

## ~TRIBUNAL (180)

[Greek, *an-thro-pi'nes he-me'ras*]

- A court or forum of justice. The word appears in some Bible translations at;
- Now to me it is a very trivial matter that I should be examined by you or by a human **tribunal**. Even I do not examine myself. (**1 Corinthians 4:3**)
- Where Paul says; Now to me it is a very trivial matter that I should be examined by you or by a human **tribunal**, Greek, *an-thro-pi'nes he-me'ras*. The Greek expression literally means, **human day**, and is understood to refer **to a set day, or day set by a human judge for a trial or for rendering judgment**.
- Paul acknowledged that men such as Apollos, Cephas, and himself in a sense belonged to or were servants of the Corinthian congregation.
- Hence let no one be boasting in men, for all things belong to you. (**1 Corinthians 3:21**)
- Whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things now here or things to come, all things belong to you. (**1 Corinthians 3:22**)
- Yet some in that congregation were criticizing and judging Paul, which attitude grew out of their sectarianism, their fleshliness rather than spirituality, their looking to men instead of to Christ.
- Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my work in the Lord? (**1 Corinthians 9:1**)
- If I am not an apostle to others, I most certainly am to you, for you are the seal confirming my apostleship in relation to the Lord. (**1 Corinthians 9:2**)
- My defense to those who examine me is as follows. (**1 Corinthians 9:3**)
- We have authority to eat and drink, do we not? (**1 Corinthians**

**9:4)**

- **Paul ably defended his ministry.**
- **We have authority to lead about a sister as a wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the Lords brothers and Cephas, do we not? (1 Corinthians 9:5)**
- **Or is it only Barnabas and I that do not have authority to refrain from secular work? (1 Corinthians 9:6)**
- **Who is it that ever serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who shepherds a flock and does not eat some of the milk of the flock? (1 Corinthians 9:7)**
- **Am I speaking these things by human standards? Or does not the Law also say these things? (1 Corinthians 9:8)**
- **For in the Law of Moses it is written: You must not muzzle a bull when it is threshing out the grain. Is it bulls God is caring for? (1 Corinthians 9:9)**
- **Or is it altogether for our sakes he says it? Really for our sakes it was written, because the man who plows ought to plow in hope and the man who threshes ought to do so in hope of being a partaker. (1 Corinthians 9:10)**
- **If we have sown spiritual things to you, is it something great if we shall reap things for the flesh from you? (1 Corinthians 9:11)**
- **If other men partake of this authority over you, do we not much more so? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this authority, but we are bearing all things, in order, that we might not offer any hindrance to the Good News about the Christ. (1 Corinthians 9:12)**
- **Do you not know that the men performing sacred duties eat the things of the temple, and those constantly attending at the altar have a portion for themselves with the altar? (1 Corinthians 9:13)**
- **In this way, too, the Lord ordained for those proclaiming the Good News to live by means of the Good News. (1 Corinthians**

**9:14)**

- **But I have not made use of a single one of these provisions. Indeed, I have not written these things that it should become so in my case, for it would be finer for me to die than, no man is going to make my reason for boasting void! (1 Corinthians 9:15)**
- **If, now, I am declaring the Good News, it is no reason for me to boast, for necessity is laid upon me. Really, woe is me if I did not declare the Good News! (1 Corinthians 9:16)**
- **If I perform this willingly, I have a reward, but if I do it against my will, all the same I have a stewardship entrusted to me. (1 Corinthians 9:17)**
- **What, then, is my reward? That while declaring the Good News I may furnish the Good News without cost, to the end that I may not abuse my authority in the Good News. (1 Corinthians 9:18)**
- **For, though I am free from all persons, I have made myself the slave to all, that I may gain the most persons. (1 Corinthians 9:19)**
- **And so to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews, to those under Law I became as under Law, though I myself am not under law, that I might gain those under Law. (1 Corinthians 9:20)**
- **To those without Law I became as without Law, although I am not without Law toward God but under Law toward Christ, that I might gain those without Law. (1 Corinthians 9:21)**
- **To the weak I became weak, that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to people of all sorts, that I might by all means save some. (1 Corinthians 9:22)**
- **But I do all things for the sake of the Good News, that I may become a sharer of it with others. (1 Corinthians 9:23)**
- **Do you not know that the runners in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may attain it. (1 Corinthians 9:24)**
- **Moreover, every man taking part in a contest exercises self-**

- control in all things. Now they, of course, do it that they may get a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible one. (**1 Corinthians 9:25**)
- Therefore, the way I am running is not uncertainly, the way I am directing my blows is so as not to be striking the air. (**1 Corinthians 9:26**)
  - But I pummel my body and lead it as a slave, that, after I have preached to others, I myself should not become disapproved somehow. (**1 Corinthians 9:27**)
  - Setting forth the general rule or view that a Christian should not be primarily concerned about the judgment of men, whether by the Corinthians or by some human court on a set day.
  - Rather, Paul was concerned about the future day of judgment or evaluation by God, through Jesus. He was the one who had given Paul the stewardship to which he must prove faithful.
  - He will also make you firm to the end, that you may be open to no accusation in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (**1 Corinthians 1:8**)
  - Besides, in this case, what is looked for in stewards is for a man to be found faithful. (**1 Corinthians 4:2**)
  - Now to me it is a very trivial matter that I should be examined by you or by a human **tribunal**. Even I do not examine myself. (**1 Corinthians 4:3**)
  - For I am not conscious of anything against myself. Yet by this I am not proved righteous, but he that examines me is Yehowah. (**1 Corinthians 4:4**)
  - Hence do not judge anything before the due time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring the secret things of darkness to light and make the counsels of the hearts manifest, and then each one will have his praise come to him from God. (**1 Corinthians 4:5**)
  - And there is not a creation that is not manifest to his sight, but all things are naked and openly exposed to the eyes of him with whom we have an accounting. (**Hebrews 4:13**)

