

THE BOOK OF CORINTHIANS: THE SPIRITUAL CHURCH WITH STICKY SITUATIONS

September 7, 2014

1. The Church of God

1Corinthians 1:1-9

Today, we begin another sermon series: “The Spiritual Church with Sticky Situations” using the Books of Corinthians. Corinth was the most important city in Greece during Paul’s day. It was a bustling hub of worldwide commerce, degraded culture, and idolatrous religion. There Paul founded a Church (Acts 18:1-17) and two of his letters are addressed “To the Church of God which is at Corinth” (1Cor. 1:2; 2Cor. 1:1).

First Corinthians reveals the problems, pressures, and struggles of a church called out of a pagan society. Paul addresses a variety of problems in the lifestyle of the Corinthian church that include factions, lawsuits, immorality, questionable practices, abuse of the Lord’s Supper, and spiritual gifts. In addition to words of discipline, Paul shares words of counsel in answer to questions raised by the Corinthian believers. Paul wrote the second letter to this church because false teachers had infiltrated the Corinthian church and stirred the people against Paul. They claimed he was a fickle, proud, unimpressive in appearance and speech, dishonest, and unqualified as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul sent Titus to Corinth to deal with these difficulties, and upon his return, he rejoiced to hear of the Corinthians change of heart. Paul wrote the letter to express his thanksgiving for the repentant majority and to appeal to the rebellious minority to accept his authority. Throughout the book Paul defends his conduct, character, and calling as an apostle of Jesus Christ.

So as we begin this new series, our focus for today is “The Church of God”. The Church, the body of believers in Jesus Christ, belongs to God. However, God appoints Shepherds after His heart to watch over the Church. Paul was appointed as an apostle to the Gentiles; and he established churches among the Gentiles. Thus our text for today begins, “Paul, called to be an apostle (Rom 1:1; Eph 1:1; 2Tim 1:1) of Christ Jesus by the will of God, (2Cor 1:1) and our brother Sosthenes, (the Synagogue Leader, Acts 18:17). 2 To the church of God (1Cor 10:32) in Corinth, (Acts 18:1) to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called (Rom 1:7) to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name (Acts 2:21) of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: 3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 1:7). 4 I always thank my God for you (Rom 1:8) because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched (2Cor 9:11) in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge (2Cor 8:7) — 6 God thus confirming our testimony (2Thes 1:10; 1Tim 2:6; Rev 1:2) about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift (Rom 1:11; 1Cor 12:1-31) as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed (Mat 16:27; Luke 17:30; 1Thes 1:10; 1Thes 2:19; Tit 2:13; James 5:7, 8; 1Peter 1:13; 2Peter 3:12; Rev 1:7). 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless (1Thes 3:13) on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ (Amos 5:18; 1Cor 5:5; Philippians 1:6, 10; Philippians 2:16; 1Thes 5:2). 9 God is faithful, (Deut 7:9; Isa 49:7; 1Cor 10:13; 1Thes 5:24; 2Th 3:3; 2Tim 2:13; Heb 10:23; Heb 11:11) who has called you (Rom 8:28) into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord (1John 1:3)” (1Corinthians 1:1-9).

Mt Traveler members, as we conclude the following are some main points to remember about the Spiritual church. It is:

- The church of God

- The body of believers in Christ Jesus
- Enriched with grace in speech and knowledge
- Not lacking any spiritual gift
- Waiting eagerly for our Lord Jesus to be revealed
- Kept firm to the end so that it will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Called by a faithful God into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Individuals whose conduct, character and calling reflect a relationship with God Almighty!
- And let the church say, “Amen!”

To become part of Spiritual Church as a believer, and be saved, have peace and happiness; and to do the work of the church with hope to cause healthy church growth, you must first know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior and then allow the Holy Spirit to empower you. If you have not, we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life by faith. I hope you will make room in your heart for Him today! Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved and become part of God’s family and kingdom. Then ask Him in prayers to empower you through the Holy Spirit with wisdom, courage and boldness to do the work of the Church to cause its continual growth that God may commend you ultimately. May God bless you as you humbly open your heart to provide room for Him as the choir leads us in a song!

If you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org? If you are a child of God and this message has blessed or helped to you, please write and tell us also.

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF CORINTHIANS: THE SPIRITUAL CHURCH WITH STICKY SITUATIONS
September 14, 2014 **2. Divisions in the Church** **1Corinthians 1:10-17**

Every Spiritual Church has Sticky Situations because of the problems, pressures, and struggles arising from being called out of a pagan society. In the Books of Corinthians Paul addresses a variety of problems in the lifestyle of the Corinthian church that include factions, lawsuits, immorality, questionable practices, abuse of the Lord’s Super, and spiritual gifts. In addition to words of discipline, Paul shares words of counsel in answer to questions raised by the Corinthian believers. Paul wrote the second letter to this church because false teachers had infiltrated the Corinthian church and stirred the people against Paul. They claimed Paul was a fickle, proud, unimpressive in appearance and speech, dishonest, and unqualified as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul sent Titus to Corinth to deal with these difficulties, and upon his return, he rejoiced to hear of the Corinthians change of heart. Paul wrote the letter to express his thanksgiving for the repentant majority and to appeal to the rebellious minority to accept his authority. Throughout the book Paul defends his conduct, character, and calling as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Today’s discussion focuses on the Divisions (or Factions) in the Church”

Divisions or factions in the church usually develop along leadership lines. Thus our text for today begins, “I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, [The Greek word for brothers and sisters (adelphoi) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God’s family; also in verses

11 and 26; and in 2:1; 3:1; 4:6; 6:8; 7:24, 29; 10:1; 11:33; 12:1; 14:6, 20, 26, 39; 15:1, 6, 50, 58; 16:15, 20] in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. 11 My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas [That is, Peter]"; still another, "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power" (1Corinthians 1:10-17).

Mt Traveler members, as we conclude the following are some main points to remember about the Spiritual church. It is:

- The church of God
- The body of believers in Christ Jesus
- Enriched with grace in speech and knowledge
- Not lacking any spiritual gift
- Waiting eagerly for our Lord Jesus to be revealed
- Kept firm to the end so that it will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Called by a faithful God into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Individuals whose conduct, character and calling reflect a relationship with God Almighty!
- Where there is agreement in what the brethren say
- Where there be no divisions among brethren, but perfect unity in mind and thought
- Where there are no quarrels
- Where everyone follows Jesus Christ because they were baptized in His Name
- Where the gospel is preached—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power
- And let the church say, "Amen!"

To become part of the Spiritual Church as a believer, and be saved, have peace and happiness; and to do the work of the church with hope to cause healthy church growth, you must first know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior and then allow the Holy Spirit to empower you. If you have not, we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life by faith. I hope you will make room in your heart for Him today! Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved and become part of God's family and kingdom. Then ask Him in prayers to empower you through the Holy Spirit with wisdom, courage and boldness to do the work of the Church to cause its continual growth that God may commend you ultimately. May God bless you as you humbly open your heart to provide room for Him as the choir leads us in a song!

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Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama

Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. Chris Dickerson

THE BOOK OF CORINTHIANS: THE SPIRITUAL CHURCH WITH STICKY SITUATIONS

September 21, 2014

3. Christ Crucified Is God's Power and Wisdom

1Corinthians 1:18-31

No Synopsis provided

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama

Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Evangelist R. D. Jacobs

The Book of Corinthians

The Spiritual Church with Sticky Situations

September 28, 2014

4. Wisdom from the Spirit of God

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

In dealing with the Topic "The Spiritual Church with Sticky Situation" we do need to define a Spiritual Church and Sticky Situations. A Spiritual Church is a group of regenerated Christians filled and led by the Holy Spirit. Some of the "Sticky Situations" that are addressed in the 1st Epistle to the Church in Corinth include - Dealing with: Divisions, and evil brother, lawsuits among believers, abuse of freedom, marriage life, the eating of things sacrificed to idols, head covering, the Lord's Supper, The Gifts, the matter of resurrection and the collection of Gifts.

We find the historical time in which the Apostle Paul penned the first Epistle to the Corinthians in the Book of Acts 20:31 around A.D. 59 near the end of his 3 year stay in Ephesus. Acts chapter 18 tells us of Paul's time in Corinth as a Tent maker by trade and teacher of the Word of God every Sabbath. Paul speaks of Christ and the Message of the Cross in the first chapter. He reaffirms this in Chapter 2 verses 1-5. In which all he resolved to know is nothing but Christ and Him crucified. Paul wanted to show that he, of himself, had no wisdom.

Although Paul had no wisdom of himself, he did speak of the Wisdom of God from the Holy Spirit. (1. Cor. 2:6-10) Paul speaks of a mystery that only the Spiritual can understand. For a carnal man, understands earthly things but a Spiritual man is wise discerning the deep things of the Spirit. It is only the Spirit of God that can guide us in receiving Christ and understanding His word and plan concerning Redemption, Salvation, Sanctification, and Justification. These things of the Spirit are freely given to us by God.

The truth is that it takes a Spiritual Man to understand the Spiritual things of God. Wisdom from God comes from the leading of the Holy Spirit. The key is for each Christian to be wise by the leading of the Holy Spirit that they might be able to address whatever Sticky Situations may come. No matter the situation, when you have the Knowledge of the All Wise and All knowing God you are ready to face even the stickiest of times. (1. Cor. 2:11-16) In order to receive the Holy Spirit a person must be saved. This involves a sincere repentance of sins and the accepting of Christ as Lord and Savior in your life. When you confess, repent, and believe you become a

member of God's family and He deposits within you is Holy Spirit that will lead you in all truth and wisely direct you.