

Lesson 1: "To the church of God which is at Corinth" 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

"To the church of God which is at Corinth" [1 Cor 1:1-3]

1) Who identifies himself as the *main* (human) author of this epistle? [1:1]

-- What is the basis of his authority for writing this epistle? [1:1; cp Acts 18:1]

-- Who else is sending this epistle along with him? [1:1; cp Acts 18:17?]

2) Even with all of the things Paul knows these people are struggling with (division – 1:10; carnality – 3:3; immorality – 5:1-2; legal issues – 6:1; idolatry – 10:14; disregard for proper roles – 11:3; abuses during the Lord's Supper – 11:20; abuses concerning spiritual gifts – 12:1ff; etc), what does he still call them? [1:2]

-- How does Paul then further describe them? [1:2; cp 6:11]

-- In what way is their being "saints" similar to Paul's being an apostle? [1:2]

-- Similar to the Corinthians, who else are "saints"? [1:2]

-- What would be the importance of Paul's emphasizing Jesus Christ as "our Lord, both theirs and ours"? [1:2; cp 1:10]

3) How do Paul and Sosthenes greet the Corinthian church? [1:3]

"I thank my God always concerning you" [1 Cor 1:4-9]

1) Even with all of the things Paul knows these people are struggling with (see #2, above), what does he say is his continual attitude toward them? [1:4]

-- What is the reason for Paul's thankfulness with regard to the church at Corinth? [1:4]

-- Because of God's grace [1:4],

(a) What were the Corinthians specifically "enriched in"? [1:5; two aspects]

(b) What were the Corinthians "confirmed in"? [1:6]

(c) What did the Corinthians not "come short in"? [1:7a; cp 1 Cor 12:1 - 14:40]

1 Corinthians: "Let all that you do be done with love" [16:14]

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"To the church of God which is at Corinth" – 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

2) What was the end result of this abundant grace among them? [1:7b]

3) What does Paul say he expects Jesus will continue to do for the Corinthians? [1:8; cp 1:6]

-- Why is Paul so confident that this will happen? [1:9a]

-- Even with all of the things Paul knows they are struggling with (see above), what does he say is their current situation? [1:9b; cp 1 John 1:1-3]

-- How did the Corinthians come to have fellowship with Christ? [1:9b; cp 1:1 and 1:2]

4) Who is the person Paul mentions the most in 1 Corinthians 1:1-9? [9 times!]