Questions on 1 Corinthians chapter 3

1. What does “carnal” mean and what is its opposite (in this verse)? Is the term “babes” used in a good sense or less than good sense? Verse 1.

2. What is meant by “milk” and “meat”? What is the evidence of spiritual maturity? Verse 2.

3. What is the evidence that the Corinthians were still carnal and walked as men? Verse 3.

4. What was the cause of the division and strife among the Corinthians? Verse 4.

5. What is the relation of Paul and Apollos to the Corinthians? Verse 5.

6. What was the division of labor between Paul and Apollos? Verse6

7. What was the important thing to remember about the efforts of Paul and Apollos? Verse 6.

8. What is meant by “he that planteth and he that watereth are one”? Verse 8.

9. What application does the statement that we are “laborers together with God” have on the problems at Corinth? What is “husbandry” and what lesson is taught by the metaphors of God’s husbandry and God’s building? Verse 9.

10. What was Paul’s qualification as a “master builder” and to what did he attribute his privilege of serving in this respect? Verse 10.

11. What is the foundation of God’s building and how did Paul lay the foundation? Verse 11.

12. What are the two classes of building materials and their characteristics? What does this have to do with the warning to the teachers? Verse 12.

13. What is the “day” that will show what sort each man’s work is? What is the fire that will show it? Verse 13.

14. When he refers to “any man’s work” is he speaking of the teacher (laborer) or his disciple? Verse 14.

15. Why may the faithful teacher suffer loss? What will that loss be? How can he be saved if his work is burned? Verse 15.

16. What facts about the Jewish temple help us to understand that God dwells in the temple (his church)? Verse 16.

17. How can man defile or destroy the temple (the church) and what will be the end of the one who does so? Verse 17.

18. How can a man deceive himself while thinking he is building God’s house? How would becoming a fool make him wise? Verse 18.

19. When does the wisdom of this world become foolishness with God? How does God take “the wise in their own craftiness”? Verse 19.

20. What two things does God know about the wise? Verse 20.

21. Why did Paul say, “Let no man glory in men”? Verse 21.

22. In what sense did Paul, Apollos, and Cephas belong to the Corinthians? How could Paul say “all things (including death) are yours”? Verse 22.

23. If the Corinthians did not belong to Christ, would the other things mentioned belong to them? Verse 23.

Thought Question:

24. What are some of the causes of spiritual immaturity in the church today? What can you suggest as a practical remedy for lack of spiritual growth?