

Studies In First Corinthians

(I Corinthians 6:9-13)

1. Will the unrighteous inherit the kingdom of God?

No: *"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God..."* (I Corinthians 6:9).

- **Romans 1:18, Romans 2:4-11, Romans 6:12-13, Romans 9:14, Ephesians 5:1-6, and II Thessalonians 2:10-12.**

2. While any sin will keep someone from Heaven (Romans 6:23, James 1:13-16, and James 2:10-12), what things did Paul list as acts of unrighteousness?

"...Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Corinthians 6:9-10).

- Paul was not attempting to make a list of all sins. There are other Scriptures that even list things not listed in this context. I.E. Uncleaness [impurity], lasciviousness [filthy desires], witchcraft, hatred, variance [contentious debating], emulations [jealous zeal], wrath, strife, seditions [division], heresies [party spirit], envy, murders, revellings [letting loose], such the like things of the flesh (**Galatians 5:19-21**). I.E. Fearful, unbelieving, abominable, whoremongers, sorcerers, and liars (**Revelation 21:8**).
- By all means, these sins will not result in salvation: Fornication [unlawful sexual intercourse] (**Ephesians 5:3**), idolatry (**I Corinthians 10:14**), adultery (**Luke 16:18**), effeminate [unnatural lewdness] (**Deuteronomy 22:5**), abusers of themselves with mankind [sodomites; homosexuals] (**Genesis 18:16-19:27**; cf. **Jude 7**), thieves (**Ephesians 4:28**), covetous [one eager to have more, esp. what belongs to others; though not all coveting; **I Corinthians 12:31**] (**Luke 12:15** and **Hebrews 13:5**), drunkards (**Romans 13:13**), revilers [railer; protester] (**I Peter 1:21-23**), and extortioners (**Ezekiel 18:13**).

3. Had those in Corinth led sinless lives prior to obeying the Gospel?

No, following the listing of the sins we just discussed, Paul said: *"And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God"* (I Corinthians 6:11).

- Christians often have past lives of sin. The key is, that is in the PAST (**Romans 6:17-19, I Corinthians 12:2, Ephesians 2:1-3, Ephesians 5:8, Colossians 3:5-7, Titus 3:3-6, and I Peter 4:1-5**).
- Repentance demands ceasing from sin (**Acts 26:20, Romans 6:1-2, and II Timothy 2:19**).
- These former sinners were washed (**Acts 22:16** and **Revelation 1:5**), sanctified (**John 17:17** and **Acts 26:18**), and justified (**Romans 3:24, Titus 3:7, and James 2:21-26**).

4. Can an action be authorized by the Lord, but not expedient to do?

Yes: *"All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any"* (**I Corinthians 6:12**).

- *"All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not"* (**I Corinthians 10:23**).
- As we will see in the next verse, things such as the eating of lawful meats may not always be expedient (**Romans 14:15-23** and **I Corinthians 10:24-33**).
- Another example... We may call someone a dog (**Matthew 7:6**), a bastard (**Hebrews 12:8**), an ass (**Jeremiah 2:23-24**), a whore (**Ezekiel 16:28-33** and **Hosea 4:12**), etc. However, that does not mean that person knows you are referring to them as spiritual apostates therefore it may not be expedient.

5. Does the Lord want us putting any spiritual significance on the eating of meats?

No: *"Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them..."* (**I Corinthians 6:13**).

- **Matthew 15:17-20, Luke 6:27, Colossians 2:14-16, and Hebrews 13:9.**
- Both meat and body will be destroyed (**II Peter 3:10-14**).

6. For what purpose do we have physical bodies?

To serve God: *"...Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body"* (**I Corinthians 6:13**).

- Obviously, God did not create us to fornicate (**I Thessalonians 4:3-7** and **Hebrews 13:4**).
- We, whole body and soul, were created to serve God (**Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, John 12:25-26, Colossians 1:16, and Hebrews 12:28-29**).