

The Transforming Power of the Gospel

1 Cor. 6:9-11

Introduction:

- A. A warning and reminder.
 - 1. Sandwiched between two problems.
 - a. Suing brethren (vv. 1-8)
 - b. Justifying sexual immorality (13-20)
 - 2. Describes past and present (“were” vs. “are”)
 - a. Unrighteousness belongs to past.
 - b. Unrighteousness inconsistent with present.
- B. A description of the transforming power of the gospel.

Discussion:

I. The Corinthians’ Past.

- A. Idolatry (v. 9)
 - 1. Temple of Aphrodite/Venus
 - 2. 1,000 sacred prostitutes.
- B. Sexual immorality (v. 9, cf. 18).
- C. Other sins (v. 10).
- D. Religious Jews (Acts 18:8; cf. 1 Cor. 1:14)

II. The Corinthians’ Present.

- A. Transformed into a “washed” people.
 - 1. In the blood of Christ (Rev. 1:5)
 - 2. In the waters of baptism (Eph. 5:25-27; Acts 22:16).
- B. Transformed into a “sanctified” people.
 - 1. “Set apart” or “separated” from world unto God.
 - 2. “Sanctified in Christ” - “saints” - “church” (1 Cor. 1:2)
 - a. Baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27)
 - b. Baptized into Church (1 Cor. 12:13).
- C. Transformed into a “justified” people.
 - 1. Made “just” or “righteous.” (Cf. Right hand justification).
 - a. “In name of Lord Jesus...”
 - b. Submitted to God’s righteousness (Rom. 10:1-4).
 - 2. Not by faith only (Jas. 2:21-24).

Conclusion:

- A. Did the Lord accept the Corinthians as they were?
- B. Or did the Lord accept them because of what they became?
- C. If Corinthians could be washed, sanctified and justified, anyone can.