

1 Corinthians, Chapters 10-14

Chapter 10 – Paul warns that the Corinthians cannot participate in idolatry and be in right standing with God

v.1-10 – During one’s Christian journey we are likely to come across someone who makes a statement that may sound something like this: *“I’m a New Testament Christian...”*. What is usually meant by this statement, and what do these verses teach us about such a view of the scriptures? (2 Timothy 3:16)

v.9 – The 1984-NIV, along with the ASV state this verse: *“We should not test the Lord, as some of them did...”* Although there is certainly no theological error in this rendition, can you state how the more specific (see v.4) translation (2011-NIV, NASB, CEV, KJV, NKJV, ESV) gives the reader a deeper understanding? (John 1:1-2; 14)

v.12-13 – Breakdown these verses between the comma’s and periods to absorb **(a)** the warnings stated, **(b)** the realities mentioned, **(c)** the participants (the character/attributes of each) involved, **(d)** the provision and choices available.

v.14 - This is the very heart of the matter in chapter 10, in which Paul is pleading for the Corinthians to grasp.

v.15-33 - He describes the deeper implications of religious feasts and warns against provoking the Lord to jealousy by having fellowship with demons. He also cautions them not to challenge a weaker believer’s conscience in such matters.

Chapters 11-14 – Paul addresses divisions over conduct when they gather for worship

11:2–16 - Head Coverings and Worship

11:17–34 - Social Snobbery at the Lord’s Table

12:1–14:40 - Elevating One Spiritual Gift above Others

13 - The Temporary Nature of Spiritual Gifts and Permanence of Love (v.8)

14 - Proper Use of Spiritual Gifts (v.26) and Proper Conduct for Women (v.34)

11:17-29 - Genuine spiritual devotion of individual believers was unfortunately present only within factions of the church. When the selfish and arrogant partook of the Lord’s Supper they were not truly observing the sacrificial death of Christ.

12:1-11 - From chapter fourteen (v.1-25) it seems that there was jealousy and envy in regard to spiritual gifts. Why were the *“manifestations”* (spiritual gifts) given (v.7)? Who determines who receives what gift (11)?

13:1-13 – Paul says in ch.12 – *“Okay, the Spirit has given different gifts and none is more important than another”*. Here in ch.13 he says: *“However the day will come when they will cease; and if they are not carried out in a love, they are worthless.”* Qualities like faith, hope, and love will last forever. Why will spiritual gifts cease and pass away (v.8)?

v.1-3 - What is necessary for any service that we may perform to be of value?

Can you give a hypothetical example of spiritual gifts being used in this way? How have you done so?

v.4-7 - In the columns below make a list of *what love is*. Next to each trait, rate yourself on a scale of 1-10.

v.11-12 - What two illustrations does Paul use to show the temporary nature of spiritual gifts?

<i>Attributes of love</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Attributes of love</i>	<i>Rating</i>

14:34–35 - Since Paul permits wives to pray and prophesy (11:5, 13) during worship as long as they do not dishonor their husbands by the way they dress (11:5), it has been suggested that Paul is addressing this specific subject (14:29) and forbidding women to speak up and judge prophecies since such an activity would go against male headship.