

# 1 Corinthians

Weeks 3 & 4 (1 Corinthians 5-8)

## Review

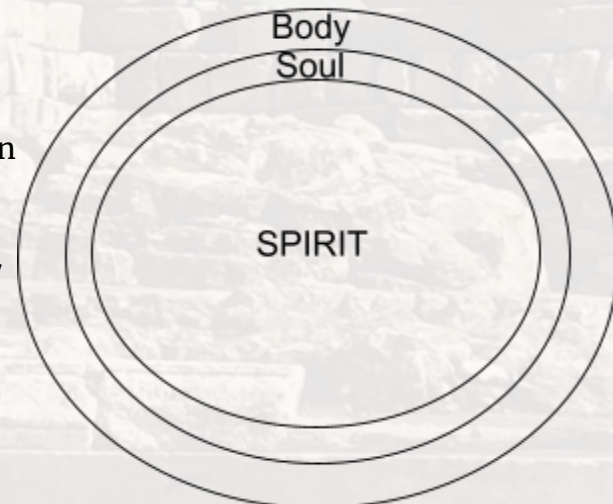
As we have been learning, Paul wrote this letter to the church at Corinth to address and correct several issues in the church. Pastor Zac already covered the factions and divisions. In our next 2 meetings together, I will address:

1. Sexual immorality (Chapter 5)
2. Disputes and quarrels (Chapter 6)
3. Singleness and marriage (Chapter 7)
4. Living by conscience (Chapter 8)

## Sexual Immortality (Chapter 5)

The church was not only welcoming, but celebrating sexual immorality.

1. This sexual sin is so base that it's not even found in the world!
2. Why would the church be "puffed up?"
  - a. Because freedom and liberty can be used as an opportunity for the flesh (Galatians 5:13)
  - b. The church becomes deceived and says things like, "Oh God understands. Love is love and people should be able to love whomever they want."
  - c. Really, should the created thing tell the creator how it should act?!
  - d. **1 Corinthians 6:12-20**
  - e. We no longer belong to ourselves!
3. Deliver him to Satan??? 🤖
  - a. It only takes a little compromise
    - i. Celebrated sin defiles the person and the church
    - ii. "A little leaven leaven's the whole lump."
    - iii. Unrepentant sin must be dealt with
  - b. **SALVATION** is the goal!
  - c. (see 2 Corinthians 2:6-11)
    - i. Scholars believe this is the same man
4. Spirit, Soul, and Body
  - a. We **ARE** a Spirit (spirit beings) - Genesis 2:7
  - b. We **HAVE** a Soul (mind, will, emotions)
  - c. We **LIVE** in a body

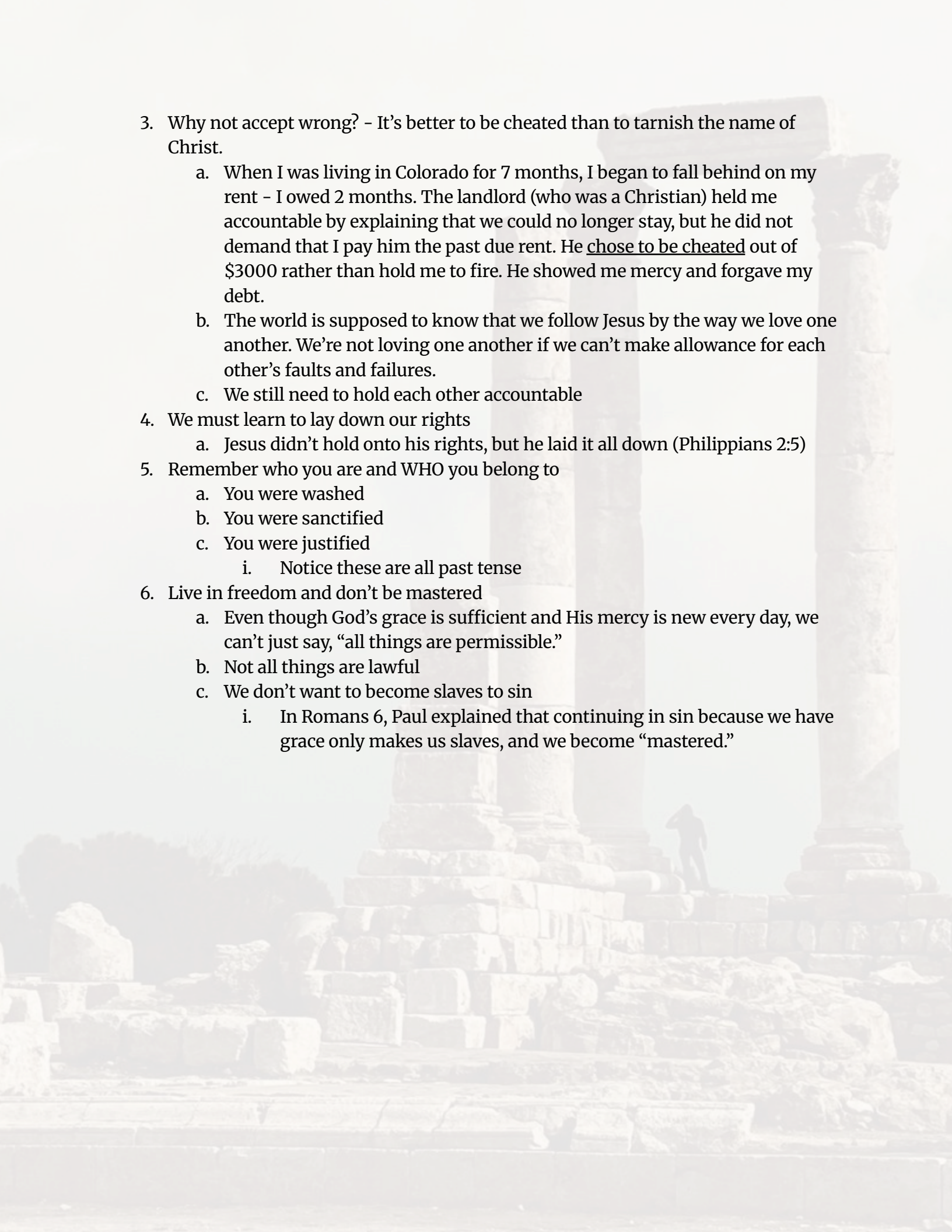


- d. This helps us understand why Paul told the church at Corinth to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh that his Spirit might be saved...(5:5)
- e. This present body is not eternal, but the spirit is.
- 5. Why would something need to be dealt with at the church level?
  - a. When we violate the spirit and walk in the flesh, the Holy Spirit in us will correct us – this is what we call conviction. As it is written, “*I will put my law in their mind and write them on their hearts.*” (See Hebrews 8:12, John 16:8, Romans 8:16)
  - b. If we don’t listen, God may send another brother/sister in Christ or a group of brothers/sisters – Matthew 18:15,16
  - c. If we still refuse to repent, many times our sin becomes public – Matthew 18:17
- 6. Struggling with Sin is different than condoning and celebrating
  - a. The problem with Corinth is the same issue with much of the church today – celebrating lifestyles that are contrary to the call of Christ.
- 7. Paul distinguished the church from the world
  - a. God governs and judges the world
  - b. We are responsible for governing and judging between these situations in the church. This responsibility has been committed to the saints from Jesus.
    - i. Jesus said, “Do business ‘til I come” (Luke 19:13).
    - ii. The believer has knowledge (through the WORD and Holy Spirit) that the world doesn’t.

## Disputes and Quarrels (Chapter 6)

- 1. The church has the authority to judge and govern itself
  - a. When it comes to believers in the body, we shouldn’t need the external law of man (courts) to settle our disputes.
  - b. The saints will judge angels and the world
    - i. Genesis 1 and 2 reveal that man was made in the image of God
    - ii. Psalms 8:5 reveals that we have been made a little lower than “Elohim.” “Elohim” = God, not the angels, as some translations say.
- 2. How could the church have authority to judge these matters?
  - a. Man was made in the image of God
  - b. Born-again believers (the church) have the Spirit of God inside
  - c. So we judge by the spirit, not the flesh
    - i. Isn’t that what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 5:3?



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3. Why not accept wrong? - It's better to be cheated than to tarnish the name of Christ.
- a. When I was living in Colorado for 7 months, I began to fall behind on my rent - I owed 2 months. The landlord (who was a Christian) held me accountable by explaining that we could no longer stay, but he did not demand that I pay him the past due rent. He chose to be cheated out of \$3000 rather than hold me to fire. He showed me mercy and forgave my debt.
  - b. The world is supposed to know that we follow Jesus by the way we love one another. We're not loving one another if we can't make allowance for each other's faults and failures.
  - c. We still need to hold each other accountable
4. We must learn to lay down our rights
- a. Jesus didn't hold onto his rights, but he laid it all down (Philippians 2:5)
5. Remember who you are and WHO you belong to
- a. You were washed
  - b. You were sanctified
  - c. You were justified
    - i. Notice these are all past tense
6. Live in freedom and don't be mastered
- a. Even though God's grace is sufficient and His mercy is new every day, we can't just say, "all things are permissible."
  - b. Not all things are lawful
  - c. We don't want to become slaves to sin
    - i. In Romans 6, Paul explained that continuing in sin because we have grace only makes us slaves, and we become "mastered."