

1 Corinthians 08 – 3:4-11

Labouring With God

1. 3:4-5 – Don't Worship the Minister

- a. The (baby) Corinthians were in competition; the spiritual man is not – Phil 2:3
- b. We do not compare men, we compare spiritual things – 2 Cor 10:12, 1 Cor 2:13
- c. Comparing persons (Paul, Apollos, Peter) was carnal – 1Cor 1:12, 2 Cor 5:16
- d. Paul taught liberty; Apollos had appeal to the Jews – Acts 18:13 vs. 18:24-28
- e. Comparing men, pedigree, presentation, appearance is called respecting persons.

2. 3:5-7 – God Directed Ministry

- a. The ministers are of the Lord - Heb 1:1, Exo 34:14, Luke 1:15, 7:28, Mat 3:11
- b. Heeding the message is not worshipping the person - Acts 10:25, 14:12
- c. It is God that gives the ministry, not men - Rom 10:14-17, Eph 1:13, 4:11-12
- d. "God gives the increase" He supplies our need for growth: Eph 4:14-16, Col 2:19
- e. He is our sufficiency and strength – 2 Cor 3:5, 9:8, 1 Thess 3:11-13, Phil 4:13, 19
- f. "Apollos watered", but God did not give him a dispensation: Gal 1:11, 1Cor 9:17

3. 3:8-9 – Labouring With God

- a. Ministry requires work, it must be done correctly – 2 Tim 2:2-5, 15
- b. Husband *def.* house manager; steward; responsible for cultivating growth.
- c. Edification *def.* A building and improving upon a great structure (1 Cor 10:23)
- d. "We are labourers, ye are the building" = (you need to grow up)
- e. You are the building where God dwells; accountable to him – 1 Cor 3:16-17

4. 3:10-11 – The Wise Masterbuilder

- a. The building and growth is according to... Eph 3:1-2, Rom 15:15, 16:25
- b. Paul is magnifying his own office as masterbuilder – Rom 11:13, 1 Cor 1:1
- c. The foundation is Jesus Christ according to the mystery– 1 Tim 1:16, Eph 3:7-9
- d. The church of the twelve is built upon the rock of Christ – Mat 16:16
- e. Their foundation is Christ according to prophecy Rev 21:14 as King of Israel
- f. Moses built a house, Peter builds a house, Paul builds a house ← dispensers
- g. Others build on Paul's foundation; take heed how you build. Rom 15:20