

**HOLY MANY IN UNHOLY SOCIETY:  
A study in I and II Corinthians  
AMEN Bible Study 2013-2014**

**The Temple of God  
I Corinthians 3:1-23  
September 26, 2013**

*Questions for Sandy during this lesson? Send to: [amenquestions@2pc.org](mailto:amenquestions@2pc.org)  
If you'd like your question answered off line, let us know.*

**3:1-4 I. Our divisiveness reveals our childishness.**

:1,2a A. We start out as infants.  
*"But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it."*

:2b-4 B. But we sometimes fail to grow up.  
*"And even now you are not yet ready,..."*

:3 1. Our quarreling proves it  
*"...for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?"*

:4 2. Our partisan spirit proves it.  
*"For when one says, 'I follow Paul,' and another, 'I follow Apollos,' are you not being merely human?"*

:5-15 a. We see our leaders wrongly.

:5 i. they are just servants  
*"What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each."*

:6,7 ii. they are just means  
*"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."*

:8-15 iii. they are rewarded

:8 \* as common laborers  
*"He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor."*

:9

\* as God's fellow servants

*“For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building”*

:10-13a

\* if they are careful

*“According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – each one's work will become manifest, ...”*

:13b-15

\* at the last day

*“...for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.”*

:16,17

b. We see ourselves wrongly.

*“Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.”*

## **:18-23 II. Our divisiveness reveals our worldliness.**

:18-20

A. We cherish the wisdom of the world.

*“Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, ‘He catches the wise in their craftiness,’ and again, ‘The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.’”*

:21-23

B. We forget the inheritance of the saints.

*“So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.”*