

# **I Corinthians – Handout #4**

## **Chapter 4**

**Verses 1–5:** Stewards – faithful to charge; stewards take care of the household according to the master’s (God’s) instructions, nothing more and nothing less.

Paul and Apollos were careful not to give more than what is written; not more than what God has said.

Judgment and evaluation of the work we do for God cannot be given to man, not even to ourselves. It is God that judges and evaluates our work. So we all must be careful not to compare and contrast one minister’s work with another’s. We are all working for the Lord, ministering as God has given us ability. What we have and are able to do, we have received from the Lord. So let us never be puffed up, and never pit one minister or ministry against another. (Verses 6 and 7)

**Verses 7–13:** Paul uses a bit of sarcasm to show them that they may have thought of themselves as more than the apostles, who taught them. We are all servants of God.

**Verses 14–21:** Paul now becomes father, assuring them that his aim is not to shame them but to warn and teach them. He will come to them and hopes to find things corrected and in order so that he does not have to correct them but can come in love and gentleness.

## **Chapter 5**

**Verses 1- 5:** Reprimand for allowing sexual immorality to go unchecked in their midst. Man is sleeping with his father’s wife (Lev 20:11, Deut 22:30; 27:20). Commonly reported (people know) He should be disciplined. Cut off from fellowship.

**Verses 6-8:** A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. Allusion to the Passover. We are the unleavened bread and Christ is our Passover Lamb. Keep the feast (live the life).

**Verses 9–13:** No fellowship with sexually immoral who calls himself a brother, but those of the world are not expected to live up to the same standards. They are of the world.

## **Chapter 6**

**Verses 1–11:** We should avoid or hesitate to take brothers and sisters in the Lord to court. We should try to come to agreement (first) within the brotherhood. Court should be a last resort. We should abide by the righteous laws of God, especially in relation to how we treat one another. Unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God. We were all sinners once until God saved us.

**Verses 12-20:** We should glorify God in our bodies and in our spirit, which belong to God. Flee fornication, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost. Our bodies do not belong to us, for we were bought with a price: the blood of Jesus Christ.