

# 1 Corinthians: True Freedom is Peace in Christ

February 13, 2011

## I Cor. 5 – Freedom to Practice Christ’s Word

Launching from last week: 4.20: “For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.”

### **I. The incestuous man is Corinth (5.1-6);**

- A. What’s the problem?
  - 1. For the incestuous man?
  - 2. For the Congregation?
  - 3. For the mission (public witness of the Gospel)?
- B. Why does St. Paul ‘violate’ the process in Matthew 18.15ff?
- C. Whom does Paul chastize and rebuke? The pastor? The incestuous man? The congregation? Why?

### **II. What is the purpose of Church discipline (5.7-8)**

- A. Deliverance to Satan? Why?
- B. What is the leaven to be purged out?
- C. What do the images of bread and leaven and Passover have to do with NT Church practice?
- D. Who must be admitted to Communion and who not? What has this to do with Excommunication?

### **III. Judge not lest ye be judged? Or judge those in the church? Which one? Both, how? (5.9f)**

- A. We cannot judge the heart, but what proceeds from the heart. In man this is dubious. So we let Christ make the final judgement.
- B. We do judge what is judged by Christ already.
  - 1. Sin. - universal with only one remedy in Christ.
  - 2. Christ’s judgement is mercy for those who hate their sin and want to be freed. This he offers to all through the church, but only the converted want it. (John 20.21f)
  - 3. Christ judges those who refuse his Gospel and are thus unrepentant, loving and wanting to keep their sins (refusing sanctification is refusing justification). The church’s judgement under Christ’s command is Christ’s own judgement against this. The Gospel is thus changed and destroyed and the church that does so is God’s enemy.
  - 4. Friends don’t let friends sin mortal sin; and friends don’t maker friends watch them destroy themselves.