

1 Cor. 9:19-27

A NEW *Beginning*



LOOK TO THE CROSS FOR ETERNAL HOPE

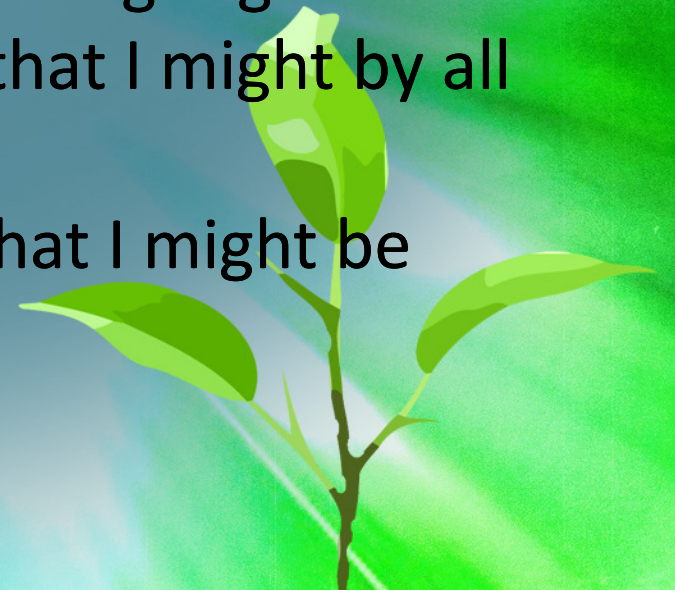
1 Cor. 9:19 For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.



24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.



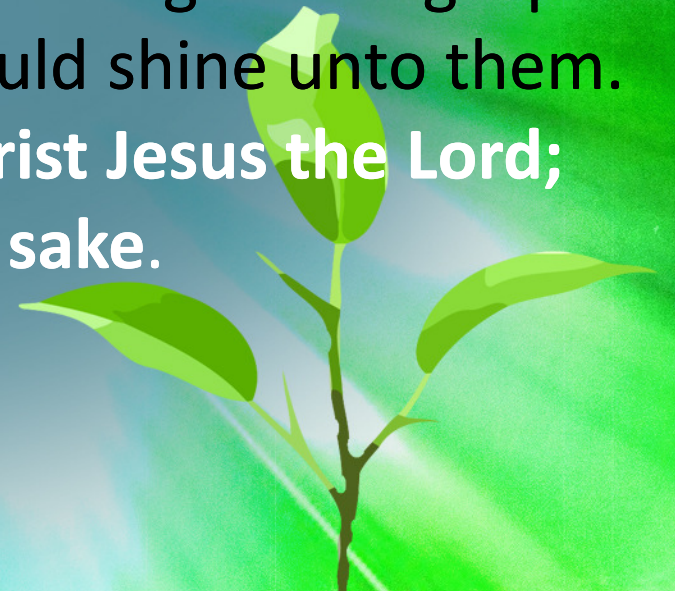
2 Cor. 4:1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, **nor handling the word of God deceitfully**; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

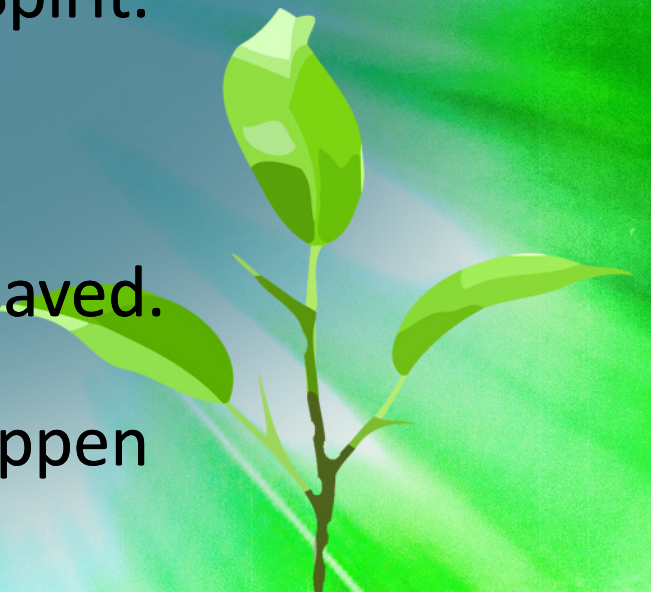
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 **For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.**



Paul's Evangelism

- He has the right message.
- He has the deep motive of love for Christ.
- He has a sense of the divine call.
- He has a great boldness.
- He has the energizing power of the Spirit.
- He has a strategy.
- He has a great desire to see people saved.
- He would do anything to see that happen



I. THE EXTENT OF PASSION TO WIN THE LOST, 9:19

1 Cor. 9:19 For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

A. The Self-Denial, 9:19a “For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all...”

Basically there are two crucial items that will make you able to limit your liberty, one is self-denial and the other is self-control.

Prov. 16:32 *He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.*

Prov. 25:28 He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is* broken down, *and* without walls.

Eccl. 10:10 If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom *is* profitable to direct.

We can make it easier for ourselves or more difficult.

Original Word: ἐλεύθερος

Transliteration: eleutheros

Short Definition: free, delivered from obligation

eleútheros (an adjective) – properly, *free (liberated)*, unbound (unshackled); (figuratively) **free to realize one's destiny in Christ.**

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1658.htm>

Original Word: δουλόω

Transliteration: douloó

Short Definition: I enslave

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1402.htm>

Rom. 6:22 But now being made free from sin, and **become servants to God**, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

B. The Spiritual Desire, 9:19b “...that I might gain the more. “

The word gain is a most interesting word. It is a commercial term meaning to make a profit.



Original Word: κερδαίνω

Transliteration: kerdainó

Definition: I gain, acquire, win (over), avoid loss.

kerdaínō – properly, to profit (gain), an ancient *mercantile* term for *exchanging (trading)* one good for another; (figuratively) to exchange (trade out) what is *mediocre* ("good") for the *better*, i.e. "trading *up*" (cf. Js 4:13).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2770.htm>

II. THE EXECUTION OF THE PROCEDURES TO WOO THE LOST, 9:20-23



1 Cor. 9:20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.

A. The Methods Revealed, 9:20-22

1 Cor. 9:20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew,
to them that are under the law, as under the law,

Acts 15:19 Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:
20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood.

21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

Acts 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was **a Jewess**, and believed; but his father *was* a Greek:

2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

Rom. 14:5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day *alike*. **Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.**

1 Cor. 9:21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,)

Gal. 2:11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.

12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.

14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before *them* all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

1 Cor. 9:22a To the weak became I as weak,

1 Cor. 9:22b I am made all things to all *men*,

Original Word: γίνομαι

Transliteration: ginomai

Definition: I come into being, **made**, am born, become, come about, happen.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1096.htm>

B. The Motive Reiterated, 9:20-23

“...that I might gain the Jews;

...that I might gain them that are under the law;

...that I might gain them that are without law.

...that I might gain the weak:

...that I might by all means save some.

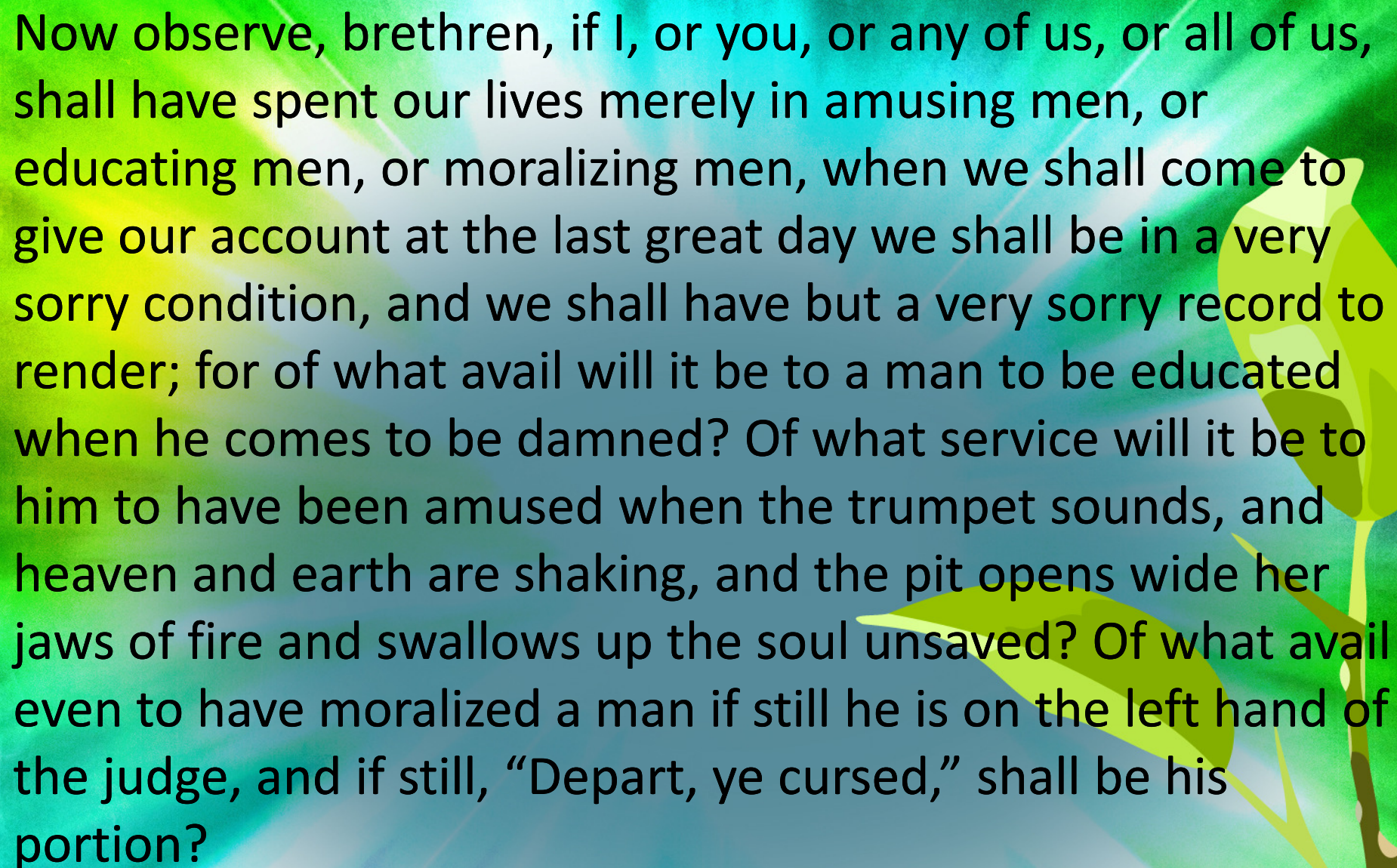
23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.”



Conclusion

Preaching on this passage, C.H. Spurgeon said the following:

I fear there are some who preach with the view of amusing men, and as long as people can be gathered in crowds, and their ears can be tickled, and they can retire pleased with what they have heard, the orator is content, and folds his hands, and goes back self-satisfied. But Paul did not lay himself out to please the public and collect the crowd. If he did not save them he felt that it was of no avail to interest them. Unless the truth had pierced their hearts, affected their lives, and made new men of them, Paul would have gone home crying “Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?” . . .



Now observe, brethren, if I, or you, or any of us, or all of us, shall have spent our lives merely in amusing men, or educating men, or moralizing men, when we shall come to give our account at the last great day we shall be in a very sorry condition, and we shall have but a very sorry record to render; for of what avail will it be to a man to be educated when he comes to be damned? Of what service will it be to him to have been amused when the trumpet sounds, and heaven and earth are shaking, and the pit opens wide her jaws of fire and swallows up the soul unsaved? Of what avail even to have moralized a man if still he is on the left hand of the judge, and if still, “Depart, ye cursed,” shall be his portion?

<http://www.gty.org/blog/B141006?term=1%20Corinthians>