the grace of God:*** In describing Paul's work among the Corinthians, he begins with a declaration of grace. He knew that his status as a worker in God's field, or on God's building, was based on God's undeserved favor, not on his own deserving or merit. ***I have laid the foundation:*** Paul set the only foundation that can be laid: the person and work of Jesus Christ. Yet he knew that others would come after him and ***build on the foundation he set.***

***vs. 5-7*** Planting by one and watering by another are both important, but only God can give the increase. **The Corinthians were elevating the messengers, the instruments.** We're never to elevate the instrument above God, who is doing the increase, the work! (vs. 5, 6, 7) **Is your perspective correct with regard to the importance of not dividing over the planters and waterers, but being united in Christ?**

***v. 8*** We see here that Christian workers work together, but are ***rewarded according to his own labor.*** The reward is something over and above personal salvation (***1Co 3:14, 1Co 3:15; 2Jo 1:8***). He shall be rewarded according to, not his success or the amount of work done, but ***“according to his own labor.”*** It shall be said to him, “Well done, thou good and (not successful, but) **faithful servant**, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord” (Mat 25:23). That day is the Judgment Seat of Christ. God is the One – don't lose sight of Him! – the One doing the work!

***v. 9*** God is the One to whom all are responsible. All His servants are fellow workers, **laboring together** in God's tilled harvest field, or, to change the picture, working together on the same building. **We are fellow-workers who belong to God** and are **working with one another**. **All who take part as a human instrument in being faithful to what God has called us to, will receive a reward!**

***v. 10*** The **foundation of Jesus Christ**, based on His death, His burial and His resurrection, was put down over nineteen hundred years ago. You and I cannot put it down. All we can do is to point to that foundation which is Jesus Christ. We **can build on that foundation.** The important thing is **to get out the Word of God and to preach the gospel which alone can save men.**



OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

**1Co 3:11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (first things, first!)**

**1Co 3:12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,**

**“THE THREE LITTLE PIGS” – “WOOD, HAY, STRAW”**

Once upon a time there was an old mother pig who had three little pigs and not enough food to feed them. So when they were old enough, she sent them out into the world to seek their fortunes. The first little pig was very lazy. He didn't want to work at all and he built his **house out of straw**. The second little pig worked a little bit harder but he was somewhat lazy too and he built his **house out of sticks**. Then, they sang and danced and played together the rest of the day. The third little pig worked hard all day and **built his house with bricks**. It was a sturdy house complete with a fine fireplace and chimney. It looked like it could withstand the strongest winds. The next day, a wolf happened to pass by the lane where the three little pigs lived; and he saw the straw house, and he smelled the pig inside. He thought the pig would make a mighty fine meal and his mouth began to water.....

**1Co 3:13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is (my motives?).**

**1Co 3:14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.**

**1Co 3:15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.**

**v. 11** There is only one foundation for the church. If it isn't founded on Jesus Christ, it isn't a church at all. So one can't build on any other foundation; but one can build unworthily on the one foundation. Each builder needs to take heed how he builds on it. (moving from agrarian examples to those of buildings- **not to minimize the importance of the foundation as being essential, but also to recognize the importance of those who will build on the solid foundation of Christ**)

**vs. 12-13** God will test the building work of all His fellow workers, each one's work will become manifest. So some build with precious things like gold, silver, precious stones; others build with unworthy materials like wood, hay, and straw. Precious stones doesn't mean jewels, but fine stone materials like marble and granite. **Mixing the wisdom of men with the wisdom of God in the work of building the church is like using alternate layers of straw and marble in building.** Straw may be fine, it may have a place (in the barn), but it is an inadequate building material. In the same way, human wisdom and fleshly attractions may have a place in life, but not in the building of the church. **What is true for the church is true for our lives!**

**v. 13 revealed by fire** The fire will test each one's work: When our work is tested by God, **it will be revealed what kind of work it was.** Just as fire will destroy wood, hay, and straw, but not gold, silver, and precious stones, so the work of some will be revealed as nothing on that Day. The amount of the work isn't going to be evaluated (though it does have some relevance). Paul says the work will be tested to see what sort it is. If one did a lot of the wrong sort of work, it will be as if he did nothing. His work will be burned and will vanish in eternity. **(2 Cor.5:10).**

**vs. 14-15** If anyone's work: A very sobering thought! **Judgment at the Bema seat for our faithfulness.** The fire does not purify the worker, it tests their workmanship. Roman Catholics use this passage to teach purgatory, the idea that when we die, we go to a place where we are purified by fire before we go to heaven. The idea of purgatory has nothing to do with this passage, and nothing to do with any other passage in the Bible.. This passage has first application to Christian leaders, because this is Paul's topic in context. But **the application extends to all of our service for God. (Mt. 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27)**

**v. 11** Are you? Am I building on Him? That is the important question for the believer. When you came to Christ, you came with no works. You came bringing nothing to receive everything! You were put on that Rock which is Christ. Now you can build on that. This is where good works come in. **Are you putting style, worldly nonsense, over substance?**

**vs. 12-13** We're told that you can build on the foundation that has already been laid with six different kinds of material: gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble (Last three are worldly gimmicks – first three - **Acts 2:42**). **Fire won't hurt the first three on the list, but actually purifies gold and silver and precious stones. But fire certainly gets rid of the last three - wood, hay, and stubble will all disappear into smoke.** It is a sobering thought: many people who believe they are serving God, but are doing it in an unworthy manner or with unworthy “materials” will come to find in eternity that they have, in reality done nothing for the Lord. Some will be saved, but with a life that was wasted, and receive no crown to give to Jesus, for His glory (as in **Rev 4:10-11**).

**vs. 14-15** Anyone shall receive a reward if he is building with gold, silver, or precious stones. **What materials are your work built upon?** Note the contrast: “If anyone's work abide” which he built on the foundation, **he shall receive a reward**; if any man's work goes up in smoke, he will suffer a terrible loss, but, **he himself will be saved.** He does not lose his salvation if **he is on the foundation, which is trust in Christ, even though he receives no reward.**



OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

**1Co 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?**

**1Co 3:17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.**

**Avoid Worldly Wisdom (vs. 18-23)**

**1Co 3:18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise.**

**1Co 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "HE CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR OWN CRAFTINESS";**

**1Co 3:20 and again, "THE LORD KNOWS THE THOUGHTS OF THE WISE, THAT THEY ARE FUTILE."**

**v. 16 you are the temple of God:** Paul will later (**1Co 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:16**) speak as individual Christians being temples. Here his emphasis is on the church as a whole (though it has application to individuals). When Paul calls the church a temple, don't think he is using a picture. The physical temple was the picture; God's dwelling in us is the reality. What makes the church a temple? **The Spirit of God dwells in you.** The word used for temple (*naos*) refers to **the actual sanctuary**, the place of the deity's dwelling, in contrast to the broader word (*hieron*), which was the temple area in general.

**v. 17 This is serious warning to the church and to the teachers that followed Paul and is heartbreaking for him** **If anyone defiles the temple of God:** If you defile the church, God will destroy you. God's temple - His church - is holy, and it matters to God how we treat His holy temple. **He warns them not to move to human wisdom and depart from the foundation of Christ, moving away from the Apostles doctrine,** not to bring in worldly ideas and gimmicks.

**v.18** Glorify Him by pursuing real wisdom. **Let no one deceive himself.** If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise.

**vs. 19-20 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their own craftiness";** and again, **"The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile."** If anyone among you seems to be wise: Paul is being a little sarcastic here. Of course the Corinthians considered themselves wise in this age! That was one of their problems, their love of worldly wisdom. What is one to do if they are wise in this age? If they are wise according to a human measure of wisdom? They are to become a fool that he may become wise. Paul asks them to renounce all worldly wisdom, all humanism (man centered philosophy), even if it means being called a fool. If one is not willing to be considered a fool by those who value only human wisdom, they will never be able to truly become wise.

**v. 16** The church as a temple - This is to be understood of the community of Christians, or of the church, as being the place where God dwells on the earth. The child of God is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Paul will bring this matter to our attention again. Our very bodies belong to Him! **Do you really consider your body as belonging to Him and that it is a place where God dwells on the earth?**

**v. 17** The Greek word translated "destroy" doesn't mean "damned." It means "diminished." he who defiles the church by either overtly or subtly causing division within the church, by coming down on the church, or by pulling away from the church will himself be diminished. His ability to know the Lord, walk with the Lord, and be used by the Lord will decrease perceptibly because the Lord is very protective of His church. He is totally in love with His bride.

**v.18** If anyone, while preaching the gospel assumes the part of a wise man and reputation of a profound thinker, he needs to assure himself that he will not attain true wisdom until he has passed through a crisis in which that wisdom of his with which he is puffed up will perish and after which only he will receive the wisdom which is from above.

**v. 19** God has evaluated the wisdom of this world, and He considers it foolishness, craftiness, and futile. **Will we agree with God's evaluation, or not?**

**v. 20 Psa 94:11** is quoted here to emphasize **that the Lord knows all the reasoning of the wise men of this world,** and He further knows that they are futile, empty, and fruitless. Paul was going to great pains to discredit worldly wisdom? Simply because, the Corinthians were placing a great premium on such wisdom and were following those leaders who seemed to exhibit it in a remarkable degree. **Do you understand the Lord's position against the thoughts of the worldly wise? On who's wisdom are you relying?**

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

***1Co 3:21 Therefore let no one boast in men.  
For all things are yours:***

***1Co 3:22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas,  
or the world or life or death, or things present  
or things to come—all are yours.***

***1Co 3:23 And you are Christ's, and Christ is  
God's.***

**v. 21. Let no one boast in men:** How prone we are to boast or glory in men! We are more excited about being with the influential and famous of this world than about being with God. We value the gifts and honors of men more than the gifts and honors God gives. How we need to hear, **let no one glory in men!** Be thankful fo the messengers, but talk about God!

**v. 22. For all things are yours:** To say *I am of Paul* or *I am of Apollos* is to have a view that is too narrow, too constricted. **What a tragic thing to choose one** among the three teachers! That would mean **losing the other two!** We need every single one of them. No Paul, Apollos, Peter, **they all belong to you; the whole universe is yours in Christ.** There is no need to choose! It's all yours!

Why, even **death** is “ours”; it is our servant, not our master! Death may be to us as the angel who touched Peter in Acts 12, causing his chains to fall off, and leading him through a gate that opens by itself, into real freedom. **All are yours: This is Christian liberty**

**v. 23** Now **here is the real thing to glory in!** Not in other men. Not in the instruments that God uses. **And you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.** Now that's something to glory in! – being in “good hands”! You're in Christ's hands and in the Father's hands!.

**v. 21** We need to glorify God by seeing His servants in the right perspective. **Do you have a tendency to glory in your favorite preacher, teacher, or leader?**

**v. 22** How would your define your inventory of the possessions as a child of God? **Do you tend to want to exclude things from “all are yours”?** Or you open to receiving all that are yours as God's child?

**v. 23** Are you Christ's? **Are you, am I, guarding against carnality, following aft man, being divisive OR are you and I following after Christ?**

**CHAPTER 3 - SUMMARY:**

- **Keep growing** as Christians!
- **Jesus Christ** to always be **the foundation**
- **Choosing to grow** in spiritual maturity **by the ways that God has chosen** – the only ways that will work, not seduced by all the worldly things that come along.
- **Not spending years** in the body of Christ, **pursuing worldly wisdom**, when that time could have been invested **in the Word of God; in prayer; in fellowship** with the body of Christ: lifting one another's arms up,
- Always **staying close to the cross**.
- **Staying** in the saddle; **persevering**;
- **Purifving our motives**, with fire if necessary in order that there will be an eternal reward, that He want to bless every single one of us! **“Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord”**

**1 CORINTHIANS 3    Sectarianism Is Carnal (vs. 1-4); Watering, Working, Warning (vs. 5-17); Avoid Worldly Wisdom (vs. 18-23)**

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.