

1st & 2nd CORINTHIANS

INTRODUCTION PART VI

{Sunday, July 3, 2016 A.D.}

-
- God's wisdom for His Church, which lived(es) amidst a prosperous, arrogant and aggressively rebellious culture, yet is commanded by God to become and remain holy (moral and separate).
-

Church at Corinth (VISIBLE)

- False Converts in the Visible Church
 - Worldly Like the Culture
 - Desirous of a Worldly King/Kingdom (Health/Wealth/Power/Praises of Men)
 - Sanctification Not Understood/Valued/Prioritized/Practiced – Liberty Taken for Presumption & License
 - Immaturity of Doctrine & Practice
 - Church Not Highly Developed in Organization, Leadership, Discipleship & Discipline, Despite the Quality & Duration (18 months) of Discipleship through Paul
 - Disunity
 - Very Much Like the Visible Church Today
-

Major Themes/Controversial Interpretive Challenges (⊕)/Biblical Success

- Corrective of the Church/Development of Church Order
 - Right Doctrine/Thinking for Right Practice and for Right Worship
 - Emphasis on Teaching and Training the Church
 - (⊕) Gospel Development
 - Cross-Centered – Jesus Christ Crucified
 - Heeding God's Wisdom rather than Fallen Human Wisdom
 - Against the Teachers of the Law
 - Against the Philosophers of the Age/Times
 - Scandal of the Gospel
 - Jews – Impossibility of a Crucified Messiah
 - Gentiles/Greeks – Substitutionary Atonement/Death and Bodily Resurrection
 - (⊕) Sacrament of the Lord's Table – Especially the Presence and Activity of God
 - (⊕) Centrality of the Bodily Resurrection of Jesus Christ for the Gospel and for Hope – One of the Most Developed Understandings
 - (⊕) Gifts of the Holy Spirit and their Function
 - God's Sovereignty – Power and Authority
 - Godly Love, Contrasted Against Fallen Human Love
 - (⊕) Transformation of the Saved Life in Christ – Sanctification and the Ongoing Validity of God's Moral Law and Christian Liberty
 - (⊕) Celibacy/Marriage/Separation/Divorce/Remarriage/Widowhood
 - Substitutionary Atonement
 - Fallen Man's Judgment and (⊕) God's Judgment of Believers
 - The New Covenant, in Relationship to the Old Covenant – One of the Most Developed Understandings
 - Ministry – Service of Self-Sacrificial Suffering, Amidst Divine Comfort, for God's Glory/God's "Ordinary" Use of the Weak
 - (⊕) Ministerial Success – The Church/The Minister/The Believer – Obedience in Faith and Faithfulness and Joy and Contentment and Love amidst Great Suffering and Sacrifice to God's Glory (just like Jesus Christ) – Godly Love with an Undivided Heart after God's Own Heart
-

Looking Ahead:

- 1 Corinthians 1:1

