

1 Corinthians 11 – 4:1-8

Stewards of God's Mysteries

1. 3:21-23 – All Things are Yours

- a. Paul, Apollos, etc. minister all things for their edification – 2 Cor 12:19
- b. Old things pass away, all things become new - 2 Cor 5:17-18, 1 Cor 12:4-6

2. 4:1 – Stewards of the Mysteries

- a. They are not to account men higher than they ought – 1Cor 4:6, 3:21, Rom 12:3
- b. Do you know the mystery of Christ? Romans 16:25
 - i. New dispensation=Israel's program is postponed: Rom 11:25-26, 1 Cor 2:7
 - ii. A new Pauline pattern to Gentiles – Rom 15:16, 2 Tim 1:11-12
 - iii. A dispensation of the gospel: mystery of the gospel – 1 Cor 9:16-17
 - iv. A new creature: one body in Christ – Col 1:27, Eph 3:1-6, 5:32
 - v. A new ministry as Christ's ambassadors – Eph 6:19-20, 2 Cor 5:19-20
 - vi. A new purpose and destiny in heaven – 1 Cor 15:51, Titus 2:12, Eph 2:6

3. 4:2-4 – A Faithful Steward

- a. Faithfulness to the mystery of Christ will produce growth.
- b. Paul turns defensive of himself: he has a magnified office – Rom 11:13
- c. He said he that is spiritual judgeth all things – 1 Cor 2:15, but 1 Tim 5:19
- d. There is a need for judgment among the church – Phil 1:9, 1Cor 5:12, 6:2, 14:29
- e. He escapes man's judgment since he is the pattern: 1Tim 1:16, Gal 1:10, Thess 2:4

4. 4:5-7 – That Ye Might Learn...

- a. "judge nothing" about who is more esteemed. God will judge 1Cor 1:10, 3:8
- b. Paul uses himself and Apollos as a "figure" not to be puffed up: 1 Cor 3:5-8, 16:12
- c. We do not grow ourselves, our growth is of God – Col 1:11, Eph 3:16, 6:10
- d. They are all one and received all things from the Lord - 1Cor 12:4-7, 14:36-37
 - i. Paul did not receive from any man – Gal 1:12, 1 Cor 11:23, 15:3, 2 Cor 12:1, 7
 - ii. How did they receive it? Answer: from Paul: 2 Tim 1:13, 2:2, Phil 4:9, 1 Cor 4:15