

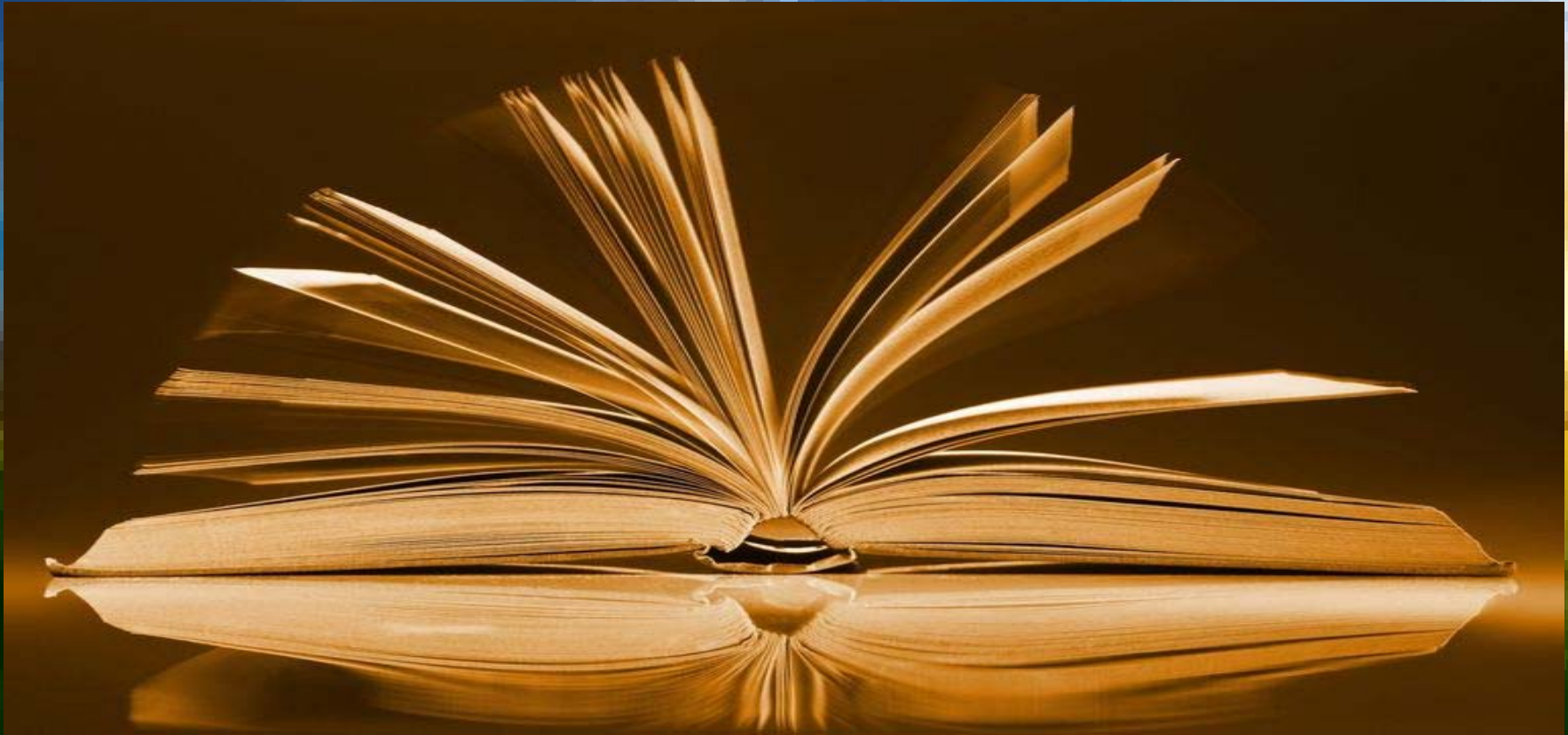
***Good Morning***  
*and*  
***Welcome to Genesis the Church!***



*Let's Dismiss Our Kids to Their Kid's Quest Programs!*



*The Text:*  
***1 Corinthians 4:6-21!***



*The Title:*  
***The Corinthian's Choice:  
Passion or Punishment?***



*The Theme:*

***Warning!***

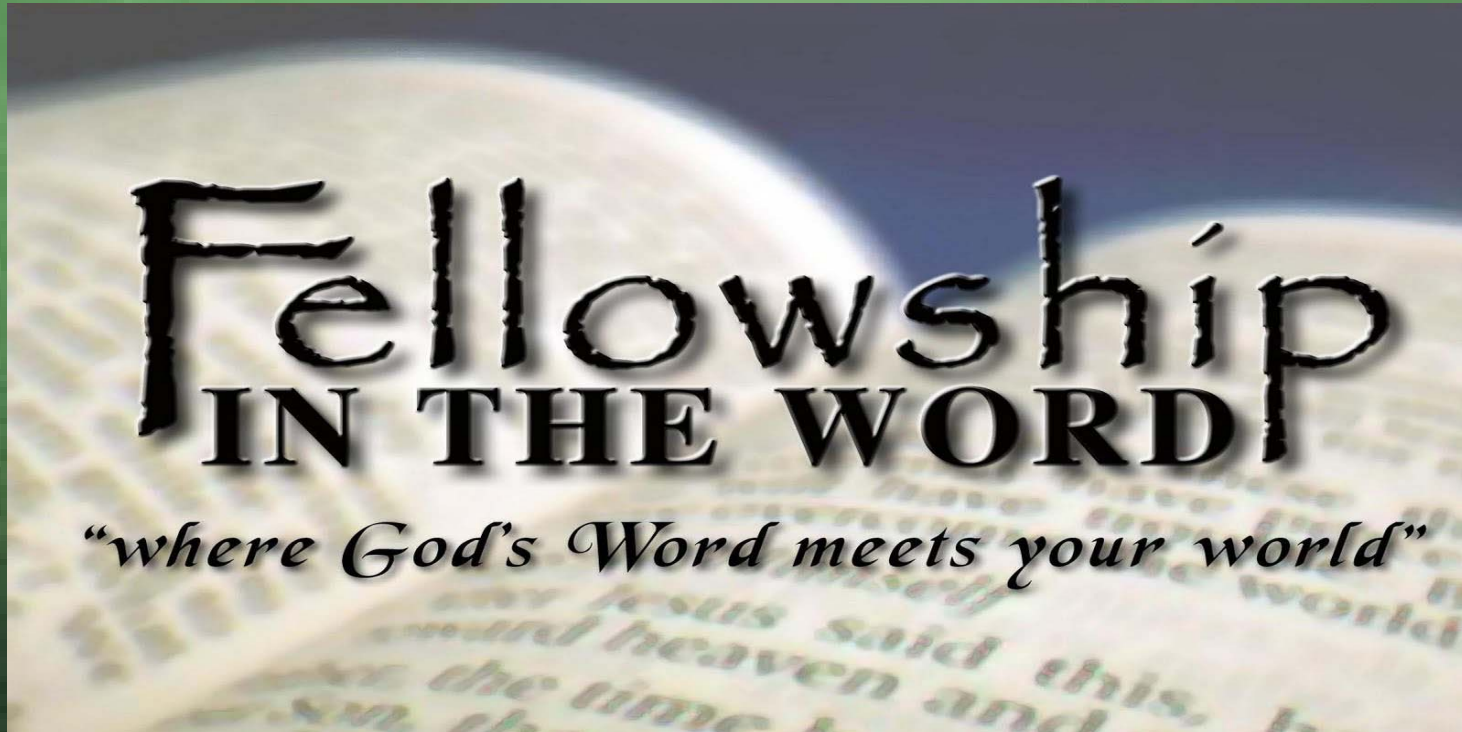
***To remind us of the importance of our testimony!***

***The Sin of Self-Centeredness  
Brings Shame***

***Upon the Name of Our Savior!***

***Let's Get Familiar With Today's Text!***

***1 Corinthians 4:6-21!***



# Overview Of Our Journey

- I. (1:1-17) The **Conflict** in the Church!
- II. (1:18-2:16) The **Cause** of the Conflict!
- III. (3:1-4:5) The **Consequences** of  
the Conflict!
- IV. (4:6-21) The **Cure** for the Conflict!

# Last Week

## III. (3:1-4:5) The Consequences of the Conflict!

### A. Growth is Stunted:

1. The Picture: Infant or Baby!
2. The Proof: Jealousy and Strife!
3. The Problem: Mimick Men!



# Last Week

## III. (3:1-4:5) The Consequences of the Conflict!

### A. Rewards are Stolen:

1. The Prophecy: Isaiah / 2:29!
2. The Point: Announced in 3:9!

# This Week

## IV. (4:6-21) The Cure for the Conflict!

In this section the cure is left up to the Corinthians:

1. Receive my **punishment!**
2. Receive my **praise!**

The choice is up to you!  
So choose wisely!



# Overview of Today's Outline

## IV. (4:6-21) The Cure for the Conflict!

A. (4:6-8) The Arrogance of God's People!

B. (4:9-17) The Agony of God's Pastors!

C. (4:18-21) The Admonishing of  
God's Patriarch!

# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

*Just like today, the people then were a proud and boastful group. Because of the excitement in the city, the fame of the temple, and the personal prosperity offered to its citizens, the very thought of showing humility or serving another was frowned upon. Corinth hosted the largest slave market in the Roman world, and the everyday abuse of those being bought and sold in the market place was considered the norm. As Roman citizens they looked down on anyone who wasn't like them. And while the Corinthian believers willingly accepted Christ's service and sacrifice for their own salvation, they rejected the idea of following His example. It is in this section that Paul will focus on their unwillingness to be sanctified and to serve.*

# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

## A. (v.6) Paul's RESPONSE to their Arrogance:

1. **Paul builds ... figuratively on chap. 3** "I planted and Apollos watered, you are God's field (harvest) and God's building (holy temple / dwelling place)!"
2. **Paul's point ... is this** Just as God sent me to invest in you, now He wants to use you to invest in others. Therefore don't forget the importance of your testimony for Christ as you live among the unsaved of this world!

# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

## A. (v.6) Paul's RESPONSE to their Arrogance:

3. To be a good testimony you must not exceed what is written (I Corinthians 13 / Love) ...

- a. **Prov. 13:10** – Pride brings contention, struggle, strife and division.
- b. **Prov. 16:18** – Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.
- c. **Prov. 29:23** – A man's pride will bring him low, but honor will uphold the humble in spirit.

# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

## B. (v.7) Paul's REASON for Confronting:

**Here Three Rhetorical Questions are Used – Think!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Question:** Who is it that regards you as being superior? Certainly not those you choose to lift up and follow – Paul, Apollos, Peter!

- a. We are not persuaded by your boasting! (talk)
- b. Your arrogance (to be puffed up) doesn't cause us to be drawn to you! (walk)
- c. Yet you're convinced that you're special! (mock)

# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

## B. (v.7) Paul's REASON for Confronting:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Question:** What do you have that wasn't given to you? For what you now have you received by grace through faith!

a. Paul has already warned them in 3:21-23!

b. The warning was that "all things belong to you as a result of your position in God which was made possible through the work of Christ!"



# I. (4:6-8) The ARROGANCE of God's People!

C. (v.8) Paul's REPRIMAND is Given:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Question:** How can I help you understand?

Let's reason together!

- a. Since it was given to you why are you arrogant?
- b. Since you received it how can you boast?
- c. I'm not trying to be arrogant with you for I truly wish that you were superior to those around you so that I too might reign with you and not suffer hardship and rejection!

## II. (4:9-17) The AGONY of God's Pastors!

*In these verses Paul summarizes his thoughts about his calling as an apostle. And to show that he remains humble, he lumps himself in with all the other apostles!*

**The question behind the question is this – If you are truly saved and serve as an apostle chosen by God, if you are really living your life according to His will and not your own, why are you suffering and struggling in this world? Does God not bless those He loves?**

## II. (4:9-17) The AGONY of God's Pastors!

Paul's Answer is Threefold!

The proof of ...

A. (vs.9-13) our SALVATION is our suffering!

B. (vs.14-16) the SPIRIT'S power is seen in our passion!

C. (v.17) our willingness to SERVE is seen in Timothy!

# III. (4:17-21) The ADMONISHING of God's Patriarch!

- A. (v.17) Paul's MESSENGER is Timothy.
- B. (vs.18-20) Paul's MESSAGE is Given.
- C. (v.21) Paul's MEEKNESS is Revealed.

# Next Week Our Journey Continues

The **DIVISION** within the Church!

The **DISORDERS** within the Church!

**INCEST**  
**LAWSUITS**  
**HOMOSEXUALITY**  
**DRUNKENNESS**  
**STEALING**

