

I C O R I N T H I A N S



Taught By:

Dr. Charles C. Ryrie

WORD OF LIFE Bible Institute

FALL 1996

Scope of the Course:

Ten classes will be spent examining the sixteen chapters of I Corinthians.

Purpose:

In 1 Corinthians, Paul gives directions for handling a variety of problems in the Church. Of particular interest is his teaching on the Spiritual Gifts.

Course Goals:

In the exam and reading assignment the student will be expected to:

1. Identify the main subject of each of the sixteen chapters.
2. Recognize the historical circumstances surrounding the writing of the book.
3. Note the difference between the natural man and the spiritual man.
4. Define key terms in the text.
5. List principles that guide Christian Liberty.

Course Procedures:

A list of study questions is provided in the syllabus to help the student prepare for the Final Exam.

The student is expected to read the chapter on I Corinthians in Talk Thru the Bible and the Book of I Corinthians once before the Final Exam.

Grading:

Final Exam	90 Points
Reading	<u>10</u> Points
	100 Points

Suggested Bibliography:

- Johnson, S. Lewis. "I Corinthians," The Wycliffe Bible Commentary.
Chicago: Moody, 1962, pp. 1227-1260.
- Lowery, David K. "I Corinthians," Bible Knowledge Commentary, John F.
Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, editors. Wheaton: Victor, 1983, I:505-549.
- Mare, W. Harold. "I Corinthians," The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Frank
E. Gaebelin, ed., Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1976, X:175-297.
- Wilkinson & Boa. Talk Thru The Bible.

1 CORINTHIANS 2-3

Four types of people are described in 2:14 - 3:4.

1. The natural man (2:14).

Greek: psychikos. The unsaved person (Jude 19 and Rom. 8:9). He does not receive (welcome) the things of the Spirit because he does not possess new life in Christ.

2. The spiritual person (2:15).

Spiritually includes 3 things: (1) regeneration; (2) control by the Holy Spirit or yieldedness; (3) time. See also Heb. 5:11-14.

3. Babes in Christ (3:1).

Greek: sarkinos. Weakness is involved as expected of a new believer. Diet: milk. Remedy: growth.

4. Carnal Christians (3:3).

Greek: sarkikos.
Self-willfulness is involved. Remedy: confession.

3:11-15 is a central passage on the judgment seat of Christ (see also 2 Cor. 5:10 and remember Acts 18:16-17. Service and rewards are in view, not salvation and destiny in heaven or hell (see v. 15). Rewards are pictured as crowns (9:25).

1 Thess. 2:19	-	Crown of Rejoicing
2 Tim. 4:8	-	Crown of Righteousness
James 1:12	-	Crown of Life
1 Peter 5:4	-	Crown of Glory

(Also note Rev. 2:10; 3:11, 4:4; 10).

The "temple" in 3:16-17 refers to the local church.

1 CORINTHIANS 5-6

Chapter 5 - Some notes on the interpretation of various words and phrases in this chapter.

- v.1 - fornication or immorality. Though this word usually means an adulterous relationship, here it seems to have a specialized meaning of incest. The woman was apparently the man's step-mother and because she is not disciplined she apparently was not a believer. Relationship with a step-mother was expressly forbidden in Lev. 18:8. This seems to be the meaning of "fornication" in Acts 15:20 and 29.
- v.5 - deliver to Satan. See same phrase in 1 Tim. 1:20.
- v.5 - destruction of the flesh. See also 1 Cor. 11:30 and 1 Jn. 5:16.
- v.6 - on leaven see Exodus 12:15 and Matt. 13:33.
- v.11 - "not even to eat with such a one." What kinds of relationships could a believer have with another believer who has been disciplined according to this phrase: What would be included and what excluded.
- v.13 - do you think this verse has any bearing on today's emphasis on civil righteousness?

Some Notes on Chapter 6.

1. Notice how many times Paul says "Do you not know" (vv. 2, 3, 9, 15, 16, 19). Find the same question in 3:16; 5:6; 9:13, 24.
2. Verse 3 - judge angels. We will evidently have a part in judging Satan and the fallen angels (Matt. 25:41). This may also mean we will preside over the good angels in the future.
3. Note the specific kinds of sexually immoral people Paul condemns in v. 9. fornicators (very broad), adulterers, effeminate (the word literally means "soft" and refers to male prostitutes), homosexuals. In Rom. 1:27 Paul also condemns lesbians.
4. The classic example of "flee immorality" (v. 18) is Joseph in Gen. 39:12.

Here is another way of looking at Chapter 6.

It is illegal to:

- defame the gospel, v. 1
- debase your position, vv. 2-6
- defraud your brother, vv. 7-11
- do the expedient, v. 12a
- do the enslaving, v. 12b

but it is always legal to be holy.

1 CORINTHIANS 7

1. Did Paul give preference to the married or single state? (vv. 7-9)
2. Did Paul and Christ approve of divorce or separation? (vv. 10-11)
3. Did Christ allow an exception to His no-divorce teaching? (Matt. 5:32)
4. Did Christ give us any instructions about spiritually mixed marriages (v. 12)
5. What is Paul's teaching about spiritually mixed marriages? (vv. 12-13)
6. What is meant by the unbelieving partner being "sanctified"? (vv.14-15)
7. What is meant by the children being "holy"? (v. 14)
8. What is meant by saving the husband or wife? (v. 16)
9. Did Paul advocate freedom for slaves? (v. 21)
10. What is "the present distress"? (v. 26)
11. What should be the believer's relation to the world system? (v. 31)
12. Who should approve of a marriage? (v. 36)
13. When is a remarriage permitted? (v. 39)
14. What is the restriction on a remarriage? (v. 40)

1 CORINTHIANS 8

- v.1 - When an animal was offered to an idol, one portion was burned as the offering; another went to the offerer; another to the priest. If the priest did not want his, then it was offered for sale in the market. Was such meat contaminated was the question.
- v.3 - The argument is this: since there is only one true God, then idols have no true reality; so if you offer something to nothing, nothing has happened to the something.
- v.11 - Perish or ruin in this verse refers to something temporal, not eternal.
- v.13 - This same principle is reiterated in Gal. 5:13.

Two questions: (1) who is the weaker and who is the stronger brother in the example of v.10? (2) how can I tell if another believer is really stumbled by something I do?

1 CORINTHIANS 9-10

In Chapter 9 Paul illustrates the principle of restricting one's rights (8:13) by his own ministry in which he restricted his right to expect to be supported by those to whom he ministered. He had the right to take money from them but did not do so.

Paul's right was based on:

1. the example of others, vv. 4-6
2. the common practice, v. 7
3. the Scripture, vv. 8-10
4. the spiritual nature of ministry, vv. 11-14

Paul's restriction of himself was based on:

1. his desire to see all kinds of people saved, v. 22
2. his desire to win the race, vv. 24-27.

In Chapter 10 Paul elaborates on the statement in 9:27. He shows how Israel, the recipient of God's favor (vv. 1-4), disobeyed God in their wilderness wanderings.

1. They wanted a luxury religion, lusting after the food of Egypt (Numbers 11:4).
2. They wanted visible religion, making the golden calf (Exodus 32:1-14).
3. They wanted worldly religion, committing adultery with the women of Moab (Numbers 25:1-9).
4. They wanted easy religion, one without discipline (Numbers 21:1-6).
5. They wanted democratic religion, grumbling about the leadership of Moses and Aaron (Numbers 16).

In the rest of Chapter 10 Paul returns to the question of eating meat offered to idols, discussing whether a believer could eat such meat in three different circumstances.

1. Don't eat at heathen religious festivals, vv. 14-22.
2. Do eat at home if you wish, vv. 23-26.
3. Do eat at a private meal at the home of an unbeliever unless a weaker brother would be stumbled, vv. 27-30.

The chapter closes with 4 principles for Christian conduct:

1. Do all to the glory of God, v. 31.
2. Give no offense, v. 32.
3. Do what profits others, v. 33.
4. Imitate Christ, 11:1.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

While not under the Mosaic law, Christians are to live under the law of Christ (1 Cor. 9:22). The many precepts of this law may be grouped under four headings.

1. Positive commands; e.g. 1 Cor. 5:7; 11:28.
2. Negative commands; e.g. 1 Cor. 10:7.
3. Rules made by governments, families, and the local church; e.g. 1 Cor. 14:26-30.
4. Principles to guide our conduct in areas and activities not specifically mentioned in the New Testament.
 - A. Is it a weight (Heb. 12:1)?
 - B. Will it enslave (1 Cor. 6:12)?
 - C. Will it hinder someone else's progress (1 Cor. 8:13)?
 - D. Is it winsome (Col. 4:5)?
 - E. Will it glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31)?

Some definitions.

- Law: A System of rules or principles for conduct.
- Legalism: A fleshly attitude which conforms to a code for the purpose of promoting self.
- Liberty: The new position in Christ of freedom from the bondage of sin and of the flesh.
- Libertinism: Lack of restraint in matters of convention, religion, or morality.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-16:4

I. Importance of the Resurrection, 1-34

A. In relation to the gospel message, 1-11

B. In relation to Christ's resurrection, 12-19

If there is no resurrection, then: (1) Christ is not raised, 13; (2) what we preach is empty, (3) the apostles were false witnesses, 15; (4) our faith is fruitless, 17a; (5) we are still in our sins (17b); (6) dead believers have perished, 18; (7) there is no hope in this life, 19.

C. In relation to the believer's hope, 20-34

II. Inquiries concerning the resurrection, 35-57

A. What kind of body will we have? 35-50

B. When will we be raised? 51-57

III. Issues that come from the doctrine of resurrection, 15: 58-16:4

A. The need for grounding, 58

B. The need for growing, 58

C. The need for giving, 16:1-4

Giving should be periodic, proportionate, purposeful, and pleasurable (2 Cor. 8:2).

STUDY QUESTIONS ON 1 CORINTHIANS

1. On which missionary journey did Paul write 1 Cor.?
2. What was the date of writing the book?
3. Where was Paul when he wrote it?
4. Where in Acts is the account of the work at Corinth?
5. How long was Paul at Corinth?
6. What was Crispus' position?
7. What was Sosthenes' position?
8. What was Gallio's position?
9. To whom is the letter addressed beside those in Corinth?
10. What is Apollos' style of preaching?
11. Was Crispus eventually saved?
12. Was Sosthenes eventually saved?
13. What do Jews ask for?
14. What do Greeks seek?
15. When does God reveal what eyes have not seen?
16. Explain "comparing spiritual with spiritual" (2:13).
17. Define a natural man.
18. Define a spiritual man.
19. Define a carnal man.
20. Was Apollos at Corinth before or after Paul?
21. What is the Christian's foundation?
22. How does a Christian suffer because of his works of wood, hay, straw?
23. What is required of stewards?
24. Whom are we to imitate?
25. What was the sin called "fornication" in 5:1?
26. What does the "destruction of the flesh" mean?
27. Was the disciplined man in danger of losing his salvation?
28. Does leaven represent good or evil?
29. By whom will angels be judged?
30. What is a better course of action than suing a brother?
31. When were you sanctified?
32. When is something unlawful?
33. Are sinning Christians indwelt by the Holy Spirit?
34. How does Satan tempt Christians?
35. What was Paul's marital status?
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37. How did Paul summarize the Lord's teaching on divorce?
38. What makes children holy?
39. What is my interpretation of "not under bondage" (7:15)?
40. How many idols are there in the world?
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43. Could Paul expect churches to support him?
44. Why did Paul work?
45. What does "castaway" or "disqualified" refer to in 9:27?
46. What is the basic meaning of baptism?
47. How many died altogether because of sinning with Baal of Peor?
48. What is one way of escape in trials?
49. What should guide you about going or not to a heathen feast?
50. What is the glory of God?
51. How do you know that the covering is more than a woman's hair?
52. What does it mean to eat the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner?
53. Define a spiritual gift.
54. What does the baptism of the Holy Spirit do?
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(Continued...)

56. Were all the believers in Corinth baptized with the Spirit?
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58. What is the "perfect" of 13:10?
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60. What were the actual tongues Isaiah prophesied of (14:21)?
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63. Name 7 consequences of denying resurrection in 15:13-19.
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70. What is the mystery of 15:51?
71. Who are the mortals who put on immortality?
72. Why was Paul taking a collection?
73. What is the standard for giving today?
74. How was the holy kiss practiced?
75. What does Maranatha mean?

THE GIFT OF TONGUES

I. THE GENUINE, SCRIPTURAL GIFT OF TONGUES

A. Its mention in the New Testament

Mark 16:17

Acts 2:4, 10:46, 19:6

1 Corinthians 12:10, 12:28, 12:30, 13:1, 13:8, 14:2-39.

B. Its Limitation - Not given to all believers, 1 Cor. 12:13, 12:30.

C. Its Nature - Actual earthly languages not known to the speaker.

Acts 2:4, 2:11 compared with 2:6, 2:8,
Dialect: "language of a nation or region"
Not ecstatic speech.

When was Acts written? About 62

When was 1 Cor. written? About 55.

The known (Acts) should interpret the supposed unknown (1 Cor.).

Every other use of glossa refers to a foreign language (Rev. 5:9, 7:9, 10:11, 11:9).

II. THE COMPARISON OF THE GIFTS OF PROPHECY AND TONGUES, 1 Cor. 14:1-19

Do uninterpreted tongues benefit the church? (v. 5)

Do uninterpreted tongues benefit the speaker? (vv. 4, 14-15)

III. THE PURPOSES OF THE GENUINE GIFT OF TONGUES

A. To reveal truth (vv. 12-13)

B. To attest to the truth of the Christian message (vv. 21-22)

C. To judge those who reject the Christian message (v. 21)

IV. THE REGULATIONS FOR THE GIFT OF TONGUES

A. Two or three at the most (v. 27)

B. One at a time (v. 27)

C. Must be interpreted (vv. 26, 33)

D. No confusion (vv. 26, 33)

E. No women (v. 34)

V. WHAT IS THE PRESENT DAY PHENOMENON?

A. It occurs world-wide, even in non-Christian religions

B. It may be of God or may not

C. It may be a Satanic counterfeit or may not

D. It may be a natural, made-up experience.

"There is no mystery about glossolalia. Tape-recorded samples are easy to obtain and to analyze. They always turn out to be the same thing: strings of syllables, made up of sounds taken from among all those that the speaker knows, put together more or less haphazardly but which nevertheless emerge as word-like and sentence-like units because of realistic, language-like rhythm and melody. . . . All specimens of glossolalia that have ever been

studied have produced no features that would even suggest that they reflect some kind of communicative system. . . . Glossolalia is not a supernatural phenomenon. It is, in fact, a very natural phenomenon. . . . In fact, anybody can produce glossolalia if he is uninhibited and if he discovers what the 'trick' is. . . . Nothing 'comes over his vocal chords.' Speech as people imagine does not originate there anyway. It starts in the brain. That is where the instructions to the vocal organs come from." William J. Samarin, Tongues of Men and of Angels, pp. 227-8.

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1 CORINTHIANS 15:1 - 16:4

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- A. In relation to the gospel message, 1-11
- B. In relation to Christ's resurrection, 12-19
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 - 4. Our faith is fruitless, 17a
 - 5. We are still in our sins, 17b
 - 6. Dead believers have perished, 18
 - 7. There is no hope in this life, 19
- C. In relation to the believer's hope, 20-34

II. Inquiries Concerning the Resurrection, 35-57

- A. What kind of body will we have? 35-50
- B. When will we be raised? 51-57

III. Issues that come from the Doctrine of Resurrection, 15:58 - 16:4

- A. The need for grounding, 58
- B. The need for growing, 58
- C. The need for giving, 16:1-4
Giving should be periodic, proportionate, purposeful, and pleasurable (2 Cor. 8:2).

I CORINTHIANS Exam (Make-Up)
Dr. Charles C. Ryrle
November 8, 1994

Name KEY

Box # _____ (Closed Bible)

READING ASSIGNMENT: (Worth 10 Points) (Please check the appropriate spaces below.)

I have read I Corinthians completely. _____ Yes = 8 Pts. _____ No
I have read the section on I Corinthians
in Talk Thru The Bible (Wilkinson & Boa) _____ Yes = 2 Pts. _____ No

EXAM: Worth 90 Points (2 Pts. Each)

True or False: (Circle either T or F.)

1. I Corinthians was written on Paul's second missionary journey. 1. T (F)
2. The book was written in the 60's. 2. T (F)
3. Paul was at Philippi when he wrote I Corinthians. 3. T (F)
4. Acts 17 describes Paul's visit to Corinth. 4. T (F)
5. Paul was at Corinth 18 months. 5. (T) F
6. Gallio was the deputy or proconsul of the area. 6. (T) F
7. I Corinthians is addressed to the churches in that city only. 7. T (F)
8. Apollos was an eloquent preacher. 8. (T) F
9. The Greeks wanted a sign to confirm Paul's message. 9. T (F)
10. Apollos preceded Paul at Corinth. 10. T (F)
11. It is scriptural to imitate certain people. 11. (T) F
12. Carnal Christians are described in I Corinthians 2. 12. T (F)
13. The fire of the judgment seat of Christ will send some to hell. 13. T (F)
14. The judgment of Christians is described in Chapter 4. 14. T (F)
15. Immorality or fornication in 5:1 may mean incest. 15. (T) F
16. The man in Chapter 5 was sinning with his own mother. 16. T (F)
17. The sin of Chapter 5 was kept secret. 17. T (F)
18. Exercising church discipline involved the congregation. 18. (T) F
19. Every Christian has been sanctified. 19. (T) F
20. Every Christian needs to be sanctified. 20. (T) F

(Continued...)

21. Paul thought that Christ allowed for divorce. 21. T (F)
22. Tongues are a sign to believers. 22. T (F)
23. In the Bible, leaven almost always represents the influence of good. 23. T (F)
24. "Not under bondage" (7:15) means free to marry. 24. T (F)
25. Eating meat offered to idols can be OK or can be sinful. 25. (T) F
26. Churches have an obligation to support their pastors. 26. (T) F
27. Paul feared he might lose his salvation by being disqualified. 27. T (F)
28. Winning the race is the subject of Chapter 10. 28. T (F)
29. There are baptisms in the Bible that do not require any water. 29. (T) F
30. Paul said that the Lord's Supper should be observed once a month. 30. T (F)
31. Angels observe what Christians do at church. 31. (T) F
32. A Christian woman should not cut her hair. 32. T (F)
33. In New Testament churches, women regularly wore a head covering. 33. (T) F
34. Sin in a believer is sometimes the cause of sickness and death. 34. (T) F
35. Every generation should expect to have all the spiritual gifts. 35. T (F)
36. Baptism and filling of the Spirit are the same ministry. 36. T (F)
37. "The perfect" in 13:10 refers to the completion of the canon. 37. T (F)
38. Uninterpreted tongues are of no value to the church. 38. (T) F
39. Women should never speak in tongues in church. 39. (T) F
40. Paul allowed as many men as wanted to speak in tongues in any given church service. 40. T (F)
41. Unbelievers will be raised from the dead. 41. (T) F
42. The Rapture of the church is called a mystery. 42. (T) F
43. The main subject of Chapter 12 is the gift of tongues. 43. T (F)
44. Death for the Christian is pictured as sleep for his body and soul. 44. T (F)
45. It may be proper to give less than 10% to the Lord. 45. (T) F

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2. The book was written in the 60's. 2. T (F)
3. Paul was at Philippi when he wrote I Corinthians. 3. T (F)
4. Acts 17 describes Paul's visit to Corinth. 4. T (F)
5. Paul was at Corinth 18 months. 5. (T) F
6. Gallio was the deputy or proconsul of the area. 6. (T) F
7. I Corinthians is addressed to the churches in that city only. 7. T (F)
8. Apollos was an eloquent preacher. 8. (T) F
9. The Greeks wanted a sign to confirm Paul's message. 9. T (F)
10. Apollos preceded Paul at Corinth. 10. T (F)
11. It is scriptural to imitate certain people. 11. (T) F
12. Carnal Christians are described in I Corinthians 2. 12. T (F)
13. The fire of the judgment seat of Christ will send some to hell. 13. T (F)
14. The judgment of Christians is described in Chapter 4. 14. T (F)
15. Immorality or fornication in 5:1 may mean incest. 15. (T) F
16. The man in Chapter 5 was sinning with his own mother. 16. T (F)
17. The sin of Chapter 5 was kept secret. 17. T (F)
18. Exercising church discipline involved the congregation. 18. (T) F
19. Every Christian has been sanctified. 19. (T) F
20. Every Christian needs to be sanctified. 20. (T) F

(Continued...)

21. Paul thought that Christ allowed for divorce. 21. T (F)
22. Tongues are a sign to believers. 22. T (F)
23. In the Bible, leaven almost always represents the influence of good. 23. T (F)
24. "Not under bondage" (7:15) means free to marry. 24. T (F)
25. Eating meat offered to idols can be OK or can be sinful. 25. (T) F
26. Churches have an obligation to support their pastors. 26. (T) F
27. Paul feared he might lose his salvation by being disqualified. 27. T (F)
28. Winning the race is the subject of Chapter 10. 28. T (F)
29. There are baptisms in the Bible that do not require any water. 29. (T) F
30. Paul said that the Lord's Supper should be observed once a month. 30. T (F)
31. Angels observe what Christians do at church. 31. (T) F
32. A Christian woman should not cut her hair. 32. T (F)
33. In New Testament churches, women regularly wore a head covering. 33. (T) F
34. Sin in a believer is sometimes the cause of sickness and death. 34. (T) F
35. Every generation should expect to have all the spiritual gifts. 35. T (F)
36. Baptism and filling of the Spirit are the same ministry. 36. T (F)
37. "The perfect" in 13:10 refers to the completion of the canon. 37. T (F)
38. Uninterpreted tongues are of no value to the church. 38. (T) F
39. Women should never speak in tongues in church. 39. (T) F
40. Paul allowed as many men as wanted to speak in tongues in any given church service. 40. T (F)
41. Unbelievers will be raised from the dead. 41. (T) F
42. The Rapture of the church is called a mystery. 42. (T) F
43. The main subject of Chapter 12 is the gift of tongues. 43. T (F)
44. Death for the Christian is pictured as sleep for his body and soul. 44. T (F)
45. It may be proper to give less than 10% to the Lord. 45. (T) F

EXAM: Worth 90 Points (2 Pts. Each)

MARK ALL ANSWERS ON YOUR SCAN-TRON ANSWER SHEET!

True or False:

- F 1. I Corinthians was written on Paul's second missionary journey.
- F 2. The book was written in the 60's.
- F 3. Paul was at Philippi when he wrote I Corinthians.
- F 4. Acts 17 describes Paul's visit to Corinth.
- T 5. Paul was at Corinth 18 months.
- T 6. Gallio was the deputy or proconsul of the area.
- F 7. I Corinthians is addressed to the churches in that city only.
- T 8. Apollos was an eloquent preacher.
- F 9. The Greeks wanted a sign to confirm Paul's message.
- F 10. Apollos preceded Paul at Corinth.
- T 11. It is scriptural to imitate certain people.
- F 12. Carnal Christians are described in I Corinthians 2.
- F 13. The fire of the judgment seat of Christ will send some to hell.
- F 14. The judgment of Christians is described in Chapter 4.
- T 15. Immorality or fornication in 5:1 may mean incest.
- F 16. The man in Chapter 5 was sinning with his own mother.
- F 17. The sin of Chapter 5 was kept secret.
- T 18. Exercising church discipline involved the congregation.
- T 19. Every Christian has been sanctified.
- T 20. Every Christian needs to be sanctified.
- F 21. Paul thought that Christ allowed for divorce.
- F 22. Tongues are a sign to believers.
- F 23. In the Bible, leaven almost always represents the influence of good.
- F 24. "Not under bondage" (7:15) means free to marry.
- T 25. Eating meat offered to idols can be OK or can be sinful.
- T 26. Churches have an obligation to support their pastors.
- F 27. Paul feared he might lose his salvation by being disqualified.
- F 28. Winning the race is the subject of Chapter 10.
- T 29. There are baptisms in the Bible that do not require any water.
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- T 31. Angels observe what Christians do at church.
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- T 33. In New Testament churches, women regularly wore a head covering.
- T 34. Sin in a believer is sometimes the cause of sickness and death.
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- F 43. The main subject of Chapter 12 is the gift of tongues.
- F 44. Death for the Christian is pictured as sleep for his body and soul.
- T 45. It may be proper to give less than 10% to the Lord.

READING ASSIGNMENT: (Worth 10 Points) (Fill in T or F in all 5 blanks!)

- T 46-49. (T/F) I have read I Corinthians completely. (8 Pts.)
- T 50. (T/F) I have read the section on I Corinthians in Talk Thru The Bible (Wilkinson & Boa). (2 Pts.)