

I Corinthians

(8) Regard us as Servants of Christ

1 Cor 3:16-4:5

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

18 Do not deceive yourselves. If any one of you thinks he is wise by the standards of this age, he should become a "fool" so that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"; 20 and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile." 21 So then, no more boasting about men! All things are yours, 22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future – all are yours, 23 and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God.

4 So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. 2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. 3 I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. 4 My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. NIV

About God's Temple...3:16-17

How does Paul describe the believer? 3:16; IICor.6:16; Eph.2:21-22; IPet.2:5

And what is the warning? 3:17; 6:12-16

Enough with the boasting about men!...3:18-4:5

What's the clear message to the 'worldly' Corinthians re their 'wisdom'? 3:18-20; 1:18-21

What's Paul's recommendation to them? 3:18b Comment?? Rom.12:16

What are some present-day illustrations of the world's wisdom?

What is Paul's command to them based on the wisdom teaching? 3:21-23; Rom.8:31-32

Instead of rejecting some teachers, what should they be doing? 4:1, 9:16-18; Col.1:24-29

How does Paul put the 'gold, silver, ...' into different words? 4:2; Col.4:17; Mt.25:21; Lu.16:10

Paul makes clear that the Judge of quality is...? 3:3-4; IICor.5:10; Ps.50:1-6

How is this judgment described? 3:5; Heb.4:13; Rom.2:14-16; Lu.12:1-3; Eccl.12:14

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About God's Temple...3:16-17

How does Paul describe the believer? 3:16; IICor.6:16; Eph.2:21-22; IPet.2:5

Because of the indwelling Holy Spirit a believer is God's temple, that is dwelling place.

And what is the warning? 3:17; 6:12-16

Anyone who destroys (corrupts) God's sacred temple (believer/Church), He will destroy!

Enough with the boasting about men!...3:18-4:5

What's the clear message to the 'worldly' Corinthians re their 'wisdom'? 3:18-20; 1:18-21

They're deceiving themselves! Worldly wise (foolishness in God's sight). Get real wisdom!

What's Paul's recommendation to them? 3:18b Comment?? Rom.12:16

They think they're wise (per world's standards). Need to become fools to really be wise!

What are some present-day illustrations of the world's wisdom?

What is Paul's command to them based on the wisdom teaching? 3:21-23; Rom.8:31-32

Enough! No more boasting re men (Apollos, Paul, Peter). No loss here. It's all yours.

Instead of rejecting some teachers, what should they be doing? 4:1, 9:16-18; Col.1:24-29

They should focus on the teaching, not the teacher. Then they would have been growing!

How does Paul put the 'gold, silver, ...' into different words? 4:2; Col.4:17; Mt.25:21; Lu.16:10

The quality of our service certainly includes faithfulness in our gifting. Use your gift!

Paul makes clear that the Judge of quality is...? 3:3-4; IICor.5:10; Ps.50:1-6

It's not any human court, or even himself (nothing known, but...); the Lord judges all.

How is this judgment described? 3:5; Heb.4:13; Rom.2:14-16; Lu.12:1-3; Eccl:12:14

When the Lord comes, He will expose the motives, then each will receive praise...