

# 1 Corinthians 10:14-33

2-8-12

## To God be the Glory!

### I. Intro: Slide #1

- A. This is dated...but still applicable. Some men become proud and insolent because they ride a fine horse, wear a feather in their hat or are dressed in a fine suit of clothes. Who does not see the folly of this? If there be any glory in such things, the glory belongs to the **horse**, the **bird** and the **tailor**. *St. Francis de Sales*
- B. **Last Week:** Paul explained that the ancient Israelites had God's miraculous *Presence, Protection, & Provision*. **Yet**, an entire generation **died-en-route** to the promise land...**because of disobedience**.
1. The Corinthian believers **also** needed to take heed to taking advantage of their liberties, **lest** they also fall short of God's best for them.

### II. Slide #2 FELLOWSHIP OR FRIENDSHIP? (14-22)

- A. **Slide #3** (14) **Flee from idolatry** - I think of a *flea* that can jump 7"(h) & 13"(frwd), thus 200 x's its bodies length.
- B. (16) **It all starts at the cross!** - Always start at Calvary.
1. Our **Communion** is at Calvary, **but** our **Contact** must be w/the world. Our **fellowship** is w/the Lord Jesus, **but** our **friendship** is for those who do not know the Savior.
  2. If a Christian moves in **ungodly circles**, has social contact with them, even an occasional meal, often times he may be **accused of "fellowshipping"** with unbelievers. But, it is nothing of the sort.
    - a) **Your fellowship** can stay at Calvary & **your heart** stay tune w/God, **while** you seek to **win souls** for Him!
  3. We need to learn to live in separation to God.
    - a) This is something only you & I can **discern personally**, when we are right before God regarding this.
    - b) **If** while moving in **ungodly circles**, I find my **heart** going out to the things they enjoy, I must quickly *put a stop to it!*
    - c) **You can't belong to Christ & live in the enemy's camp!**
      - (1) **David** tried it for a while at Achish, before the king of Gath, when Saul was chasing him. Of course, remember what he had to do to pull this off. **So he changed his behavior before them, feigned madness in their hands, scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard.**
    - d) Remember God called us to **separation** **but** not **isolation!**

C. (21,22) Any places you shouldn't be frequenting?

1. Any tables you shouldn't be sitting at?

- a) **Slide #4** Here we have *Satan's communion service!* (as he has a counterfeit **church & gospel**, so he has a counterfeit **communion service!**)
- b) **Why are Bars & Night clubs so successful?** They provide "fellowship". Everyone knows your name. Free to be yourself. It's everything the church should have been for them or probably failed to be in their time of need. Maybe they were judged rather than listened to? **And so, the Churches communion feast of wine & bread is replaced for Beer & Nuts at the local bar. :(**

2. How are you doing with both of these categories? – Who are you Fraternizing with?

- a) **Do you still have friends in the world?** or have you so distanced yourself, it's almost impossible to have an impact on anyone?
- b) **Do you have fellowship w/Christians?** or are all your friends still your old friends of the world?

(1) Which of these 2 could you work on this week?

### III. Slide #5 TO GOD BE THE GLORY! (23-33)

A. (23) **Not all things edify/build you up!**

1. **Remember you are on the King's business & He grants no vacations from holy living!**
  - a) **Yet** it is not only about **Holy living** for God could just bring us home for that, **but** he also seeks to **save those that are lost...**through & I! [**be concerned about your testimony!**]

B. Does it past the Test?

1. **Slide #6 THE WORLD TEST.** Will it make me worldly to do it? (1John 2:15–17)<sup>1</sup>
2. **THE QUALITY TEST.** Is it good for me physically, emotionally, & spiritually? (Rom. 12:9b)
3. **THE TEMPLE TEST.** Can I do it when I remember my body is God's temple and must not be marred or misused? (1Cor.6:19)
4. **THE GLORY TEST.** Will it glorify my Lord, or will it on the other hand possibly bring shame to His name? (1Cor.6:20, 10:32)
5. **THE BLESSING TEST.** Can I honestly ask God's blessing on it and be sure I'll not regret doing it? (Prov.10:22, Rom.15:29)
6. **THE REPUTATION TEST.** Is it apt to damage my testimony for the Lord?(Phil. 2:15)
7. **THE CONSIDERATION TEST.** Am I being considerate of others and the effect this might have on them? (Rom.14:7, 21)

<sup>1</sup> Taken from Basic Bible Beliefs, Bible Baptist Church, Auburn, Wn.,1975, unpublished, Eugene A. Wood, DTS, ThM Thesis, 1980

8. **THE APPEARANCE TEST.** Will it look bad? Does it have the appearance of what is wrong or suspicious? (1 Thes.5:22)
9. **THE WEIGHT TEST.** Could this slacken or sidetrack me in running the Christian race? (Heb.12:1, 1 Cor. 9:24)
10. **THE COMING OF CHRIST TEST.** Would I be ashamed to be found doing this when He comes again (1 John 2:28)?
11. **THE COMPANION TEST.** Can I invite Christ to go with me and participate with me in this (Matt. 28:20b, Col. 3:17)?
12. **THE PEACE TEST.** After having prayed about it, do I have perfect peace about doing it (Col. 3:15a, Phil. 4:6–7)?

C. **Slide #7** Now Paul draws back his **arrow** in his bow & strikes his mark!

1. **Slide #8** Explain the parts of an arrow: nock - fletching(vanes) - shaft - head.
2. Explain the **fletching** of an arrow: Toward back of arrow; feather or plastic; provides a little drag to stabilize the flight. **Purpose: control the roll, pitch, & the yaw.**

D. **Slide #9 1st Feather:** Live Sacrificially for others! (23,24)

1. God did not only save you that you might **serve** Him, **but** that you might **live before this fallen world as an example**, & a **witness** of **a changed life**.
2. If your 1st concern is the spiritual wealth of **the person before you**, **then** you need not worry about stumbling anyone.
  - a) **The shaft of an arrow must follow the pointed head!**
  - b) **Hey, how about carrying out this truth**(vs.24) **in our conversations?** Want to **lose** friends, just keep talking about you, your problems, your life, your work, your family issues, & your hobbies, you, you, you...*ad-infinitum, ad-nauseam*.
  - c) **Read Story** (below)

E. **Slide #10 2nd Feather:** Don't be **so fussy**...you can't live in the real world & make real decisions! (25-27)

1. Stop being "*Glass Christians*" (so fragile) [**plasticize yourself!**] {**blessed r the flexible**}
2. **Slide #11 Plasticize** verb, *make plastic or moldable, esp. by the addition of a plasticize*

F. **Slide #12 3rd Feather:** Don't practice **License**, in the name of Christian **Liberty!** (28-31)

G. (31) **His Glory** should be our Single Aspiration!

1. **Slide #13** The 3 flight-stabilizing vanes of the arrow, **now strike their mark** in vs.31!
  - a) We are not to make a **mark**, a **name**, or a **reputation**, for ourselves...**but for Him!**

b) **Not**, make a **mark**, a **name**, or a **reputation** for **Brian** (wow, look how holy he is!)

H. (Oswald Chambers, Nov.16th)

The great marvel of the **Incarnation** slips into **ordinary childhood's life**;  
the great marvel of the **Transfiguration** vanishes in the **devil-possessed valley**;  
the glory of the **Resurrection** descends into a **breakfast on the sea-shore**.

This is **not** an *anti-climax*, but a **great revelation of God!!!**

1. It is one thing to go through a **crisis** grandly, **but** another thing to go through every day glorifying God when there is *no witness, no limelight, no one paying the remotest attention to us*.
  2. We might no longer seek *mediaeval haloes*, **but** we want something that will make people say...*What a man of prayer he is!* (he prays in Old King James!)  
*What a devoted woman she is!* (she goes to 2 bible studies a week!)
    - a) It takes **Almighty God Incarnate in us** to do *the most trivial duty* to the glory of God.
    - b) It takes **God's Spirit in us** to make us so *absolutely humanly His*...that we are utterly unnoticeable.
    - c) **Our aim?** to manifest the glory of God in everyday life; to live the life hid with Christ in God in all human conditions.
- I. **The shallow concerns of life are ordained of God**; they are as much of God as the profound.
1. **The shallow things of life, eating and drinking, walking and talking, driving to work, doing laundry...are all ordained by God.**
  2. These are the things in which **Our Lord lived**. He lived in them as **the Son of God**. And He said that *"the disciple is not above his Master."*
- J. (32,33) There are only **3 groups** of people in this world: **the Jews, the Gentiles, & the Church**.
1. End times debates: large part depends on your understanding of **Israel**.
    - a) **God is through** with Israel, as the church is now spiritual Israel? Or,  
**God is not through** with Israel & the church is new & distinct from Israel?
- K. **3 groups** of people in this world:
1. **Slide #14 The Jews** - the nation that sprang from Abraham. The chosen earthly people of God. This nation has been miraculously preserved to the present time & will yet be the dominant, glorified people of the earth in the coming kingdom age.
    - a) **Only nation to be a nation, not be a nation, & then be a nation again(1948)**. (same with Hebrew language)
    - b) **God has given eternal promises/covenants with Israel. Including: a National entity** (Jer. 31:36); **a land** (Gen.31:15); **a throne** (2Sam.7:13); **a king** (Jer.33:20,21); **a kingdom** (2Sam.7:16).
    - c) **4 words** have been used to describe the *out-working* of the divine purpose in this people:

- (1) *Chosen - Scattered - Gathered - Blessed* (They were chosen; are now scattered; yet to be gathered & blessed)
2. **Slide #15 The Gentiles** - Have lived on earth from Adam until now. All humans excluding the Israelites.
  - a) OT prophecies predict great earthly blessings to come upon the Gentiles, **in** the **yet future** kingdom on the earth.
3. **Slide #16,17 The Church of God** -
  - a) Refers, **not** to membership of organized churches, **but** to the whole company of the redeemed who will have been saved in the present age. **They have been...**
    - (1) **Born again** & have entered into the kingdom of God (Jn.3:5)
    - (2) They are no longer “*in Adam*” **but** are “*in Christ*” partaking in **the new creation of all Christ is** in His Resurrection life & glory.
    - (3) In the sight of God their **nationality is changed**, **for** they have come upon new ground where there is neither Jew or Gentile, **but** Christ is all in all.
      - (a) **God expects The Church to win Jews & Gentiles to the Lord.**
    - (4) They are now **citizens of heaven**. All their **promises**, their **possessions**, & their **position** are heavenly.

Long before the House of God was built, two brothers are said to have lived on Mount Moriah. One was a single man; the other had a wife and family. These two exemplified brotherly love. They lived together in complete unity. They shared the same house without dissension. Every morning, they got up early and shared the tedious work of farming the hill.

Soon, it was time to harvest. The sheaves were gathered and carefully divided into two identical piles. Each brother would garner an equal share in the fruit of their labors. When finished, the two brothers returned home to rest in preparation for the difficult day of threshing ahead.

The unmarried brother had a fit of conscience. Later that night, he returned to the threshing floor and carefully redistributed the harvest. His heart was pure. He reduced his portion of the sheaves to make his brother's pile larger, thinking, “It is neither right nor necessary for me to keep an equal portion of God's bounty. My brother is a good man caring for a wife and family. It is better that he receive a bigger portion.” Then he quietly returned to bed.

Shortly thereafter, the married brother awoke. He told his wife, “My darling, things are not right. It is unfair that my brother has an equal share of the harvest. I already receive a greater share of happiness because of the love I have from you and our children. My brother has neither.” So they quietly went to

the threshing floor and together, they transferred a portion of their sheaves to the pile of the single brother.

When daylight came, the two brothers went to thresh the sheaves. As they reached the threshing floor, both brothers were amazed. Each pile was again equal! Perplexed, they quietly finished their work and went home. That night, each brother determined to return to the threshing floor to bless the other. God's timing is always perfect. So it was again that quiet night. The two brothers arrived simultaneously. In an instant, they both understood the other's heart. Embracing, they gave each other a kiss of brotherly love.