

1 Corinthians 6:12-20
The Corinthians Must Glorify God in Their Bodies

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The Corinthians Distort Paul's Teaching

1 Cor 6:12 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

- "All things are lawful for me" = Paul responds to the theological assertion of the Corinthians:
- 1 Cor 10:23 All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify.
- Corinthians are distorting Paul's teaching of "freedom from the ceremonial law" (food, drink, circumcision, different days, etc.) as freedom from the moral law.

δε = Connective or Adversative?

1 Cor 6:13-14 NASB: Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. **(Yet)** the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. Now God has *not only* raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

1 Cor 6:13-14 Gordon Fee: Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, and God will do away with both of them. **(But)** the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. And God has both raised the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power.

Paul Refutes The Corinthian "Equation"

1 Cor 6:13-14 Gordon Fee: **Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, and God will do away with both of them.** (But) the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. And God has both raised the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power.

Paul grants the first slogan, but does not allow the Corinthians to apply this slogan to sexual immorality!

Corinthian Confusion:

Food for the stomach / sex for the body

↑ Moral ↑ Immoral (limitation: in marriage)

In What Way Are We Free From The Law?

1 Cor 9:21 ...to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law.

Ceremonial = food, Sabbaths, sacrifices, etc.

Civil = property rights, treatment of slaves, cases of injury to others, cities of refuge, etc.

(Moral) = Loving God/Neighbor (10 commandments – minus the 4th commandment)

- 1 Cor 7:19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is the keeping of the commandments of God

United With Christ or a Prostitute?

1 Cor 6:15-17 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH." But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

A Their bodies are members of Christ's body (vs. 14)

B therefore, they may not be members of a prostitute's

B Joined to a prostitute they become one body with her

A joined to Christ they become one S/spirit with him

1 Cor 6:18-20 Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

φευγετε = present, active, imperative – “continuously”

Two Views:

1. Every sin that a man commits is outside the body: This was Paul parroting another Corinthian slogan.
2. Sexual immorality strikes at the heart of the body being “for the Lord.” (not concerned with what physically affects the body per se).

Our Body: The Temple of The Holy Spirit

1 Cor 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Temple: definite, indefinite, or qualitative?

το σωμα υμων ναος του εν υμιν αγιου πνευματος εστιν

Colwell’s rule: An anarthrous pre-verbal PN is usually qualitative, sometimes definite, and rarely indefinite.

John 1:1c και θεος ην ο λογος = and the Word was God.
 και ο λογος ην ο θεος = and the Word was the God.
 και ο λογος ην θεος = and the Word was a god.

Our Body: The Temple of The Holy Spirit

How is God present in us?

God is omnipresent:

Psalm 139:7-9 Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

Old Testament:

Exodus 25:8 Let them construct a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell among them.

Ezekiel 10:18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple. (Ichabod)

Our Body: The Temple of The Holy Spirit
New Testament:
John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory...
John 14:16-17 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.
Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold the tabernacle of God is among men, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them...."

The Corinthians Must Live Like Who They Are!
1 Cor 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: **therefore glorify God in your body.**
Ephesians 4:30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
 Owned by God εἰς – "until"

The Corinthian Problem And Paul's Remedy
Corinthian "Spirituality"
 What we do in the body doesn't matter (we are above that)
Paul's Response
 The body of every believer belongs to the Lord. He has purchase His people through the cross and has deposited His Spirit in them and therefore has the rights to the entirety of their person.
Application: We must believe this and act on it!
