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Men in Christ - 2022

The first letter of Paul to Corinth, in our scriptures, is about division and conformity - of our formation into a union in Christ - in which we become the very body of Christ - and in that union we have Christian ethics - behavior. The goal in all and for all is that each believer (and therefore the church) would have the mind of Christ (I Cor. 2:16). The readers are believers - but Paul calls them "unspiritual" - not in the fulness of the mystery of the Lord - the realm (kingdom) of God.

Paul had received letters from the church, and he was now scolding them for their unspiritual lives. This was a mystery that is at the heart of the "Good News": 2:1,7; 4:1; 13:2 and all of chapter 14. *This is how one should think of us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.* (1Co 4:1 RSV)

Believers must live in a lifestyle consistent with the example they have in Christ - he is the electing (determining) God - the elected (chosen) man - and the revelation of God to man - among men - in men - the Lord - The Spirit. We will all be measured: Ephesians 4:4-14: *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all ... to equip the saints... until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ; so that we may no longer ... tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.*