

SENTENCE FLOW · CLAUSE STRUCTURE · GREEK

1 Corinthians 4 — clausal layout

ΠΡΟΣ ΚΟΡΙΝΘΙΟΥΣ Α' Δ'

Each line is one clause or discrete phrase of the standard critical text, colored by syntactic type; indentation marks levels of subordination. The verse numbers sit in the left gutter; the small tag on each line names the clause type and its function.

independent

participial

relative

purpose

cause

comparative

content

conditional

phrase modifier

dashed = verbless / suspended

Flush-left = a main (independent) clause. Each dependent line begins directly beneath the word it attaches to in the line above — the anchor word is dotted-underlined, and lights up when you hover its dependent clause; each tag also names the attachment. A dashed border marks verbless, elliptical, or suspended lines. Where a long sentence's staircase runs wider than the page, the diagram scrolls sideways. (In print, or without JavaScript, lines fall back to stepped indent columns.)

Stewards of God's mysteries — judged only by the Lord 4:1–5

VV. 1–2 — THE RIGHT ESTIMATE, AND THE ONE THING REQUIRED

1 Οὕτως ἡμᾶς λογιζέσθω ἄνθρωπος independent — the thesis — Οὕτως points forward to the ὡς phrase

ὡς ὑπηρετάς Χριστοῦ καὶ οἰκονόμους μυστηρίων θεοῦ.

comparative — the estimate — under-rowers and household managers, not party-heads

2 ὥδε λοιπὸν ζητεῖται ἐν τοῖς οἰκονόμοις independent — reading ὥδε λοιπὸν (over the later ὁ δὲ λοιπὸν) — the standing demand

ἵνα πιστός τις εὐρεθῇ.

content — content-ἵνα, not telic — fidelity the steward's single criterion

VV. 3–5 — EXAMINED BY NO COURT BEFORE THE DAY

3 ἐμοὶ δὲ εἰς ἐλάχιστόν ἐστιν independent — ἐμοὶ δέ fronted — Paul's own weighing of their verdict

ἵνα ὑφ' ὑμῶν ἀνακριθῶ ἢ ὑπὸ ἀνθρωπίνης ἡμέρας

content — substantival ἵνα (the subject of ἐστιν) — 'human day' = tribunal, against the

Lord's Day

ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ἐμαυτὸν ἀνακρίνω.

independent — ascensive οὐδέ — no self-tribunal either

4 οὐδὲν γὰρ ἐμαυτῷ σύνοιδα, cause — γὰρ — the clear conscience grounding the refusal

ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐν τούτῳ δεδικαίωμαι,

cause — the adversative rider within the ground — conscience is not acquittal

ὁ δὲ ἀνακρίνων με κύριός ἐστιν.

independent — the competent examiner named — the master, not fellow servants

5 ὥστε μὴ πρὸ καιροῦ τι κρίνετε, independent — ὥστε + imperative — the inference: κρίνω reserved, where ἀνακρίνω was preliminary

ἕως ἄν ἔλθῃ ὁ κύριος,

phrase modifier — temporal ἕως ἄν — the καιρὸς defined as the parousia

ὃς καὶ φωτίσει τὰ κρυπτὰ τοῦ σκούτου

relative — καὶ ... καί — the first floodlight: what darkness concealed

καὶ φανερώσει τὰς βουλὰς τῶν καρδιῶν.

relative — coordinate relative — motives, not just deeds, exposed

καὶ τότε ὁ ἔπαινος γενήσεται ἐκάστῳ ἀπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ.

independent — τότε — the verdict at last, and strikingly it is praise

Not beyond what is written — all you have is gift 4:6–7

6 Ταῦτα δέ, ἀδελφοί, μετεσχημάτισα εἰς ἐμαυτὸν καὶ Ἀπολλῶν δι' ὑμᾶς, independent — μετασχηματίζω — the rhetorical figure disclosed: the lesson worn by Paul and Apollos

ἵνα ἐν ἡμῖν μάθητε

purpose — the aim of the figure — the apostles as the object-lesson

τὸ Μὴ ὑπὲρ ἃ γέγραπται,

content — the elliptical slogan, nominalized by τό — read without the later-inserted φρονεῖν

ἵνα μὴ εἷς ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἐνὸς φυσιοῦσθε κατὰ τοῦ ἑτέρου.

disease-word

purpose — the climactic second ἵνα, chained on the learning — φυσιώω, the chapter's

7 τίς γάρ σε διακρίνει; independent — diatribe — singular σε presses each conscience; the implied answer: God

τί δὲ ἔχεις independent — the second question — possession probed

ὃ οὐκ ἔλαβες; relative — the decisive verb — all is received, hence gift

εἰ δὲ καὶ ἔλαβες, conditional — protasis — leans on the question below; first-class, granted for argument

τί καυχᾶσαι independent — apodosis — the boast made absurd

ὥς μὴ λαβών; comparative — ὥς μή + participle — the false pose of the self-made

Last of all — the spectacle of the apostles 4:8–13

VV. 8–9 — ENTHRONED ALREADY VS. EXHIBITED LAST

8 ἤδη κεκοροσμένοι ἐστέ, independent — the first ἤδη — irony at an over-realized eschatology

ἤδη ἐπλουτήσατε, independent — the second drumbeat — ingressive aorist

χωρὶς ἡμῶν ἐβασιλεύσατε· independent — the climax and the barb — χωρὶς ἡμῶν, reigning without your founders

καὶ ὄφελόν γε ἐβασιλεύσατε, independent — ὄφελον — the unattainable wish; sarcasm softens into longing

ἵνα καὶ ἡμεῖς ὑμῖν συμβασιλεύσωμεν. purpose — the wish's aim — co-reigning is future hope, not present possession

9 δοκῶ γάρ, independent — the wry δοκῶ — governing the content clause without ὅτι

ὁ θεὸς ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀποστόλους ἐσχάτους ἀπέδειξεν ὡς ἐπιθανατίους, content — asyndetic content — the procession's doomed finale, and God the exhibitor

ὅτι θέατρον ἐγενήθημεν τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ ἀγγέλοις καὶ ἀνθρώποις. cause — ὅτι-causal — θέατρον: the cosmic audience, heavenly and earthly

V. 10 — THREE ANTITHESES, FLUSH-LEFT AND VERBLESS

- 10 **ἡμεῖς μωροὶ διὰ Χριστόν,** independent — verbless — the world's verdict on the cross-preachers (1:18–25)
- ὕμεῖς δὲ φρόνιμοι ἐν Χριστῷ·** independent — the pointed swap of prepositions — fools διὰ Χριστόν, wise ἐν Χριστῷ
- ἡμεῖς ἀσθενεῖς,** independent — the second pair — strength in weakness
- ὕμεῖς δὲ ἰσχυροί·** independent — the Corinthians' supposed potency
- ὕμεῖς ἔνδοξοι,** independent — the third pair reverses the order — ὕμεῖς now first
- ἡμεῖς δὲ ἄτιμοι.** independent — ἄτιμοι — the column ends on the apostles' shame

VV. 11–13 — THE HARDSHIP CATALOGUE, TO THIS VERY HOUR

- 11 **ἄχρι τῆς ἄρτι ὥρας καὶ πεινῶμεν** independent — the catalogue opens — present tenses, polysyndeton
- καὶ διψῶμεν** independent — the second privation
- καὶ γυμνιτεύομεν** independent — γυμνιτεύω — threadbare destitution, not nudity
- καὶ κολαφίζόμεθα** independent — κολαφίζω — struck with fists
- καὶ ἀστατοῦμεν** independent — ἀστατέω — the rootless, wandering life
- 12 **καὶ κοπιῶμεν ἐργαζόμενοι ταῖς ἰδίαις χερσίν·** independent — self-support — the participle of means kept inline (cf. Acts 18:3)
- λοιδορούμενοι εὐλογοῦμεν,** independent — first participle-pair — each blow answered with its opposite (cf. Lk 6:28)
- διωκόμενοι ἀνεχόμεθα,** independent — second pair — forbearance under pursuit
- 13 **δυσφημούμενοι παρακαλοῦμεν·** independent — third pair — gentle appeal for defamation
- ὡς περικαθάρματα τοῦ κόσμου ἐγενήθημεν,** independent — the harshest image — περικάθαρμα, the filth scoured away
- πάντων περίφημα ἕως ἄρτι.** phrase modifier — verbless apposition — περίφημα; ἕως ἄρτι seals the catalogue as unrelieved

A father's appeal — rod or love 4:14–21

VV. 14–17 — NOT SHAME BUT ADMONITION: THE ONE FATHER AND HIS ENVOY

- 14 Οὐκ ἐντρέπων ὑμᾶς γράφω ταῦτα, independent — the negated purpose-participle kept with its verb — the disclaimer after the sarcasm
 ἀλλ' ὡς τέκνα μου ἀγαπητὰ νουθετῶ. independent — νουθετέω — correction in a father's key; ὑμᾶς understood
- 15 ἐὰν γὰρ μυρίους παιδαγωγοὺς ἔχητε ἐν Χριστῷ, conditional — concessive protasis — leans on the line below; the paidagogos a custodian, not a parent
 ἀλλ' οὐ πολλοὺς πατέρας· independent — elliptical apodosis — ἔχετε understood; myriads of tutors, one father
 ἐν γὰρ Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ διὰ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς ἐγέννησα. independent — emphatic ἐγὼ — the begetting, with sphere and instrument fronted; order Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ read
- 16 παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς, independent — οὖν — the inference from fatherhood
 μιμηταί μου γίνεσθε. content — the appeal's content — asyndetic imperative (cf. 11:1)
- 17 διὰ τοῦτο ἔπεμψα ὑμῖν Τιμόθεον, independent — epistolary aorist — the envoy who carries the appeal
 ὅς ἐστιν μου τέκνον ἀγαπητὸν καὶ πιστὸν ἐν κυρίῳ, relative — the credential — πιστός, the steward's word of v. 2, embodied
 ὅς ὑμᾶς ἀναμνήσει τὰς ὁδοὺς μου τὰς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, relative — second coordinate relative — the mission: remembrance of the 'ways'
 καθὼς πανταχοῦ ἐν πάσῃ ἐκκλησίᾳ διδάσκω. comparative — on τὰς ὁδοὺς — the consistency claim: Corinth gets no special version

VV. 18–21 — THE COMING VISIT: TALK, POWER, ROD OR LOVE

- 18 ὥς μὴ ἐρχομένου δέ μου πρὸς ὑμᾶς participial — genitive absolute, ὥς of alleged reason — protasis-style, leaning on the clause below
 ἐφυσιώθησάν τινες· independent — φυσιώ again — v. 6's disease come to a head in Paul's absence
- 19 ἐλεύσομαι δὲ ταχέως πρὸς ὑμᾶς, independent — the flat contradiction of their assumption
 ἐὰν ὁ κύριος θελήσῃ, conditional — trailing protasis — anchored back on the promise; the pious proviso (cf. Jas 4:15)
 καὶ γνώσομαι οὐ τὸν λόγον τῶν πεφυσιωμένων ἀλλὰ τὴν δύναμιν· independent — the test — λόγος vs. δύναμις; the perfect participle: chronically inflated
- 20 οὐ γὰρ ἐν λόγῳ ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ θεοῦ ἀλλ' ἐν δυνάμει. cause — verbless aphorism — the criterion behind the test (cf. 2:4–5)
- 21 τί θέλετε; independent — the choice put squarely to them

ἐν ῥάβδῳ ἔλθω πρὸς ὑμᾶς, independent — deliberative subjunctive — the father's rod of correction

ἢ ἐν ἀγάπῃ πνεύματί τε πραΰτητος; independent — the alternative — elliptical, ἐλθω carried over; the tenor of the visit is theirs to decide

Analysis. 1 Corinthians 4 reads as four distinct textures, and the layout lets each show. Verses 1–5 are judicial and measured: two short main clauses each carrying one hanging content line (the ὡς-estimate under λογιζέσθω, the ἵνα-of-fidelity under ζητεῖται), then Paul's own case — the ἵνα of being examined hanging as the subject of ἐστίν, the twin γάρ-lines of v. 4 (clear conscience / but not acquitted) sharing one anchor on ἀνακρίνω, and the section closing on flush-left verdicts: the Lord is the examiner, judge nothing before the time, then praise. Verses 6–7 shift to diatribe: the disclosed figure (μετεσχημάτισα) with the quoted slogan τὸ Μὴ ὑπὲρ ἃ γέγραπται dashed and suspended under μάθητε, then three rapid flush-left questions with one forward-leaning protasis. Verses 8–13 are the ironic column: three ἤδη-exclamations, the ὄφελον wish with its ἵνα, the spectacle sentence stepping down δοκῶ → content → ὅτι-causal, six verbless antithesis lines at depth 0 (the eye sees the seesaw ἡμεῖς/ὕμεῖς), and the hardship catalogue as coordinate one-verb lines with the three participle-pairs kept whole so each blow and its gospel answer sit on a single line, ending in the verbless περίψημα apposition. Verses 14–21 are the father's appeal, ending in three flush-left question lines. Choices the layout takes a side on: ὧδε λοιπόν is read (v. 2) over ὃ δὲ λοιπόν; the ἵνα-clauses of vv. 2 and 3 are content/subject, not purpose; the slogan of v. 6 is kept elliptical without the later φρονεῖν, and the second ἵνα of v. 6 is chained on μάθητε as the climactic aim rather than made parallel to the first; δοκῶ (v. 9) is treated as governing an asyndetic content clause with the following ὅτι causal, not as content-ὅτι; the genitive absolute of v. 18 is laid out protasis-style, leaning forward without an anchor; ἐὰν ὁ κύριος θελήσῃ (v. 19) trails and anchors back on ἐλεύσομαι; and the kingdom-maxim of v. 20 hangs as a verbless γάρ-ground on δύνανιν, the very word it defines.

The clause segmentation, the type assigned to each line, and the indentation are interpretive — one defensible reading of the syntax, chosen to match the analysis in the

chapter's interlinear (word-level syntax tier and discourse notes); other analyses divide or attach some lines differently. The Greek text is identical to the chapter data behind the interlinear and follows the standard critical text.