

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 12 August 15, 2023 – August 20, 2023

Unit III: God's Eternal Reign

Subject: Commended!

Text: 1 Corinthians 4: 1-6, 17-21

Key Verse:

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 (1 Corinthians 4: 5, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) For the LORD (1 Corinthians 4: 1-6)**
- 2) For the Love (1 Corinthians 4: 17-21)**

Introduction:

Now, for two decades “cancel culture” had never been heard of before, when society became obsessed with social media “cancel culture” became well known. People have lost jobs and loved ones because of social media photos, videos, or phone conversation clips, social inappropriate, and derogatory speech exposed to the public, the person who were guilty were rejected from social and professional circles. This “cancel culture” is, arguably, one of the most dangerous and unforgiving form of condemnation anyone can experience today. Even Pastors have been ousted from the pulpit because of this cancel culture. But what if GOD canceled and condemned us for one mistake that we made, then, who would be left to serve in the kingdom. I thank GOD that HE gives second, third, fourth and even fifth chances, and does not hold us or condemn us for our mistakes but forgive us because HE is a merciful GOD.

Commended!

Lesson Pointer # 1:

- For the LORD (1 Corinthians 4: 1-6)**

Those whom GOD called as apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists are all servants of JESUS CHRIST, regardless of their anointing, gifts, experience, and popularity. Those of us that serve well are worthy of honor but are not to be overrated or under appreciated (1 Corinthians 4: 1, 2). Paul a servant of GOD labored faithfully for the sake of the Gospel, and he suffered greatly because of his commitment to JESUS CHRIST. Paul was confident in the integrity of his service and did not worry about others opinions (1 Corinthians 4: 3, 4). Paul understood that ministers whose primary focus was on others' opinions would fall short of pleasing GOD who faithfully called him as a servant. We are to be reminded that GOD alone is worthy to judge any person's life and ministry. Now, in that day when the LORD come, every unjustly believer will be justified, and every faithful

servant of JESUS CHRIST will receive his or her reward (1 Corinthians 4: 5). Paul reminded his readers that the Holy Scriptures are the best rule by which to judge spiritual leaders, not by your own words, but by the Word of GOD (1 Corinthians 4: 6).

Commended!

Lesson Pointer # 2:

- **For the Love (1 Corinthians 4: 17-21)**

To encourage others commitment we are to remind them of the Love of GOD that they have and the love for each other. Paul sent Timothy to Corinth because Timothy was faithful to the LORD, and capable to proclaim the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST, and Paul had mentored Timothy in the ministry before sending him (1 Corinthians 4: 17). Paul even let it be known that some of the Corinth were puffed up, because Paul would not come unto them (1 Corinthians 4: 18). Paul stated that he would come to them shortly, if the LORD will, and that he will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power (1 Corinthians 4: 19). Paul stated, that the Kingdom of GOD is not in word, but in power (1 Corinthians 4: 20). Paul did not hold back, but, instead, said, should he come unto them with a rod of discipline, or shall he come in love and with a gentle spirit (1 Corinthians 4: 21).

Commended!

Nuggets of the Lesson:

- 1) Honor those who serve faithfully, and treat them with love, and patience.**
- 2) We live in a judgmental society where people are eager to reveal details of others and to tear them down, we are to show love as believers of JESUS CHRIST.**
- 3) GOD looks at, and measure our faithfulness, prayerfulness, character, humility, and our concern for GOD'S people.**
- 4) All who are called by GOD are Servants, no, matter of their gifts, or experience, and position.**