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## PAUL AND THE CREATION OF A COUNTER-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Through an investigation of the logic of Paul in 1 Corinthians, Ho is able to reveal certain truths about the early Christian community. Paul consistently indoctrinates new values for the audience to uphold which are against the mainstream of social values in the surrounding society. It is shown that Paul does not engage in issues of internal schism per se, but rather in the question of the distinctive values insiders should uphold so as to be recognisable to outsiders. While the church is neither a sectarian nor an accommodating community, it should maintain constant social contact with outsiders so as to bring the gospel of Christ to them. In addition, insiders should practice radical values that could challenge the existing shared social values prevalent in the Roman city of Corinth. These new values are based mainly on Scripture, ancient Jewish literature, and the new social identity of the church defined by Jesus Christ. This fresh interpretation renders the logical flow, unitary design and coherence of 1 Cor. 5–11.1 more apparent.

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