

UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS

26/11/23

When Paul wrote his letter to the Corinthian church, he touched on many things that they were not aware of, or had missed in their priorities to serve God. Some of God's purposes were confused with their own ambitions. The following scriptures reveal a variety of scriptural truths that most people may not be aware of... some comfortable and some not so comfortable.

*We will start with one of the most powerful truths relating to the church. **1COR 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the **temple of God** (not the pastors or leaders... all of us), and that the **Spirit of God** (the holy Spirit) dwelleth in you? **17** If any man **defile** (corrupt) the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is **holy, which temple ye are**. The economic cost of Solomon's temple... the gold and silver used alone in Solomon's Temple was worth **\$315,171,075,000** in today's values. Even today, Gold and silver are undervalued being a quarter of their real value. What is our value to God? What was Jesus' life worth?*

With our value and spiritual significance established... let's expand God's truths a bit further.

1COR 1:4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; **5** That in **every thing** ye are **enriched** (spiritually furnished) by him, in **all utterance** (the ability to speak), and in **all knowledge** (things to speak about); **6** Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (you received the spirit with the prophesied signs); **7** So that ye **come behind in no gift**; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: It is important that we don't confuse our natural support (which is equally essential) for the church with the gifts of the spirit... they are two different responsibilities.

All of these scriptures are God inspired and have a real application in our understanding and future direction.

Purpose of temple. MAT 21:13 And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the **house of prayer** (communication with God); but ye have made it a den of thieves. **14** And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. **15** And when the chief priests and scribes saw the **wonderful things** that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the Son of David; they were **sore displeased**, This is why Paul spoke of these things... to prevent us being complacent about the purposes of salvation and the application of the powers of God. The temple was a place of conversion and renewal... a place where the use of the power of God sets true salvation and true overcomers apart.

Paul had to equally address these same issues in the Corinthian church.

This is a very uncomfortable truth. 1COR 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto **carnal**, even as unto **babes in Christ**. **2** I have fed you with **milk, and not with meat**: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, **neither yet now are ye able**. **3** For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not **carnal**, and walk as men? **4** For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not **carnal**? The use of the spiritual gifts alone was not the solution (meat).

This simple scripture expands this truth and the method by which it is achieved... they had a good attitude, but needed to step out.

1COR 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are **zealous** of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may **excel** to the **edifying of the church**. This was the role of the temple priest... it is also our role today. How do we deal with the reality that we are priests and that the primary role of the temple was **to be a place of spiritual safety and blessing**?

Just a couple more reality checks for the church to understand and rejoice in. These great truths are never understood by those lost in worldliness.

Unless you have the spirit, you are none of God's. ROM 8:9 But ye are **not in the flesh**, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Natural and spiritual actions are not sufficient in themselves. 1COR 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and **have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal**. **2** And though I have the **gift** of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have **not charity, I am nothing**. **3** And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and **have not charity, it profiteth me nothing**. **4** Charity **suffereth long**, and is **kind**; charity **envieth not**; charity **vaunteth not itself**, is **not puffed up**. **5** Doth not behave itself **unseemly**, **seeketh not her own**, is **not easily provoked**, **thinketh no evil**; **6** Rejoiceth not in **iniquity**, but **rejoiceth in the truth**; **7** **Beareth** all things (is tolerant), believeth all things, hopeth all things, **endureth** all things. This is the summary of all things uncomfortable... our overcoming depends on servitude through physical actions, spiritual powers and the continuation of **spiritual tolerance and support**. This full temple servitude of God's people only works when our hearts are fully in it for the Lord. The temple was always open for the needs of the people... and always will be. It will fall upon some to carry the load of others.

Simple, scriptural and easy to do. It is what we do in the Lord that feeds our joy and peace... not what others do to us.

How do you develop the use of the gifts, etc? MAT 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. The simplicity of simple and continuous prayer.