

1 CORINTHIANS 9 vs 1

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Jesus said, I will build My Church. And knowing that, Paul gives us many interesting details as to what that lively edifice looks like: Paul speaks to those in Corinth not in hocus pocus spiritual sounding speech, but in meaty familiar context of straight talk. 1 Corinthians 3 when he said:

brothers, I could not speak to you as spiritual, but as carnal **sarkikos** from **sarx**, meaning: **flesh**, the thin veneer on the surface. In Acts we read: the Lord will pour out His Spirit upon all sarx which sounds like a good thing, doesn't it? Paul, a good teacher, who was taught by the Best is not using a condemnatory tone in this 1st letter, much like we hear from self-righteous peddlers. To Romans, Paul wrote: to be carnally minded is death... We should understand that verse: to be only carnally minded is deadly, since God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.



Paul's rights and freedoms,

¹ Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not you my work in the Lord? / Paul starts by asking was he sent by God, was he a freeman citizen of the empire.

² If I am not one sent to others, at least I am to you: for you are the seal of my being sent by the Lord.

³ My defense to those who examine me is this:

⁴ Don't we have the right to eat and drink?

⁵ Don't we have the right to be accompanied by a woman – a sister, a wife, even like the other sent ones like the Lord's brothers, and Cephas? / and like the 70 who Jesus also sent out.

Or do only Barnabas and I have not right to refrain from working?

⁷ Does a soldier go to war at his own expense? Does the planter of a vineyard, and not eat its fruit? Or the shepherd of a flock, not drink the milk of the flock?

⁸ Am I saying this from a human perspective? Or does the law also say the same?

⁹ For it is written in the law of Moses, Do not muzzle an ox while it is treads out the grain. Is God really concerned about oxen?

¹⁰ Or is He saying all this for our sakes? Yes, this is written for our sakes: because the one who plows should plow in hope; and the one who threshes in hope, that one should share the crops.

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¹¹ If we sow spiritual things for you, is it too much if we reap material benefits from you?

¹² If others have this right to receive from you, don't we even more? Yet we have not asserted this right; but we endured everything, that we do not hinder the gospel of Christ.

¹³ Don't you know that those who worked during the temple services, eat the food from the temple? and those who serve at the altar share in the offerings of the altar?

¹⁴ In the same way, the Lord instructed that those who preach the gospel, should earn their living by the gospel.

¹⁵ But I have not used these rights: and I have not written these things, that it be applied to me: for it is better for me to die, than that anyone should deprive me of my boast.

¹⁶ Because if I preach the gospel, I have no reason to boast: for I am compelled to preach; yes, woe is me, if I do not preach the gospel! / how terrible it would have been had he not preached the gospel.

¹⁷ For if I do this willingly, I have a reward: but if unwilling, I am entrusted with a commission.

¹⁸ What then is my reward? **To preach the gospel, and offer it free of charge,** that I not abuse my right in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am a free man, and not anyone's slave, I made myself a slave to all, in order to gain more people / for the kingdom of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

²⁰ **To the Jews** I became like a Jew, that I might win the Jews; to those who are under the law, like one - though I myself am not under the law, to win those who are under the law;

²¹ **to those who are without the law,** like one being without the law, (though not myself being without the law of God) that I might win those who are outside the law of Christ.

²² **To the weak I became weak,** that I might win the weak.

I have become all things to all people, that I might by every possible means save some.

²³ Now I do this for the sake of the gospel, **that I might share its benefits with you.**

²⁴ Don't you know that the runners in the stadium all race, but only one receives the prize?



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So run in such a way, that you may obtain the prize.

²⁵ Now everyone who competes, exercises self-control in everything. They do it to receive a wilting laurel crown; but we will receive an imperishable crown of glory.

²⁶ So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly; or box like one beating the air.

²⁷ **Instead I discipline my body and keep it under strict control:**

so that after preaching to others, I do not disqualify myself .



Every Praise

Salvation is Your Name

This is My Father's World

His Sheep Hear His Voice And Follow Him | **O Come Let Us Adore Him**

In Christ Alone | **Fibonacci in Nature; The Code of Life**

The Love of God

On Living in an Atomic age – CSLewisDoodle