

BEFORE AND AFTER

1Cor 6:9-11

INTRODUCTION:

- A. In 1Cor 6:9-11 we see a remarkable change in the lives of the Corinthians
 - 1. Corinth was a terribly sinful city - had a temple of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, employing thousand temple prostitutes. The city was renowned for these prostitutes, who served the wealthy merchants and powerful officials who frequented the city.
 - 2. Many who were now Christians had been extremely sinful before conversion
- B. In this lesson we want to see how this remarkable change took place and what brought it about

DISCUSSION:

I. THEIR FORMER STATE

- A. Catalogue of sins vs 9-10 (see NASV95)
 - 1. Corinth known for its corruption
 - 2. "To live like a Corinthian", became synonymous with a life of luxury and licentiousness
- B. Though specific sins may vary, their unconverted state was same as all others Rom 3:9-12 including us today
 - 1. Sin separates one from God Isa 59:2
 - 2. Ephesians - aliens, without Christ Eph 2:11-13
- C. Those continuing in this state will not inherit the kingdom of God v 10
 - 1. Have no hope - now or in eternity Eph 2:12
 - 2. Some have false hopes 1Thess 4:13
 - a. Some trust in morality
 - b. Some in universal salvation
 - c. Some in their youth ("I have plenty time")
 - d. Some in religions of man Matt 15:9,13

II. THEIR PRESENT STATE

- A. Washed v 11
 - 1. Literally: washing to remove dirt
 - 2. Applied figuratively to sin
 - 3. Had had these sins washed away Acts 22:16
- B. Sanctified v 11
 - 1. Set apart, consecrated to God
 - 2. Not pursuing former lusts Rom 6:13
 - 3. Now dedicated to God and His service Rom 6:22
- C. Justified v 11; Rom 4:2; Jas 2:21
 - 1. To declare to be righteous
 - 2. Had been guilty of all these sins
 - 3. Now acquitted of these sins
 - 4. Restored to citizenship in His kingdom

III. HOW DID SUCH A CHANGE COME ABOUT

- A. Paul preached Christ crucified 1Cor 2:1-5
 - 1. They, heard, believed and were baptized Acts 18:8
 - 2. God then washed them clean, they became new creatures 2Cor 5:17
- B. Were Washed, Sanctified, Justified - what involved
 - 1. Sins washed away in baptism Acts 22:16
 - 2. Sanctified by washing Eph 5:26; Tit 3:5
 - 3. Justified by blood of Christ Rom 5:9
 - a. Shed his blood in his death
 - b. Baptized into his death Rom 6:3
- C. All three of these words are used to describe one process or what happens in this process and that is obedience to God's will
- D. Primary obedience like a newborn child who becomes a man marred by sin, baptized and becomes a newborn child (spiritually) Gal 3:26, 27; 1Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-14
- E. Erring child of God soils his garment and then cleansed again through repentance and prayer Acts 8:22
 - 1. An expensive new garment when soiled is of no use
 - 2. After cleaning it takes its place the same as before
- F. Picture a newborn baby then man with sins
 - 1. Man with all kinds of sin (color black)
 - 2. Man cleansed doing good deeds (show clear)
 - 3. In physical growth a child eventually becomes independent of parents (father) whereas in spiritual growth we never become independent of Father
 - 4. Yes, we grow and mature but we never attain the maturity of Jesus, our elder brother Eph 4:13

IV. IN ALL THIS WE CAN SEE

- A. A list of sins to be avoided
- B. The fate of unconverted sinners very vividly
- C. Power of the Gospel to save even the vilest of sinners
- D. Our former state and the Grace of God that appeared to save us

CONCLUSION:

- A. What is your condition now?
- B. God is no respecter of persons; what he did for the Corinthians he will do for you on the same simple terms
- C. It is up to you; you can allow Him to do this for you right now as you meet His terms.