

Sermon Notes

APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

1 Corinthians 4

- 1) **Apostolic Foundation –Sola Scriptura, Message as important (vv. 1-6)**
 - Foundation of the mysteries of God— the Gospel
 - Although person of ministers are present, yet they are unimportant in the larger scheme of things
 - Against the message of the hyper-spiritual Corinthian false teachers, the Lord will judge all things at the Last Day (v. 5)
 - “Do not go beyond what is written” — Sola Scriptura (v. 6)

- 2) **Apostolic Service — Sacrifice, Self-Denial, Focus on exalting Christ (vv. 4, 7-13)**
 - We note Paul’s satire against the false teachers (v.8)
 - True apostolic service is not about glamor or riches or honor, but self-sacrifice
 - “I have (allusively) applied these things ... for your benefit” (v. 6)

- 3) **Apostolic Ministry — Ministers called by God, Lead in humility (vv. 2, 14-21)**
 - Although service is for all, yet the apostles showed us the system that God has given, Christ has instituted, for ministry in the church.
 - Many people are “guides,” teaching us and guiding us along our Christian walk
 - But Corinthians have a “father” in Paul
 - Thus, there is objective apostolic leadership- Paul appointed Timothy for their good
 - The minister as one representing his Lord