

Main Service Handout

Paul realizes that spiritual **pride** was the cause of the Corinthian's dissension and lack of unity.

Verses 1-5 teaches us how the Corinthians are to treat all believers, not just Paul and Apollos.

¹ *Servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.*
² *it is required of stewards that one be found faithful.*
³ *but the one who examines me is the Lord.*
⁵ *do not go on passing judgment before the time,*

⁶ Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what is written, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

Paul applies a principle to himself and Apollos

Standards for Christian living:

1. The objective Word
2. We are not to exceed or go beyond the Word of God

The Corinthians' attitudes were faulty because their viewpoint of scripture was inadequate

⁷ For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

The Corinthians were not naturally superior to anyone else

God had given them everything they had

They should be grateful not boastful

Gifts are received not earned

All gifts are for service

⁸ You are already filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and indeed, I wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you.

- The Corinthians were behaving as though they **had already** received their reward at the judgment seat of Christ.
- He wished that the reigning time had come
- The **“now”** of verse 8 is in contrast to the **“then”** of verse 5.
- But now is the time to deny self, to take up one's cross, and follow Him, who suffered all things here below. Kelly