



The Church That Had It All

Corinth



To the church at Corinth

- **Problems in Corinth**
 - “follow the leader” • too foolish
 - still babies • sexual immorality
 - going to law • marriage
 - conscience • ignorance • headship
 - communion • spiritual gifts
 - speaking in tongues • resurrection



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To the church at Corinth

- **sexual immorality**
 - not even named among the Gentiles
 - a man has his father's wife • puffed up
 - deliver such a one to Satan
 - purge out the old leaven
 - not to keep company with ... immoral
 - ... with anyone named a brother



To the church at Corinth

**Isn't there anything good about
the Corinthian situation?**



To the church at Corinth

“Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, (1)

- **called** - Lk 6:13 (chose 12); Jn 15:16 (Jesus chose); Acts 1:2ff; 2 Thess 2:12ff (apostolic “call” vs election “call”); Jude 1
- **apostle** - Acts 14:14 (Paul & Barnabas); 22:21 (to Gentiles); Rom 1:1; 2 Cor 1:1; 11:5 (not behind); Gal 1:1ff, 12-16; 1 Tim 1:1; 2:7
- **through the will of God** - Acts 9:15; Rom 8:28



To the church at Corinth

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: (2)

- **God's church** - Zech 12/13; Acts 20:28
- **sanctified** - Jn 17:17ff (truth); 1 Cor 6:9-11/Rom 1:7; Eph 5:26, purpose
- **called to be saints** - Rom 1:7; purpose; **call on name** - Acts 2; 22:16
- **with all in every place** - Rom 1:7; 10:12 (Jews/Gentiles); Acts 15:19



To the church at Corinth

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (3)

- **grace** - 2 Peter 1:2; 3:18; Greek greeting
- **peace** - Phil 4; Jewish greeting (infreq.-Tim/Titus; mercy, rejoice - James)
- **from God/Christ** - Jn 14:27 (peace from Christ); cf. Rom 1:7; 2Cor 1:2; Eph 1:2' 1 Pet 1:2 (connects - election/call, sanctification, obedience, sprinkling, blood, grace, peace)



To the church at Corinth

I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, (4)

- **thank my God** - 1 Thess 5:28; 2 Cor 8 (God's grace through Macedonians)
- **the grace of God** - Acts 11:23 (visible grace); Rom 5:1ff; Eph 2:8ff; Rom 4; 1Cor 1:3; 2 Cor 8:9; 9:14; 1 Tim 1:14
- **given ... by Jesus** - 1 Pet 5:8ff (esp 10ff)



To the church at Corinth

that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, (5)

- **you were enriched** - 2 Peter 1:3; 2 Cor 6:10-11
- **utterance** - (word) Jn 1:1;12:48ff; Rom 15:4 (written->learning->hope)
- **all knowledge** - Jn 5:44ff; 2 Cor 4:6 (light, knowledge, glory); 2 Cor 8:7-9/9:11 (abound in all, through Christ's grace); 2 Pet 1:1-4; 3:16ff; Col 1:9; 3:10



To the church at Corinth

even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, (6)

- **testimony** - Acts 1:8; 18:5 (testified of Christ); 20:21 ff/living martyrs
- **of Christ** - 1 Thess 2:13
- **confirmed in you** - (word) Jn 1:1;12:48ff; Heb 2:3; 2 Cor 3 (life)



To the church at Corinth

so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, (7)

- **come short in no gift** - Mt 19:20/Mk 10:21 (rich young man “lacked”); Lk 15:14 (“prodigal” wanted); Rom 3:23; 2 Pet 1:3; providence
- **eagerly waiting** - James 5:7-8; 1 Pet 4:13; 2 Pet 3:12ff; 1 Jn 3:2ff
- **the revelation** - word, truth, events (here the return of Christ)



To the church at Corinth

who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (8)

- **confirm** - establish; Mk 16:20; Acts 14:22 (continue to the end); Rom 14:4; 15:8; 2 Cor 1:21
- **to the end** - 1 Peter 1:9; Eph 5:27; Phil 1:6ff; 1 Th 5:23-24; 1 Pet 5:10
- **blameless** - Eph 1:3ff; 5:22ff (covenant of righteousness - Gen 12)



To the church at Corinth

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” (9)

- **God is faithful** - 1 Cor 10:13; 2 Cor 1:1ff
- **called into the fellowship** - Acts 2:42; 1 Jn 1:1ff
- **of His Son** - Gal 4:1ff; 1 Jn 3:1ff



To the church at Corinth

Lessons of hope in 1 Corinthians:

- Even in the midst of a troubled church, there can be hope (1 Cor 1:1-9)
- God is never so far away that he cannot be “found” (Acts 17)
- God’s standards never change, even when we do (1 Cor 1:10)
- We are never so far away that God cannot “find” us (Lk 15/prodigal)



To the church at Corinth

Lessons of hope in 1 Corinthians:

- God's provisions are always available and accessible ... if we seek/use them
- Failure to find God/access God's grace is always our "division" (Is 59:1ff)
- The "worst" church does not have to be the "worst" church (cf. Judges/Israel)
- The problems that plagued Corinth (1:10ff) **did not** have to exist

