

I. The Low Court –

The Opinion of Others

1 Corinthians 4:3a But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment:

...

1 Corinthians 4:11-13 Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace; ¹² And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: ¹³ Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, *and are* the offscouring of all things unto this day.

1 Corinthians 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

II. The Middle Court –

The Opinion of Ourselves

1 Corinthians 4:3b–4a ... yea, I judge not mine own self. ⁴ For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: ...

Acts 20:19-20 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: ²⁰ *And* how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

III. The High Court –

The Opinion of God

1 Corinthians 4:4b-5 ... but he that judgeth me is the Lord. ⁵ Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done in his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

1 Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.