

“When Ye Come Together”

1 Cor. 11:17-21, 33-34; 14:23-26

Introduction:

- A. Corinthians needed to learn how to behave when they came together in the church. (11:17)
 - 1. Had made it a time contention (11:18)
 - 2. Had made it a time of feasting (11:21,22).
 - 3. Had made it a time of condemnation (11:27, 34)
- B. All Christians need to seriously consider their attitude and conduct “when ye come together.”

Discussion:

I. When Ye Come Together *Remember* The Purpose.

- A. It is to, like Israel’s of old, participate in a “solemn assembly” — not an ordinary meeting.
 - 1. The Lord is present in a special way (Matt. 18:20)
 - 2. The Lord is remembered in a special way (vv. 24, 25).
- B. It is to worship and honor God.
 - 1. Remember the death of His in Son in the Lord’s Supper.
 - 2. Return to Him some of what he has prospered us (1 Cor. 16:1,2).
 - 3. Praise and honor Him in song. (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19; 1 Cor. 14:15).
 - 4. Pray together to Him (1 Cor. 14:15, Acts 2:42; 12:5; cf. Acts 4:31)
 - 5. Preach/teach His word (Acts 2:42; 20:7).
- C. It is to edify the church (14:5, 12, 17, 26).
 - 1. Each item of worship to this end.
 - 2. Preaching in all forms — reproof, rebuke, exhort — to this end.

II. When Ye Come Together *Fulfill* The Purpose.

- A. By proper preparation.
- B. By active participation.
 - 1. In each item of worship.
 - 2. One may lead, but all participate (cf. 14:16).
- C. By decent and orderly conduct. (14:40; 11:27).
- D. By leaving off contention and divisions (11:17-19).
- E. By leaving other matters in their place.
 - 1. A place for common meals — not in assembly (11:22, 34)
 - 2. A place for entertainment and recreation — not in assembly.
 - 3. A place for courtship and socializing — not in assembly.
 - 4. A place for private conversations — not in assembly.
 - 5. A place for homework and day planning — not in assembly.
 - 6. A place for Bible class preparation — not in assembly.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us always remember why we are here.
- B. Let us always remember the seriousness of desecrating this “solemn assembly.”