

CSI: Sin City (1 Corinthians 5)

- I. **Introduction – Sin City’s Crime Scene Investigation Unit**
 - A. The Penn State Sex Scandal
 - B. The church in Sin City is to investigate their own internal crimes
 1. The church in Corinth failed to do this due to pride
 - C. Brief deposition of what to expect from the sermon
 - D. Prayer and reading of the transcript

- II. **The Corinthian Church Indicted (exposition of transcript)**
 - A. **Opening statement**
 1. God’s people are supposed to be holy, peculiar, strange, different
 2. God holds the community responsible for the sins of the individual
 - a. Achan in Joshua 7:1, 11, 26
 3. Cultural values concerning sexuality are anti-Christian
 - B. vss. 1-2 – The facts of the case
 1. Shocking evidence!
 2. No shame!
 - a. They did not mourn over the crime
 - b. They did not deal appropriately with the criminal
 - C. vss. 3-8 – Paul’s firm argument
 1. Paul’s verdict should have been arrived at already by the church
 2. Paul calls for a trial and judgment in the church
 - a. The court’s procedure: Matthew 18:15-20
 - b. The verdict is to be rendered by the entire church
 3. For his own good – the judgment is not merely punitive
 - a. *destruction of the flesh* (Ro 8:13, Gal 5:24, Col 3:5)
 - b. *saving of the soul*
 4. For the good of the church
 - a. An individual’s sin can corrupt the whole church
 - b. Maintain the unity of the church’s worship (2 Co 6:14-16)
 - c. Excommunication and the Lord’s Table
 - D. vss. 9-13 – Point of order – clarification of the law
 1. Do not judge the world
 2. Judge and separate from the unrepentant professing Christian
 - a. Our responsibility to confront and discipline sin
 - b. What does shunning properly entail?
 - c. Judgment takes place within the church community

- III. **An Indictment of the Modern Church’s Failure to Discipline**
 - A. The large size of some church’s makes investigation difficult
 - B. Sin is so prevalent in church’s – where do you begin?
 - C. Church discipline is a hindrance to church growth
 - D. Neglect of discipline is a revolt against inappropriate discipline
 - E. Church discipline is neglected because membership is trivialized
 - F. **Closing statement** – why such a severe penalty (1 Co 3:16-17)