

Messy

Part Three: *builders*

May 22, 2022

In this series, I'm teaching you some lessons to help you help your church accomplish its mission. This morning, I'm going to give you the third lesson you need to learn to help your church.

- The Christians in the Corinthian Church did not think, feel, and behave properly because they did not see their salvation, their leaders, or themselves properly.

What did Paul do to help the Corinthians see properly?

1st - Paul showed the Corinthians their spiritual immaturity.

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

The Corinthians should have been able to chew on the meat of the Word of God, but all they could swallow was milk, or the elementary truths in scripture. The Corinthians should have been teaching others how to live for God, but instead, they were fighting amongst themselves over trivial issues.

- The Corinthians were spiritually immature because they were following their sinful nature.

2nd – Paul showed the Corinthians that their leaders worked for God.

Vs. 5-9

The Corinthians were wrong to glorify their church leaders because those men were simply servants of God that were laying a foundation for God's church.

3rd - Paul showed the Corinthians how they needed to minister on earth.

Vs. 10-15

In verses 10-15, Paul changes the analogy from farming to building. Using the figure of a building, Paul teaches the Corinthians what they should be doing in their church.

Paul tells the Corinthians five truths in verses 10-15:

1. Paul was the architect and general contractor for the Corinthian Church.
2. Others built on the foundation Paul laid in Corinth.
3. Jesus is the foundation of the Christian church.
4. Christians can use different materials to build their church.

The building materials listed by Paul in verse 12 represent works we do for Christ and His church. These works fall into two categories - high quality and low quality. Paul wants us to build our church with the best materials (works), for only the best materials (works) will be effective, last, and bring God glory.

5. Our works will be judged one day by Christ.

The judgment Paul is referring to in verses 13-15 is the Judgment Seat of Christ (Romans 14:10; 2 Corinthians 5:9-10). Christ will reward Christians that have faithfully served Him, but He will not reward Christians that have not served Him. Their bad works will be burned up because they had no value and they do not glorify God.

Here's today's lesson...

Christians need to build their church with works that glorify God!