

Key Verse:

“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” - 1 Cor 1:18

Key Truth:

When a church imitates the ways of the world by taking their eyes off the cross, they forfeit the power of heaven, and the outcome is division, dysfunction, and disappointment.

I. The Cause of Division

- a. Personalities & Preferences – 1 Cor. 1:12
 - i. Following men not God – Heb. 12:1-2 “
- b. Pride & Power – 1 Cor. 1:23-25
 - i. Wisdom of this world – 1 Cor. 4:18-20; 1 Cor.1:27
 - ii. Standing in Society – 1 Cor. 4:5
- c. Personal immorality – 1 Cor 3:16
 - i. Where immorality is embraced or knowingly tolerated there can be no unity.

II. The Consequences of Division

- a. Spiritual dysfunction – 1 Cor. 3:2
 - i. Loss of Spiritual Power and Understanding – 1 Cor. 2:10-13
- b. Spiritual disappointment
 - i. Loss of Spiritual Rewards 1 Cor. 3:14-15

III. The Cure for Division

- a. The power of God – 1 Cor. 2:5
- b. The cross of Christ – 1 Cor. 1:18

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