

"God's Plan/ Our Working Together"  
Please look at 1 Cor. 3 ~~Who is the~~

In the 3rd Chapter of  
1 Corinthians the apostle  
Paul Deals with a Real  
Problem in the Corinthian  
Church = ~~And the problem~~  
exists in the church today -  
~~Please don't think =~~

Not Only Does He ~~Address~~  
the Problem = He also tells  
us what the Problem Produces //  
(Read 1 Cor. 3:1-9 Now)

Perhaps our text explains  
why lots of folks try to  
stay away from Paul's writings  
~~because~~ "He speaks no words"  
He talks it like it is /  
then backs it up with  
indisputable evidence //

But listen / do stay <sup>away</sup> from the  
writings attributed to the  
Holy Spirit using Paul /  
means staying away from much  
of the New Testament //

Now Paul tells how he had  
to deal with "Weak Believers"  
Babes in Christ / People who  
were saved, but not growing  
in the Lord

Now were people who had to  
be "Bottle Fed" even tho they  
were part of the church

And Paul gives the reason:  
"Carnality" / ~~messing~~

"The world still had a  
strong hold" / The people  
still held on to many  
of the old ways

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Now many of these must  
have been saved for some  
time. Because Paul says  
"I have to teach you as  
tho you had just recently  
been born again" (v2)

"You had to have milk" / "not  
meat"

2/ Oh listen, this must have  
hurt the pride of many of  
these people - If I said it  
to you, some of you might  
cut your feelings hurt -

But let me tell you, "There are  
"babes in Christ" in the church  
today / And you And I know  
it - "Look around" /

Let me tell you folks, "We  
need to tell it like it is" /  
"And we need to hear  
it the way God wants  
us to hear it -" /

Paul says: "The world is  
holding on to people and  
people are holding on to  
the world" "That's causality"  
"Look around"

Look at Verse 3 // here Paul  
gives evidence of causality

Divisions / Envy / Strife /  
Choosing Sides //

Beloved, There is but one side  
in a mature church - **And**  
**it's God's side** // There is  
but one Head of the church,  
**And that's Jesus** - // Amen

There is only "One" way the  
church should operate **And**  
that's God's way - //

Paul says, "Here's proof of  
what I'm saying":

"He mentions:

**Envy**: oh listen, the devil  
promotes Envy - // He wants  
you **And me** to envy each  
other - // He wants you **And**  
me to envy other churches - //

He wants preachers to  
envy other preachers (And  
many do **But Paul says**:  
that's NOT right //

3/ "That's Not of God" / "It's  
Worldliness"

Ladies, The devil wants you  
to spend more time looking  
at another ladies notice  
or what she's wearing than  
listening to the word of  
God //

And men, he wants us to  
envy another man's job  
and salary / or the car  
he drives rather than  
listen to the word of God //

Paul calls it "Carnality" //  
"Worldliness" // And says. "It  
Ought Not Be So //

Then Paul goes on to say:

"We all have a job to  
do, and when we do it  
to please God, He  
will bless our efforts" //

In Verse 4 Paul mentioned  
the division - He mentions  
Names - But then He says  
Both Appollus And I  
have the same boss // We  
are both Ministers //

We preached the same Gospel //  
We taught the same Gospel //  
And we give God the  
Glory for the Increase //

And even tho Paul does not  
say it, I believe he would  
admit, "That if it doesn't  
happen, we must share  
the responsibility // If there is  
no increase, we all share the fault //

Oh listen beloved, "If we  
as a church, don't get the  
work done - we <sup>as a church</sup> will  
answer to God //

<sup>Now</sup>  
People are quick to blame the  
church for every thing -

4/ But may I remind you  
We are the church // We  
~~the~~ people make up the  
church // And to say "The  
church is failing to do this and so  
a preacher alone <sup>It's saying "We can't fail to do it."</sup> can't build  
a great Sunday school class  
a preacher alone can't  
build a great church -

It's "People" working together  
under God's leadership that  
does it - If the church  
grows, it's because we  
are <sup>All</sup> doing our job, and  
God is blessing //

If a Sunday school class  
is growing, it's because  
everyone in the class is  
doing it in love, and God  
is blessing -

I hear over and over "The  
church is failing here and  
there"

But many refuse to take  
any responsibility at all -

Beloved, We are the  
Church <sup>you and me</sup> And if the  
Church is failing, We  
are failing (You & me)

Paul said: Apollos and I  
work together // We have  
the same goal // And if  
there is increase, we  
know God gives it,  
because we have been  
faithful to Him //

Look at 1 Cor. Chapter 3,  
Verse 8 = "Now he that  
planteth and he that  
watereth are one" = (not  
necessarily the same  
person) (but having the  
same purpose / having the  
same goal in mind)



5/ Our Work may differ / But  
Your Goal And Mine Must  
Be The Same if God Gives  
The Increase //

Then Paul Says <sup>1-8</sup> (And we need  
to hear this) "And every  
man shall receive his own  
Reward / According to his  
own Labor" //

(Now the word "man" does not  
exclude women of few ages)  
It refers to all those  
who are saved = //

Your Reward Will Not Be Based  
on what I do // Nor will mine  
be based on what you do //

Our Works will be judged  
separately // And we will  
be rewarded accordingly =  
"According to our own  
Labor" (1-8)

Our Reward Will Be Fit  
And Proper =

but Notice Verse 9 = here Paul  
uses the word "We" // And  
this refers to a relationship =

① With God    ② With others —

Letter: "For We are laborers  
together with God" // There is  
No mention of bosses // (No  
mention of Indrosin & Chiefs) //  
"Only Laborers together  
with God" //

Our Job is One // And if we  
are to get it done we must

- #1 Acknowledge that Great Truth
- #2 Be Willing to work
- #3 Be Ready to work
- #4 ~~This Work~~ Developing  
the abilities God has  
made available to  
us — // (80)

6/ #5 And as laborers / We  
must be committed to  
the work Jesus left us  
to do // (Anything less is  
compromise)

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We must concentrate on the  
goal set before us // God's work  
must be our priority // What  
God wants us to do must be  
our priority — // "We must  
seek to have the mind of Christ" //

Paul says: "We are laborers  
together" // Our efforts must  
not be divided — // our goal  
must be the same —

Let us "There is strength in  
togetherness" // "We can do  
together, what we will never  
be able to do separately" //

We have a beautiful fellowship  
in togetherness // There is  
real joy in "togetherness" //  
In doing things together //

Looking Back I see the  
joy we had in Building these  
Buildings / Men / Women, Boys  
& Girls working together =  
Can you remember.

"Hard Work" ? You Better Believe  
it // But Great Satisfaction =

"We are laborers" / but even more,  
"We are laborers Together" //

But ~~we~~ we are also  
"laborers together with  
God" //

"God works in us And  
thru us" // We have the  
joy & privilege of working  
with God As He works in us //

Oh Living, "Spiritual Awakening"  
comes when we desire meet  
instead of much // when  
we Acknowledge or drinks  
Goal // when we labor Together

7/ Have you looked at the fields lately? They are "white with harvest" // "But the laborers are few" //

Very often the laborers are not cooperating // And the work suffers // Very often the harvest is lost because of it //

Listen // God's Plan is that we work // And that we work together // Could we make it a matter of prayer // Heads bowed / Eyes closed

Can you see a little of yourself in 1 Cor. 3, Verse 1 thru 9?

Can you see a need for more "working together"?

Would you be willing to commit yourself publicly to it? If so you come where we sing //

Together we can do the work.  
Together we can work  
toward a common goal //

Together, we can work toward  
"Spiritual Maturity" Dear Lowell  
Person, Is that what you want?

Then come tell everyone about  
it - God already knows your  
heart - you need to let others  
know it -

Anyone here lost? // If so we  
invite you to come let us tell  
you how to be saved // Will  
you come?

(Open Church Room)