

## Introduction

- 2 part message
  - Part 1 will be on 1 Corinthians 6:9-14
  - Part 2 will be on 1 Corinthians 6:15-20
- Next time I speak will be part 2

## Context: the letter

- Author: Paul
- Recipient: church at Corinthians
  - Corinth was the capital of Greece, and a hub of Greek and Roman culture
  - Educated people, the intellectual elites, erudite and scholars
  - Greeks and Romans converted to Christianity
- Relationship
  - Paul started the church at Corinth
  - The Corinthians have since mixing aspects of secular culture with their doctrine
- Overall purpose of letter
  - to provide correction to the Corinthian church

## Context: 1 Corinthians 5-6:8

- Paul addresses a specific act of fornication that was widely reported among them
  - A man had a sexual relationship with his step mother
  - This relationship was celebrated in the assembly
  - This sin was commonly reported among them
- Paul is going to address 2 aspects of this specific sin
  - 5:6-6:8 Dealing with public issues in the assembly
  - 6:9-20 Dealing with Fornication

## Fornication -terms

- Paul is now ready to address Fornication
  - Pornea - illicit sexual intercourse
  - Any sexual conduct not approved by God
- He argues 5 points
  - 2 points refute attempts to justify fornication
  - 3 points attempt to educate them in the side effects of Fornication

## Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-14

## 1 Corinthians 6:9 know you not

- 5th time Paul uses this phrase
  - Indicates that they should have known something but didn't
  - Being highly educated, they knew so much that wasn't so
- They mixed concepts from their secular culture into their doctrine
  - The physical body was evil, sin was an expression of the body
  - The body can not enter heaven, so it doesn't matter
- lists 10 sins
  - Such were some of you
  - At no time does Paul question that they were saved

### **1 Corinthians 6:9-12 Christian liberty**

- V11: 3 things that happen to believers
  - washed, no longer marked by the filth of sin
  - sanctified, set apart from sin.
  - justified, just as if I never sinned
- If we have been justified
  - Are there no consequences for sin?
  - Is Christian liberty a licence to sin?
- V12: All things are lawful unto me BUT...
  - Repeated 2x [1x 1 Corinthians 10:23]
  - Each time followed by a warning to not misuse Christian liberty

### **1 Corinthians 6:12-13 the 2 slogans to justify fornication**

- All things are lawful into me
- Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them.
- These were likely slogans common in Paul's day
  - Several translations put it inside quotations
  - Some translations precede it with the phrase "you say"
- These sayings were likely used to justify fornication
  - Paul is not affirming these slogans
  - in fact he is refuting their use to justify fornication

### **1 Corinthians 6:9-12 warning against misusing Christian liberty - 1st Slogan**

- All things are not expedient aka beneficial
  - Our position is in Christ, justified. Nothing can change this.
  - Everyday God is leading us to be set apart from sin. Daily process of sanctification.
  - Some liberties have negative or non beneficial consequences
- I will not be brought under the power of any
  - some liberties dominate, enslave you
  - You were set apart from sin in the name of Jesus v11
  - being enslaved or dominated by sin makes Jesus look like a liar

- This is devastating for ones testimony

### **1 Corinthians 6:13 break down the 2nd slogan into 2 points**

- Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats
  - We see this pattern: a is for b and b is for a
  - They were made for each other
  - We are free to eat because God designed us to eat
  - Argues for liberty through design
- but God shall destroy both it and them.
  - if you restrict your diet or eat unrestricted
  - In the end same outcome
  - Exercising restraint is futile because either way you end up the same
  - Argues for liberty through futility

### **1 Corinthians 6:13 Paul responds to liberty through design**

- The body is not for fornication
- What are our bodies for then?
  - The body is for the Lord
  - v20 Glorify God with your body
- The Lord for the body
  - God is very concerned with our bodies
- Continue study at home
  - How can our sexuality glorify the Lord? Ephesians 5:22-33
  - In what ways is the "Lord for the Body?"

### **1 Corinthians 6:14 Paul refutes liberty by futility**

- God hath both raised up the Lord
  - The Lord had a physical Resurrection
  - He was raised from the dead in a physical body
- will also raise up us
  - Your body will be raised, it does not end at the grave
  - What we do with our bodies is not futile
- Gospel
  - If you have not yet put your trust in Jesus, Today is the day of salvation
  - Hebrews 9:27 ... it is appointed unto men once to die but after this the judgment
  - Acts 16:31 ... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...