

WHAT PAUL MIGHT WRITE TO THE CHURCH AT OKC?

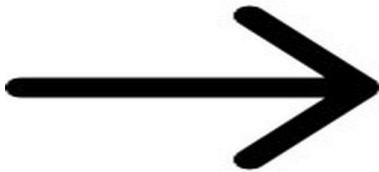
Paul's letter to the church of Jesus Christ at Oklahoma City
The Admonitions-1 Corinthians 6:9-11

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

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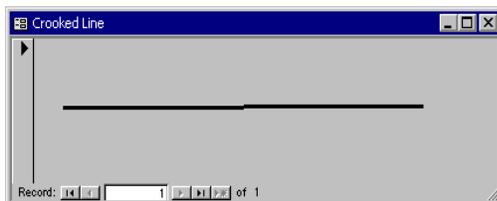
Only the righteous will inherit the Kingdom of God!



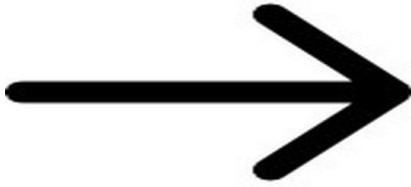
The word righteous means perfectly straight.



The word unrighteous means crooked.



Is this line straight? It only takes one minor shift for a straight line to become a crooked line or for a righteous line to become an unrighteous line.



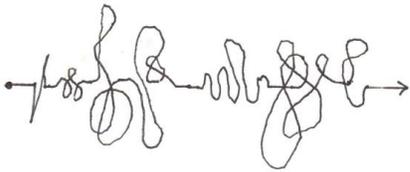
When the word righteous is used with regards to moral innocence, who can say, I am righteous. Paul said, there is none righteous, no not one.

Romans 3:10

As it is written:

"There is none righteous, no, not one;
NKJV

No one is righteous because no one can say, "I have never sinned."



In fact, if we could see a line graph that depicts our moral innocence, it would look something like this.

The most common cause of moral failure in mankind is sexual immorality. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, it has been the nature of all people to lust for what is forbidden. And this lust in mankind is the most common cause of moral failure and unrighteousness in people.

We know that Paul understood this from what he said next in I Cor. 6.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

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After Paul says the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God, he lists 10 examples of unrighteousness. Four of the ten examples are forms of sexual immorality. Even idolatry could be included in this category because of how the pagan included this sin is their worship.

Sexual immorality was one of the three sins that the first church counsel identified as a problem for the gentiles.

Acts 15:19-20

19 Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, 20 but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood.

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After the fall of man, the bible says that God destroyed the world with a flood because of the violence on the earth and because men were using their superior power over women to satisfy their sexual lusts. (Genesis 6:1)

Some of the most prominent characters in the bible were guilty of satisfying their sexual appetite in ways that God forbids. (Abraham, Jacob, Samson, David, Solomon)

We currently live in a nation in which this sin is accepted and encouraged.

- Men publicly lust for women and women publicly express their lust to be the object of man's lust.
- Currently, 70% of men and 30% of women use pornography.
- Casual sex between single adults is now accepted and expected.
- Being single and having a child outside of marriage is not considered to be shameful.
- Adultery is not considered to be a deal breaker in marriage.
- Perversion is approved.

Like any other appetite, this appetite can be perverted. Men lust for men, women lust for women. Political officials are now joining gay pride parades without any fear of negative publicity. Businesses are now sponsoring gay pride parades.

The moral condition of the city of Corinth was very similar to current moral condition in our nation and in our city. So, Paul wrote to them and said....

1 Corinthians 6:9

9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived.

The apostle Paul was concerned that there were some in the church that were being treated like they were members of God's family even though by design they continued to be fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners. will inherit the kingdom of God. Paul had already reproved the

church in 1 Cor. 5 for accepting a man that was committing fornication with his step mother.

This was not a secret. The church apparently was puffed up. They had an over inflated view of their spiritual superiority and they were even boasting to others about it.

Paul called them to repent and to put the man out of their fellowship. The reasons he gave for this was to purify the church of this leaven and to purify the man.

I believe if Paul wrote a letter to the church in OKC, he would include a text like this one.

It is obvious that Paul expected disciples of Jesus to repent of sin. By repentance he meant a change of heart that results in a change in direction of your life.

In 1 Cor. 6:11, Paul said, and such were some of you!

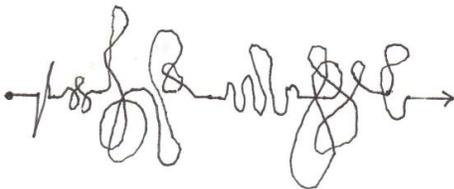
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Paul did not say all of you but some of you! Then he described what happened to some of them that changed who they were. They were washed, sanctified, and justified. Their experience with Jesus changed their heart and their identity so that they would not continue in sin.

If the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God and there is none righteous, then who will inherit the Kingdom of God?

If your life is not straight, can you make your life straight by living straight from this point forward? Can you make your life righteous?



Even if you learned all of God's moral laws and you could never sin again, would it make the record of the way you have lived righteous or straight?

If the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God and there is none righteous, who will inherit the Kingdom of God?

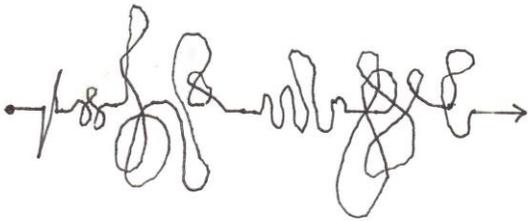
Paul said righteousness can only be received as a gift.

Romans 3:21-24

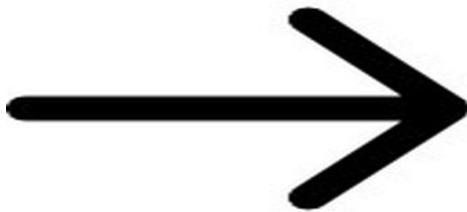
21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

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Instead of God keeping a record of your unrighteous life, God is willing to give you righteousness as a gift.



When you receive this gift, instead of seeing the record of your life like this,



God sees the record of your life like this!



To give you this gift of righteousness, God gave His righteous Son Jesus to pay the penalty for the sins of the world. Jesus became unrighteous so you could receive the gift of righteousness.

The gift of righteousness is only received by faith in Jesus Christ!

Not only do you receive righteousness as a gift but you also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

When this occurs, it so changes your heart that you are no longer what you were. You can sin but it is no longer your nature to live in sin.

Applications:

- Church, we must not approve of those that are sexually immoral.
- If you are sexually immoral, you need to examine your faith.