1 Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus
through the will of God, and Sosthenes our
brother,
2 to the church of God in Corinth, to those
sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be saints,
together with all who in every place call on the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord
and ours:
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I always thank my God for you because of
the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus,
5 because in him you were enriched in
everything, in all speech and all knowledge,
6 just as the testimony about Christ was
confirmed among you,
7 so that you lack no gift as you eagerly await
the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
8 He will also keep you firm to the end,
blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 God is faithful, through whom you were
called into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord.
10 Now I urge you, brothers, through the name
of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and
that there be no divisions among you, but that
you be united in the same mind and the same
judgment.

11 For Chloe's people have informed me about
you, my brothers, that there are quarrels among
you.
12 What I mean is that each of you says, “I
belong to Paul,” or “I to Apollos,” or “I to Cephas,”
or “I to Christ.”
13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified
for you? Or were you baptized into the name of
Paul?
14 I give thanks that I baptized none of you
except Crispus and Gaius,
15 so that no one may say you were baptized
into my name.
16 I also baptized the household of Stephanas.
Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized
anyone else.
17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to
preach the gospel, not with wisdom of speech, so
that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of
its power.

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to
those who are perishing, but to us who are
being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will
set aside the understanding of the
discerning.”

20 Where is the wise person? Where is the
scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has
not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?
21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world
did not know God through wisdom, God was

pleased through the foolishness of the message
preached to save those who believe.
22 For Jews ask for signs and Greeks seek
wisdom,
23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling
block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
24 but to those who are called, both Jews and
Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom
of God.
25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than
human beings, and the weakness of God is
stronger than human beings.
26 For consider your calling, brothers: not
many of you were wise by human standards, not
many powerful, not many of noble birth.
27 But God chose the foolish things of the
world to shame the wise, and God chose the
weak things of the world to shame the strong.
28 And God chose the lowborn and despised
things of the world, the things that are not, to
bring to nothing the things that are,
29 so that no human being might boast before
God.
30 But because of him you are in Christ Jesus,
who became wisdom for us from God, and
righteousness and sanctification and
redemption,
31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who
boasts boast in the Lord.”

2

1 And when I came to you, brothers, I did not
come with superior speech or wisdom,
proclaiming to you the testimony of God.

2 For I decided to know nothing among you
except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
3 And I was with you in weakness and fear
and much trembling.
4 My speech and my proclamation were not
with persuasive wisdom, but with a
demonstration of the Spirit and power,
5 so that your faith would not rest on human
wisdom but on the power of God.

6 Yet we speak wisdom among the mature, but
not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this
age, who are coming to nothing.
7 Rather, we speak God's wisdom in a mystery,
the hidden wisdom that God predestined before
the ages for our glory.
8 None of the rulers of this age knew it, for if
they had known it, they would not have
crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written,

"What no eye has seen and no ear has heard, and
what has not entered a human heart, God
has prepared for those who love him."

10 For God has revealed these things to us
through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches all
things, even the depths of God.
11 For who among people knows the things of
a person except that person's spirit within? So
too no one knows the things of God except the
Spirit of God.
12 But we have received not the spirit of the
world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we
may know the things freely given to us by God.

13 We also speak of these things, not in words
taught by human wisdom but in those taught by
the Spirit, explaining spiritual things with
spiritual words.
14 But the natural person does not accept the
things of the Spirit of God, for they are
foolishness to him, and he cannot understand
them because they are spiritually discerned.
15 But the spiritual person discerns all things,
yet is himself judged by no one.
16 For “who has known the mind of the Lord,
so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of
Christ.

3

1 And I, brothers, could not speak to you as
spiritual people, but as people of flesh, as infants
in Christ.
2 I gave you milk to drink, not solid food, for
you were not yet able to take it. Even now you
are still unable,
3 for you are still fleshly. For where jealousy
and strife are among you, are you not fleshly
and living in a merely human way?
4 For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and
another, “I to Apollos,” are you not merely
human?
5 What, then, is Apollos? And what is Paul?
Servants through whom you believed, each as
the Lord assigned.
6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the
growth.

7 So neither the one who plants nor the one
who waters is anything, but God, who gives the
growth.
8 The one who plants and the one who waters
are one, but each will receive his own reward
according to his own labor.
9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are
God's field, God's building.
10 According to the grace of God given to me, I
laid a foundation as a wise master builder, and
another builds on it. But let each take care how
he builds.
11 For no one can lay any foundation other
than the one laid, which is Jesus Christ.
12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation
with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or
straw,
13 each person's work will become evident, for
the day will make it known, because it will be
revealed with fire. And the fire itself will test
what kind of work each has done.
14 If the work someone has built on it remains,
he will receive a reward.
15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer
loss, but he himself will be saved, yet as through
fire.
16 Do you not know that you are God's temple
and that God's Spirit dwells in you?
17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will
destroy that person. For God's temple is holy,
and you are that temple.
18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone
among you thinks he is wise in this age, let him
become a fool so that he may become wise.

19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness
before God. For it is written, “He catches the
wise in their craftiness,”
20 and again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of
the wise, that they are futile.”
21 So let no one boast in human beings. For all
things are yours,
22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the
world or life or death or things present or things
to come, all are yours,
23 and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs
to God.

4

1 This is how people should regard us: as
servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries
of God.
2 Moreover, what is required of stewards is
that each be found faithful.
3 But to me it is a very small matter to be
judged by you or by a human court. I do not
even judge myself.
4 For I am aware of nothing against myself,
but this does not justify me. It is the Lord who
judges me.
5 So do not judge anything before the time,
until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what
is hidden in darkness and reveal the intentions
of hearts. Then each will receive praise from
God.
6 Now, brothers, I have applied these things to
myself and Apollos for your sake, so that in us
you may learn, “Do not go beyond what is

written," so that none of you may be puffed up
in favor of one against another.
7 For who makes you different? What do you
have that you did not receive? And if you
received it, why do you boast as though you had
not received it?
8 Already you are satisfied! Already you have
become rich! You have begun to reign without
us! If only you really did reign, so that we too
might reign with you!
9 For I think God has displayed us apostles last,
like men condemned to death, because we have
become a spectacle to the world, to angels and
human beings.
10 We are fools for Christ, but you are wise in
Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are
honored, but we are dishonored.
11 To this very hour we hunger and thirst, lack
clothing, are beaten, and have no home,
12 and we toil, working with our own hands.
When insulted, we bless; when persecuted, we
endure;
13 when slandered, we appeal. We have
become like the world's garbage, everyone's
refuse, to this very day.
14 I am not writing these things to shame you,
but to admonish you as my beloved children.
15 For though you have ten thousand
guardians in Christ, you do not have many
fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father
through the gospel.
16 Therefore I urge you, be imitators of me.

17 For this reason I sent Timothy to you, my
beloved child, faithful in the Lord. He will
remind you of my ways in Christ Jesus, just as I
teach everywhere in every church.
18 Now some have become puffed up, as
though I were not coming to you.
19 But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills,
and I will find out not the speech of those who
are puffed up, but their power.
20 For the kingdom of God is not in speech but
in power.
21 What do you want? Should I come to you
with a rod, or with love and a spirit of
gentleness?

5

1 It is widely reported that there is sexual
immorality among you, and of a kind not even
found among the Gentiles: a man has his
father's wife.
2 And you are puffed up! Should you not
rather have mourned, so that the one who did
this would be removed from among you?
3 For though absent in body but present in
spirit, I have already decided, as though I were
present, concerning the one who did this,
4 in the name of our Lord Jesus, when you and
my spirit are gathered together with the power
of our Lord Jesus,
5 to hand such a man over to Satan for the
destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be
saved on the day of the Lord.

6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know
that a little leaven leavens the whole batch of
dough?
7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a
new batch, as you are unleavened. For Christ,
our Passover, has been sacrificed.
8 So let us keep the feast, not with old leaven,
nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and
truth.

9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate
with sexually immoral people,
10 not meaning altogether the sexually
immoral of this world, or the greedy and
swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would
have to leave the world.
11 But now I have written to you not to
associate with anyone called a brother who is
sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater, a
reviler, a drunkard, or a swindler. Do not even
eat with such a person.
12 For what have I to do with judging
outsiders? Is it not those inside whom you
judge?
13 God judges those outside. “Remove the evil
person from among yourselves.”

6

1 Does any of you, having a dispute with
another, dare to go to court before the
unrighteous rather than before the saints?

2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge
the world? And if the world is judged by you,
are you unfit to judge the smallest matters?
3 Do you not know that we will judge angels?
How much more the matters of this life!
4 So if you have cases concerning this life, do
you appoint as judges those who have no
standing in the church?
5 I say this to your shame. Can it be that there
is not even one wise person among you who can
decide between brothers,
6 but brother goes to court against brother,
and that before unbelievers?
7 The very fact that you have lawsuits among
yourselves is already a defeat for you. Why not
rather be wronged? Why not rather be
defrauded?
8 But you yourselves do wrong and defraud,
and you do this to brothers!

9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will
not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be
deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor
idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who take the
passive role in sex with men, nor men who have
sex with men,
10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards,
nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the
kingdom of God.
11 And that is what some of you were. But you
were washed, you were sanctified, you were
justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by
the Spirit of our God.

12 All things are lawful for me, but not all

things are beneficial. All things are lawful for
me, but I will not be mastered by anything.
13 Food is for the stomach and the stomach for
food, but God will do away with both. The body
is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord,
and the Lord for the body.
14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise
us by his power.
15 Do you not know that your bodies are
members of Christ? Shall I then take the
members of Christ and make them members of
a prostitute? By no means!
16 Or do you not know that the one who joins
himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For
it says, “The two will become one flesh.”
17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is
one spirit with him.
18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a
person commits is outside the body, but the one
who practices sexual immorality sins against his
own body.
19 Or do you not know that your body is a
temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom
you have from God? And you are not your own,
20 for you were bought at a price. So glorify
God in your body.

7

1 Now concerning what you wrote: it is good
for a man not to have sexual relations with a
woman.
2 But because of sexual immorality, let each
man have his own wife and each woman her
own husband.

3 Let the husband fulfill his marital duty to his
wife, and likewise the wife to her husband.
4 The wife does not have authority over her
own body, but the husband does. Likewise, the
husband does not have authority over his own
body, but the wife does.
5 Do not deprive one another, except by
mutual agreement for a time, so that you may
devote yourselves to prayer. Then be together
again, so that Satan may not tempt you because
of your lack of self-control.
6 I say this as a concession, not as a command.
7 I wish everyone were as I am. But each has
his own gift from God, one in this way and
another in that.

8 Now I say to the unmarried and to widows
that it is good for them to remain as I am.
9 But if they do not exercise self-control, let
them marry, for it is better to marry than to
burn with passion.

10 To the married I give this command, not I
but the Lord: a wife must not separate from her
husband
11 (but if she does separate, let her remain
unmarried or be reconciled to her husband),
and a husband must not leave his wife.

12 To the rest I say, I and not the Lord: if a
brother has an unbelieving wife and she is
willing to live with him, he must not leave her.
13 And if a woman has an unbelieving
husband and he is willing to live with her, she
must not leave her husband.

14 For the unbelieving husband has been
sanctified through the wife, and the unbelieving
wife has been sanctified through the brother.
Otherwise your children would be unclean, but
now they are holy.
15 But if the unbeliever separates, let that
person separate. The brother or sister is not
enslaved in such cases. God has called us in
peace.
16 For how do you know, wife, whether you
will save your husband? Or how do you know,
husband, whether you will save your wife?
17 Only let each live as the Lord has assigned
to him and as God has called him. This is what I
direct in all the churches.
18 Was anyone called while circumcised? Let
him not seek to remove the mark of
circumcision. Has anyone been called while
uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised.
19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision
is nothing, but keeping God's commandments is
what matters.
20 Let each remain in the calling in which he
was called.
21 Were you called as a slave? Do not let it
trouble you. But if you can become free, take the
opportunity.
22 For the one called in the Lord as a slave is
the Lord's freedman. Likewise, the one called as
a free person is Christ's slave.
23 You were bought at a price. Do not become
slaves of human beings.
24 Brothers, let each remain with God in the
condition in which he was called.

25 Now concerning virgins, I have no
command from the Lord, but I give my
judgment as one who has received mercy from
the Lord to be faithful.
26 So I think that, because of the present
distress, it is good for a person to remain as he is.
27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek
release. Are you free of a wife? Do not seek a
wife.
28 But if you marry, you have not sinned, and
if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such
people will have affliction in the flesh, and I
wish to spare you.
29 This I say, brothers: the time has been
shortened. From now on, let those who have
wives be as though they had none,
30 and those who weep as though not weeping,
and those who rejoice as though not rejoicing,
and those who buy as though not possessing,
31 and those who use the world as though not
making full use of it. For the form of this world
is passing away.

32 I want you to be free from cares. The
unmarried man is concerned about the things of
the Lord, how he may please the Lord.
33 But the married man is concerned about the
things of the world, how he may please his wife,
34 and he is divided. The unmarried woman
and the virgin are concerned about the things of
the Lord, to be holy in both body and spirit. But
the married woman is concerned about the
things of the world, how she may please her
husband.

35 I say this for your own benefit, not to
ensnare you, but to promote what is proper and
devotion to the Lord without distraction.
36 But if anyone thinks he is acting improperly
toward his virgin daughter, if she is past the
usual age for marriage and it must be so, let him
do what he wishes; he does not sin. Let them
marry.
37 But the one who stands firm in his heart,
under no necessity and with authority over his
own will, and has decided in his own heart to
keep his virgin daughter unmarried, will do
well.
38 So the one who gives his own virgin
daughter in marriage does well, and the one
who does not give her in marriage will do better.
39 A wife is bound as long as her husband
lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to
marry whom she wishes, only in the Lord.
40 But in my judgment she is happier if she
remains as she is. And I think that I too have the
Spirit of God.

8

1 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols, we
know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge
puffs up, but love builds up.
2 If anyone thinks he knows something, he
does not yet know as he ought to know.
3 But if anyone loves God, he is known by him.
4 So concerning the eating of food sacrificed to
idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the
world and that there is no God but one.

5 For even if there are those called gods,
whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there
are many gods and many lords,
6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from
whom are all things and for whom we exist, and
one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all
things and through whom we exist.

7 But not everyone has this knowledge. Some,
because they are still accustomed to the idol, eat
the food as something sacrificed to an idol, and
their conscience, being weak, is defiled.
8 But food will not commend us to God. We are
no better if we eat and no worse if we do not eat.
9 But take care that this right of yours does not
become a stumbling block to the weak.
10 For if someone sees you who have
knowledge reclining at a meal in an idol's
temple, will not his conscience, weak as it is, be
encouraged to eat food sacrificed to idols?
11 For by your knowledge the weak person is
destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died.
12 So when you sin against the brothers and
wound their weak conscience, you sin against
Christ.
13 Therefore, if food causes my brother to
stumble, I will never eat meat, so that I may not
cause my brother to stumble.

9

1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I
not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work
in the Lord?

2 If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am
to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in
the Lord.
3 This is my defense to those who examine me:
4 Do we not have the right to eat and drink?
5 Do we not have the right to take along a
believing wife, as do the other apostles, the
brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?
6 Or are Barnabas and I the only ones who
have no right to refrain from working?
7 Who ever serves as a soldier at his own
expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not
eat its fruit? Who tends a flock and does not
feed on the flock's milk?
8 Am I saying these things in merely human
terms? Does not the law say these things too?
9 For it is written in the law of Moses, "You
shall not muzzle an ox while it is threshing." Is
God concerned about oxen?
10 Or does he say it entirely for our sake? For
it was written for our sake, because the one who
plows ought to plow in hope, and the one who
threshes in hope of receiving a share.
11 If we sowed spiritual things among you, is it
too much if we reap material things from you?
12 If others share in this right over you, do we
not even more? But we have not used this right.
Instead, we endure all things so that we may put
no obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.
13 Do you not know that those who perform
sacred duties eat from the temple, and those
who attend the altar share in what is offered on
the altar?

14 In the same way, the Lord directed that
those who proclaim the gospel should live from
the gospel.
15 But I have used none of these rights. And I
have not written these things so that this may be
done for me, for I would rather die than—no
one will nullify my boast!
16 For if I preach the gospel, I have no reason
to boast, for necessity is laid upon me. Woe to
me if I do not preach the gospel!
17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward.
But if unwillingly, I have been entrusted with a
stewardship.
18 What, then, is my reward? That when I
preach the gospel, I may offer it free of charge,
without making full use of my right in the
gospel.
19 For though I am free from all, I made myself
a slave to all, so that I might win more.
20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I
might win Jews. To those under the law, as one
under the law, though I myself am not under the
law, so that I might win those under the law.
21 To those without law, as one without law,
though not without God's law but under Christ's
law, so that I might win those without law.
22 To the weak I became weak, so that I might
win the weak. I have become all things to all, so
that by all means I might save some.
23 I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so
that I may share in it.
24 Do you not know that those who run in a
race all run, but only one receives the prize?

Run in such a way that you may obtain it.
25 Everyone who competes exercises
self-control in all things. They do it to receive a
perishable crown, but we an imperishable one.
26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as
one beating the air.
27 But I beat my body and make it my slave, so
that after preaching to others I myself may not
be disqualified.

10

1 For I do not want you to be unaware,
brothers, that our fathers were all under the
cloud and all passed through the sea.
2 And all were baptized into Moses in the
cloud and in the sea,
3 and all ate the same spiritual food,
4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For
they drank from a spiritual rock that followed
them, and the rock was Christ.
5 Yet God was not pleased with most of them,
for they were struck down in the wilderness.
6 Now these things became examples for us, so
that we would not desire evil things as they did.
7 Do not become idolaters as some of them did,
as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and
drink and rose up to play.”
8 Nor let us practice sexual immorality as
some of them did, and twenty-three thousand
fell in one day.
9 Nor let us put Christ to the test as some of
them did and were destroyed by snakes.

10 And do not grumble as some of them did
and were destroyed by the destroyer.
11 These things happened to them as
examples, and they were written to admonish
us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.
12 So let the one who thinks he stands take
care lest he fall.
13 No temptation has overtaken you except
what is common to human beings. But God is
faithful, and he will not allow you to be tempted
beyond what you can bear. With the temptation
he will also provide the way out, so that you
may be able to endure it.
14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.
15 I speak as to sensible people; judge for
yourselves what I say.
16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not
participation in the blood of Christ? The bread
that we break, is it not participation in the body
of Christ?
17 Because there is one loaf, we who are many
are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
18 Consider Israel according to the flesh: are
not those who eat the sacrifices participants in
the altar?
19 What, then, am I saying? That food
sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is
anything?
20 Rather, what they sacrifice they sacrifice to
demons and not to God, and I do not want you to
become participants with demons.
21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and
the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the

table of the Lord and the table of demons.
22 Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy?
Are we stronger than he?

23 All things are lawful, but not all things are
beneficial. All things are lawful, but not all
things build up.
24 Let no one seek his own good, but the good
of the other.
25 Eat whatever is sold in the meat market,
asking no questions for the sake of conscience,
26 for "the earth is the Lord's, and all that fills
it."
27 If an unbeliever invites you and you wish to
go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no
questions for the sake of conscience.
28 But if someone says to you, "This has been
offered in sacrifice," do not eat it, for the sake of
the one who informed you and for the sake of
conscience.
29 I mean not your own conscience, but the
other person's. For why is my freedom judged
by another's conscience?
30 If I partake with thanksgiving, why am I
maligned for what I give thanks for?

31 So whether you eat or drink or do anything,
do all things to the glory of God.
32 Give no cause for stumbling to Jews or
Greeks or the church of God,
33 just as I too please everyone in all things,
not seeking my own benefit but that of the
many, so that they may be saved.

11

1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

2 Now I praise you because you remember me
in everything and hold to the traditions just as I
handed them on to you.

3 But I want you to know that the head of
every man is Christ, the head of woman is man,
and the head of Christ is God.

4 Every man who prays or prophesies with his
head covered dishonors his head.

5 But every woman who prays or prophesies
with her head uncovered dishonors her head,
for it is one and the same as being shaved.

6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let
her also have her hair cut short. But if it is
shameful for a woman to have her hair cut short
or shaved, let her cover her head.

7 For a man ought not to cover his head, since
he is the image and glory of God, but woman is
the glory of man.

8 For man is not from woman, but woman
from man.

9 Nor was man created for woman, but
woman for man.

10 For this reason a woman ought to have
authority over her head, because of the angels.

11 Nevertheless, in the Lord neither is woman
independent of man nor man independent of
woman.

12 For just as woman is from man, so man is
born through woman, and all things are from
God.

13 Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a
woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?

14 Does not nature itself teach you that if a
man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him,
15 but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory?
For her long hair has been given as a covering.
16 But if anyone is inclined to be contentious,
we have no such practice, nor do the churches
of God.

17 Now in giving these instructions I do not
praise you, because you come together for the
worse rather than for the better.
18 For first of all, when you come together as a
church, I hear that divisions exist among you,
and in part I believe it.
19 For there must also be factions among you,
so that those who are approved may become
evident among you.
20 So when you come together in one place, it
is not to eat the Lord's Supper.
21 For in eating, each goes ahead with his own
supper, and one is hungry while another is
drunk.
22 Do you not have houses in which to eat and
drink? Or do you despise the church of God and
shame those who have nothing? What shall I
say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I do not
praise you.

23 For I received from the Lord what I also
handed on to you: that the Lord Jesus, on the
night he was handed over, took bread,
24 and after giving thanks, broke it and said,
"This is my body, which is for you. Do this in
remembrance of me."

25 In the same way he also took the cup after
supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in
my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, in
remembrance of me.”
26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink
the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he
comes.
27 So whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup
of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be
guilty of sin against the body and blood of the
Lord.
28 But let a person examine himself, and so eat
of the bread and drink of the cup.
29 For the one who eats and drinks without
discerning the body eats and drinks judgment
on himself.
30 For this reason many among you are weak
and sick, and a number have died.
31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not be
judged.
32 But when we are judged by the Lord, we are
disciplined so that we will not be condemned
with the world.
33 So then, my brothers, when you come
together to eat, wait for one another.
34 If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so
that you may not come together for judgment. I
will give instructions about the remaining
matters when I come.

12

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do
not want you to be unaware.

2 You know that when you were pagans, you
were led astray to mute idols, however you were
led.
3 Therefore I make known to you that no one
speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is
accursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,”
except by the Holy Spirit.
4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same
Spirit,
5 and varieties of services, but the same Lord,
6 and varieties of workings, but the same God
who works all things in all.
7 To each is given the manifestation of the
Spirit for the common good.
8 For to one is given through the Spirit a word
of wisdom, and to another a word of knowledge
according to the same Spirit,
9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to
another gifts of healings by the one Spirit,
10 to another workings of power, to another
prophecy, to another discernments of spirits, to
another various kinds of tongues, and to
another interpretation of tongues.
11 But one and the same Spirit works all these
things, distributing to each individually just as
he wills.
12 For just as the body is one and has many
members, and all the members of the body,
though many, are one body, so also is Christ.
13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into
one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether
slaves or free, and all were given one Spirit to
drink.

14 For the body is not one member but many.
15 If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I
do not belong to the body,” it does not for that
reason cease to belong to the body.
16 And if the ear says, “Because I am not an
eye, I do not belong to the body,” it does not for
that reason cease to belong to the body.
17 If the whole body were an eye, where would
hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where
would the sense of smell be?
18 But now God has placed the members, each
one of them, in the body as he wished.
19 If all were one member, where would the
body be?
20 But now there are many members, yet one
body.
21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no
need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I
have no need of you.”
22 On the contrary, the members of the body
that seem weaker are indispensable,
23 and those we think less honorable in the
body we clothe with greater honor, and our
unpresentable parts are treated with greater
modesty,
24 while our presentable parts have no need of
it. But God has composed the body, giving
greater honor to the member that lacked it,
25 so that there may be no division in the body,
but the members may have the same care for
one another.
26 If one member suffers, all the members
suffer together; if one member is honored, all

the members rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and
individually members of it.
28 And God has appointed in the church first
apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then
miracles, then gifts of healings, forms of help,
leadership, and various kinds of tongues.
29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all
teachers? Do all work miracles?
30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak in
tongues? Do all interpret?
31 But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And I
show you a still more excellent way.

13

1 If I speak in the tongues of human beings
and of angels, but have no love, I have become
resounding bronze or a clanging cymbal.
2 And if I have prophecy and know all
mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all
faith so as to move mountains, but have no love,
I am nothing.
3 And if I distribute all my possessions to feed
others, and if I hand over my body to be burned,
but have no love, I gain nothing.
4 Love is patient; love is kind. Love does not
envy, does not boast, is not puffed up,
5 does not behave indecently, does not seek its
own interests, is not provoked, does not keep
account of wrongs,
6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but
rejoices with the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes
all things, endures all things.
8 Love never fails. But prophecies will be done
away with, tongues will cease, and knowledge
will be done away with.
9 For we know in part and prophesy in part,
10 but when what is perfect comes, what is
partial will be done away with.
11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child,
thought like a child, reasoned like a child. When
I became a man, I put away childish things.
12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then
face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will
know fully, just as I have been fully known.
13 And now faith, hope, and love remain, these
three, but the greatest of these is love.

14

1 Pursue love, and eagerly desire spiritual
gifts, especially that you may prophesy.
2 For the one who speaks in a tongue speaks
not to human beings but to God, for no one
understands, but in spirit he speaks mysteries.
3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people
to build them up, exhort them, and comfort
them.
4 The one who speaks in a tongue builds
himself up, but the one who prophesies builds
up the church.
5 Now I wish you all spoke in tongues, but
even more that you would prophesy. The one
who prophesies is greater than the one who

speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that
the church may be built up.
6 Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in
tongues, how will I benefit you unless I speak to
you in revelation or knowledge or prophecy or
teaching?
7 Even lifeless things that produce sound,
whether a pipe or a lyre, must give distinct
notes; otherwise, how will what is played on the
pipe or lyre be recognized?
8 And if a trumpet gives an unclear sound,
who will prepare for battle?
9 So too with you: unless you give intelligible
speech with your tongue, how will what is
spoken be understood? For you will be speaking
into the air.
10 There are, perhaps, many kinds of
languages in the world, and none is without
meaning.
11 So if I do not know the meaning of the
language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker,
and the speaker a foreigner to me.
12 So too with you: since you are eager for
spiritual gifts, seek to abound in them for
building up the church.
13 Therefore let the one who speaks in a
tongue pray that he may interpret.
14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but
my mind is unfruitful.
15 What, then, shall I do? I will pray with the
spirit, but I will also pray with the mind. I will
sing with the spirit, but I will also sing with the
mind.

16 Otherwise, if you give a blessing in spirit,
how will someone in the position of the
uninformed say “Amen” to your thanksgiving,
since he does not know what you are saying?
17 For you give thanks well, but the other
person is not built up.
18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more
than all of you.
19 But in church I would rather speak five
words with my mind, so that I may instruct
others too, than ten thousand words in a tongue.
20 Brothers, do not be children in your
thinking. Be infants in evil, but mature in your
thinking.
21 In the Law it is written, “Through other
tongues and through the lips of others I will
speak to this people, and not even then will they
listen to me, says the Lord.”
22 So tongues are a sign not for believers but
for unbelievers, while prophecy is not for
unbelievers but for believers.
23 So if the whole church comes together in
one place and all speak in tongues, and
uninformed people or unbelievers come in, will
they not say you are out of your minds?
24 But if all prophesy and an unbeliever or an
uninformed person comes in, he is convicted by
all and examined by all.
25 The secrets of his heart become evident, and
so he will fall on his face and worship God,
declaring, “God is truly among you.”
26 What, then, is to be done, brothers? When
you come together, each has a psalm, a teaching,

a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let
all things be done for building up.
27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be
two, or at most three, and each in turn, and let
one interpret.
28 But if there is no interpreter, let him be
silent in church and speak to himself and to God.
29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the
others weigh what is said.
30 But if something is revealed to another who
is sitting there, let the first be silent.
31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that
all may learn and all be encouraged
32 (and the spirits of prophets are subject to
prophets,
33 for God is not a God of disorder but of
peace), as in all the churches of the saints.

34 Let the women be silent in the churches, for
they are not permitted to speak. Rather, let them
be in submission, as the Law also says.
35 And if they wish to learn anything, let them
ask their own husbands at home, for it is
shameful for a woman to speak in church.
36 Or did the word of God go out from you? Or
did it come to you alone?

37 If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual,
let him recognize that what I write to you is of
the Lord.
38 But if anyone does not recognize this, he is
not recognized.
39 So then, my brothers, eagerly desire to
prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

40 But let all things be done decently and in order.

15

1 Now I make known to you, brothers, the gospel I preached to you, which you also received and in which you stand,
2 through which you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
4 and that he was buried, and that he has been raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.
6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.
7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.
8 And last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.
9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God.
10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. Rather, I labored more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

11 So whether it was I or they, this is what we
preach, and this is what you believed.
12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as having been
raised from the dead, how do some among you
say there is no resurrection of the dead?
13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead,
neither has Christ been raised.
14 And if Christ has not been raised, our
proclamation is empty, and your faith is empty
too.
15 We are also found to be false witnesses
about God, because we testified against God that
he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if indeed
the dead are not raised.
16 For if the dead are not raised, neither has
Christ been raised.
17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith
is futile; you are still in your sins.
18 Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ
have also perished.
19 If we have hoped in Christ only for this life,
we are of all people most to be pitied.
20 But now Christ has been raised from the
dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen
asleep.
21 For since death came through a man,
resurrection of the dead also came through a
man.
22 For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ
all will be made alive.
23 But each in his own order: Christ the
firstfruits, then those who belong to Christ at his
coming,
24 then the end, when he hands over the
kingdom to God the Father, when he has brought

to nothing every rule and every authority and power.
25 For he must reign until he has put all
enemies under his feet.
26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death,
27 for “he subjected all things under his feet.”
But when it says that all things have been
subjected, it is clear that the one who subjected
all things to him is excepted.
28 And when all things have been subjected to
him, then the Son himself will also be subjected
to the one who subjected all things to him, so
that God may be all in all.

29 Otherwise, what will those do who are
baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised
at all, why are they baptized for them?
30 And why do we face danger every hour?
31 I die every day, as surely as I boast of you in
Christ Jesus our Lord.
32 If, in human terms, I fought with wild beasts
at Ephesus, what does it benefit me? If the dead
are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for
tomorrow we die.”
33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts
good morals.”
34 Come to your senses as you ought, and do
not sin, for some have no knowledge of God. I
say this to your shame.

35 But someone will say, “How are the dead
raised? With what kind of body do they come?”
36 You fool! What you sow does not come to
life unless it dies.

37 And what you sow is not the body that is to
be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or one of
the other kinds.
38 But God gives it a body as he wished, and to
each seed its own body.
39 Not all flesh is the same flesh: one kind is
human, another is the flesh of animals, another
of birds, and another of fish.
40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly
bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one kind,
and the glory of the earthly another.
41 The sun has one glory, the moon another
glory, and the stars another glory, for star differs
from star in glory.

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is
sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption.
43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It
is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.
44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a
spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is
also a spiritual one.
45 So it is written, “The first man, Adam,
became a living being”; the last Adam became a
life-giving spirit.
46 But the spiritual is not first, but the natural,
then the spiritual.
47 The first man is from the earth, made of
dust; the second man is from heaven.
48 As is the man of dust, so also are those of
dust, and as is the heavenly one, so also are
those who are heavenly.
49 And just as we have borne the image of the
man of dust, we will also bear the image of the

heavenly one.

50 Now I say this, brothers: flesh and blood
cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does
corruption inherit incorruption.
51 Look, I tell you a mystery: we will not all
sleep, but we will all be changed,
52 in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the
last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and
the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we
will be changed.
53 For this corruptible body must put on
incorruption, and this mortal body must put on
immortality.
54 And when this corruptible body puts on
incorruption and this mortal body puts on
immortality, then the saying that is written will
come to pass:
“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”
55 “Where, death, is your victory?
Where, death, is your sting?”
56 Now the sting of death is sin, and the power
of sin is the law.
57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the
victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be
steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the
work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not
in vain in the Lord.

16

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints,
do as I directed the churches of Galatia to do.

2 On the first day of every week, each of you
should set something aside and save it according
to how you prosper, so that collections will not
have to be made when I come.
3 When I arrive, I will send those you approve
with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem.
4 And if it is fitting for me to go too, they will
go with me.
5 I will come to you after I pass through
Macedonia, for I am going through Macedonia.
6 Perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend
the winter, so that you may help me on my way
wherever I go.
7 For I do not want to see you now just in
passing. I hope to stay with you for some time, if
the Lord permits.
8 But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost,
9 for a wide door for effective work has
opened to me, and there are many adversaries.
10 If Timothy comes, see that he has nothing to
fear among you, for he is doing the work of the
Lord, just as I am.
11 So let no one despise him. Help him on his
way in peace, so that he may come to me, for I
am expecting him with the brothers.
12 Now concerning our brother Apollos, I
strongly urged him to come to you with the
brothers. He was not at all willing to come now,
but he will come when he has an opportunity.
13 Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, be
courageous, be strong.
14 Let all that you do be done in love.
15 Now I urge you, brothers—you know the

household of Stephanas, that they are the
firstfruits of Achaia and have devoted
themselves to serving the saints—
16 to submit yourselves to people like these
and to everyone who joins in the work and
labors.
17 I rejoice at the arrival of Stephanas,
Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for they have made
up for your absence.
18 For they have refreshed my spirit and
yours. So recognize people like these.
19 The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and
Prisca greet you warmly in the Lord, together
with the church in their house.
20 All the brothers greet you. Greet one
another with a holy kiss.
21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own
hand.
22 If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be
accursed. Our Lord, come!
23 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.
24 My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.

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