## 1 Corinthians 3

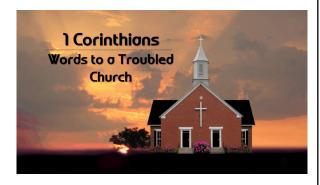
The Servants of God

Having talked about the message they preached, Paul now discusses their roles as preachers. Division among their favorite preachers was creating a problem.

And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup> I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, <sup>3</sup> for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men? <sup>4</sup> For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not *mere* men?

<sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave *opportunity* to each one. <sup>6</sup> I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. <sup>7</sup> So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. <sup>8</sup> Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. <sup>9</sup> For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

<sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. 14 If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. 15 If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.



1.	The Spiritual Atmosphere at Corinth was no	þ
	good (1-4)	

- they had to have		(Heb 6:1-2)
they were	&	(Gal 5:20)
they were		_ (4)

Over something good, something bad happened

- Why were they enamored with preachers?
- Jealousy over preachers creates what problems?
- Strife means what?
- What do we know about Apollos?

### 2. What are preachers (5-9)

- they are s (5

- What is the criteria to be a preacher?
- Are preachers ordained?

# The topic switches from agriculture to architecture

- they work t - they are n	(7)
The Life of an Ap	nostle (4:9-14)
Men condemned to H & t P clothed	R treated H S of the world
- they are - God is the action God gave	(8)

- do not \_\_\_\_\_ in them (21)

God causes \_\_\_\_\_

God works

- faith in men will not \_\_\_\_\_ (15

them (9)

<sup>16</sup> Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

<sup>18</sup> Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise. <sup>19</sup> For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, "*He is* THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS"; <sup>20</sup> and again, "THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS." <sup>21</sup> So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you, <sup>22</sup> whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you, <sup>23</sup> and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God.

3. You are the Temple of God (16-17)
- not the same as 1 Cor 6:19

### Within the temple:

Priests (1 Pet 2:9)
Offer sacrifices (1 Pet 2:5; Rom 12:1)
Atmosphere of holiness (1 Cor 3:17, 1 Pet 1:15)

- destroy this temple moves God to destroy you (17)
- How would the Corinthians destroy the temple of God?

#### **Additional Thoughts:**

- When Paul says in vs. 4, "are you not mere men?" this was stated in the negative. What should they have been?
- What makes a man's work "remain" (14)?
- Other than boasting in men, what are other things people may boast in (21)?

