

Scriptures February 12, 2023

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 (NRSV)

3 And so, brothers and sisters,^[a] I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. **2** I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, **3** for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? **4** For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. **6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. **7** So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. **8** The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. **9** For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37 (NRSV)

21 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement."' **22** But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister,^[a] you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult^[b] a brother or sister,^[c] you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell^[d] of fire. **23** So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister^[e] has something against you, **24** leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister,^[f] and then come and offer your gift. **25** Come to terms quickly with your accuser while

you are on the way to court^[g] with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷ ‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.^[h] ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.^[i]

³¹ ‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” ³² But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³ ‘Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.” ³⁴ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let your word be “Yes, Yes” or “No, No”; anything more than this comes from the evil one.^[j]