

Parties in Sin City (1 Corinthians 1:10-17)

- I. **Introduction**
 - A. The ‘party spirit’ of fraternity life on college campus
 - B. Reading the text and outlining the sermon
- II. **1 Corinthians 1:10-11**
 - A. *Now I plead with you brethren in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ*
 - 1. *Now* = δε – contrasted back to verse 9 - *fellowship* (κοινωνία)
 - 2. *I plead* = παρακαλέω – Paul’s plea for the church he loved
 - a. Divisions were reported by “*Chloe’s people*” (v. 11)
 - 3. *brethren* (αδελφοί = brothers and sisters) a term of endearment
 - 4. *in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ* – a weighty appeal
 - B. *that you all speak the same thing* (be united, agree, be at peace)
 - C. The reasons for the factions (1:18-4:13)
 - 1. A misunderstanding of the Gospel’s power to save (1:18-2:5)
 - 2. Confusing human wisdom with divine wisdom (2:6-3:4)
 - 3. A false conception of Christian ministry (3:5-4:5)
 - 4. Human pride (4:6-13)
 - D. *And there be no divisions among you ...* (σχίσματα) partisanship
 - E. Verse 10 is the *propositio* – the chief thesis statement of a discourse – this is a call for us to **agree** and **be united!**
- III. **1 Corinthians 1:12-17**
 - A. 1 Corinthians 1:12 – the nature of the factions (not theological)
 - 1. *the Paul group*
 - a. people personally attached to Paul, who planted the church
 - 2. *the Apollos group*
 - a. Apollos was important to the church (1 Cor 3:6)
 - b. he was a gifted and powerful speaker (Acts 18:24-26)
 - 3. *the Cephas (Peter) group*
 - a. the Jewish faction or Peter’s prominence as an apostle
 - b. Peter’s brash, no nonsense style of preaching
 - 4. *the Christ group*
 - a. the ‘super-spiritual,’ who had no allegiance to any man
 - B. 1 Corinthians 13-16 - Whose fault were these divisions?
 - 1. not the men who were being followed
 - a. we must make a concerted effort to prevent factions around any particular individual(s)
 - b. Paul affirms that he did not baptize many
 - c. 1 Corinthians 1:17
 - 2. Paul handles the divisions theologically, not personally (1:13)
- IV. **Application**
 - A. A reminder of the great importance and eternal value of the church
 - B. Application to Christian outside the church
 - C. Application to Bread of Life Fellowship
 - 1. The cure for divisions