

(2) The Syllabus of errors

It is sometimes alleged that 1 Corinthians supplies us with this. While the great problems are in sectarianism and practical immorality there are many lesser ones that come to the surface. The dominant principles for the refutation of error are: adherence to the truth as given
practicing of Christian life daily
honoring the work of the Spirit in others
seeing the servant character we are given

And I suppose considerable elaboration can be given to all of these.

(3) On the number of the Corinthian letters note the following: there were apparently more than are given in the Scripture but we are prone to think that what is in the Bible is what is intended for the canon. If we found another one by Paul we would probably say..."Good reading, but..."

(4) Some further content questions:

What is a carnal Christian?
How will we judge angels?
How is the oneness recognized?

c. Summary and concluding notes:

Often when someone tells me they are seeking a New Testament church I ask them which one they would like...and begin naming the list with the Corinthian church first. No one really wants it or, if you will forgive me for saying it bluntly, wants to be in it. But a lot of us live our whole ecclesiastical experiences here and the challenge should be to grow. Yet there are many good points about it so our thoughts need not all be negative. The problems dominate our view, however, and that is discouraging. If the Lord of the church is set forth most prominently, most other matters become endurable at least.

3. II Corinthians

a. An overview

The first quotations from II Corinthians are in Polycarp's epistle to the Philippians (Polycarp was martyred c. AD 156). This is some 60 years later than Clement's quotations from 1 Corinthians. It is curious that Clement did