Faithful Stewards
I Cor. 4:1-5

Introduction:
A. We are "servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God."
   1. "Servant" = servants in general.
      a. Huperetes - an under oarsman or subordinate. (text)
      b. Doulos - a slave (Rom. 6:17ff)
      c. Diakonos - Errand runner or table waiter.
      d. Leitourgos - Attendant, especially in the temple.
      e. Oiketes - a menial domestic.
   2. "Steward" = special kind of servant, manager of house or estate.
      a. Applied preachers like Paul. (Text)
      b. Applied to elders. (Tit. 1:7)
      c. Applied to all Christians. (1 Pet. 4:10)
B. We must be judged faithful by Him.
   1. The Lord may not require perfection, but he does require faithfulness.
   2. So, it matters little how men judge us - either ourselves or others. (vs. 3-4).
C. The Lord makes three requirements of all of us:

Discussion:
I. We must Become His Servants.
   A. All are servants someone or something (Rom.6:16).
      1. Sin? (Rom. 6:17-23)
      2. Men? (Gal. 1:10; 1 Cor. 7:23).
      3. Mammon or Money (NIV)? (Matt. 6:24)
      4. Or, God. (1 Cor. 4:1).
   B. All must become Lord's servants.
      1. By obeying gospel from the heart. (Rom. 6:17).
      2. By being buried in baptism. (Rom. 6:1-14)
II. We must Be Faithful Servants.
   A. Faithfulness means to be "trusted, reliable" (Vine)
      1. God is faithful. (1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13).
      2. Christ is faithful. (Heb. 2:17).
   B. Faithfulness is the opposite of laziness and neglect. (Matt. 25:23,26).
      1. "Good" vs. "wicked" - "Faithful" vs "lazy".
      2. May not have been lazy in everything, but in area of his stewardship.
   C. Faithfulness involves two important areas:
      1. One must be accurate in his service.
      2. One must be diligent in his service.
III. We must Be "Faithful in All Things" (Cf. 1 Tim. 3:11).
   B. One must be a faithful servant or steward all areas:
      1. In doctrine. (Tit. 2:7).
      3. In daily lifestyle. (1 Cor. 6:1-11).
      4. In the "mysteries of God" - Gospel. (cf. 1 Cor. 2:6-8; Eph. 3:1-12).

Conclusion:
A. Whose servant are you?
B. How faithful are you?