

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Appeal to Unity

1:1 **P**AUL, ^acalled *as* an apostle of Jesus Christ ¹by ^bthe will of God, and ^cSosthenes our ^dbrother, ²to ^athe church of God which is at ^bCorinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, ¹saints ^cby calling, with all who in every place ^dcall upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their *Lord* and ours: ³^aGrace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴^aI thank ¹my God always concerning you, for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in everything you were ^aenriched in Him, in all ^bspeech and ^ball knowledge, ⁶even as ^athe testimony concerning Christ was confirmed ¹in you, ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift, ^aawaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸^awho shall also confirm you to the end, blameless in ^bthe day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹^aGod is faithful, through whom you were ^bcalled into ^cfellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹⁰Now ^aI exhort you, ^bbrethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all ¹agree, and there be no ²^cdivisions among you, but you be ³made complete in ^dthe same mind and in the same judgment. ¹¹For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's *people*, that there are quarrels among you. ¹²Now I mean this, that ^aeach one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of ^bApollos," and "I of ^cCephas," and "I of Christ." ¹³¹Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you ^abaptized ²in the name of Paul? ¹⁴¹I thank God that I ^abaptized none of you except ^aCrispus and ^bGaius, ¹⁵that no man should say you were baptized ¹in my name. ¹⁶Now I did baptize also the ^ahousehold of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other. ¹⁷^aFor Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, ^bnot in ¹cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.

The Wisdom of God

¹⁸For the word of the cross is to ^athose who ¹are perishing ^bfoolishness, but to us who ²are being saved it is ^cthe power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "^aI WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,

AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

²⁰^aWhere is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of ^bthis age? Has not God ^cmade foolish the wisdom of ^dthe world? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God ^athe world through its wisdom did not *come to* know God, ^bGod was well-pleased through the ^cfoolishness of the ¹message preached to ^dsave those who believe. ²²For indeed ^aJews ask for ¹signs, and Greeks search for wisdom; ²³but we preach ¹^aChrist crucified, ^bto Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles ^cfoolishness, ²⁴but to those who are ^athe called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ ^bthe power of God and ^cthe wisdom of God. ²⁵Because the ^afoolishness of God is wiser than men, and ^bthe weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For ¹consider your ^acalling, brethren, that there were ^bnot many wise according to ²the

flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; 27 but ^aGod has chosen the foolish things of ^bthe world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of ^bthe world to shame the things which are strong, 28 and the base things of ^athe world and the despised, God has chosen, ^bthe things that are not, that He might ^cnullify the things that are, 29 that ^ano ¹man should boast before God. 30 But ¹by His doing you are in ^aChrist Jesus, who became to us ^bwisdom from God, ²and ^crighteousness and ^dsanctification, and ^eredemption, 31 that, just as it is written, “^aLET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.”

^a Rom. 1:1

¹ Lit., *through*

^b Rom. 1:10; 2 Tim. 1:1

^c Acts 18:17

^d Acts 1:15

^a 1 Cor. 10:32

^b Acts 18:1

¹ Or, *holy ones*

^c Rom. 1:7; 8:28

^d Acts 7:59

^a Rom. 1:7

^a Rom. 1:8

¹ Some ancient mss. do not contain *my*

^a 2 Cor. 9:11

^b Rom. 15:14; 2 Cor. 8:7

^b Rom. 15:14; 2 Cor. 8:7

^a 2 Thess. 1:10; 1 Tim. 2:6; 2 Tim. 1:8; Rev. 1:2

¹ Or, *among*

^a Luke 17:30; Rom. 8:19, 23; Phil. 3:20; 2 Pet. 3:12

^a Rom. 8:19; Phil. 1:6; Col. 2:7; 1 Thess. 3:13; 5:23

^b Luke 17:24, 30; 1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Cor. 1:14; Phil. 1:6, 10; 2:16; 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:2

^a Deut. 7:9; Is. 49:7; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 1:18; 1 Thess. 5:24; 2 Thess. 3:3

^b Rom. 8:28

^c 1 John 1:3

^a Rom. 12:1

^b Rom. 1:13

¹ Lit., *speak the same thing*

² Lit., *schisms*

^c 1 Cor. 11:18

³ Or, *united*

^d Rom. 12:16; Phil. 1:27

^a Matt. 23:8-10; 1 Cor. 3:4

^b Acts 18:24; 1 Cor. 3:22

^c John 1:42; 1 Cor. 3:22; 9:5; 15:5

¹ Or, *Christ has been divided!* or, *Christ is divided!*

^a Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38

² Lit., *into*

¹ Some ancient mss. read *I give thanks that*
^a Acts 18:8
^a Acts 18:8
^b Rom. 16:23
¹ Lit., *into*
^a 1 Cor. 16:15, 17
^a John 4:2; Acts 10:48
^b 1 Cor. 2:1, 4, 13; 2 Cor. 10:10; 11:6
¹ Lit., *wisdom*
^a Acts 2:47; 2 Cor. 2:15; 4:3; 2 Thess. 2:10
¹ Or, *perish*
^b 1 Cor. 1:21, 23, 25; 2:14; 4:10
² Or, *are saved*
^c Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:24
^a Is. 29:14
^a Job 12:17; Is. 19:11f.; 33:18
^b Matt. 13:22; 1 Cor. 2:6, 8; 3:18, 19
^c Rom. 1:20ff.
^d John 12:31; 1 Cor. 1:27f.; 6:2; 11:32; James 4:4
^a John 12:31; 1 Cor. 1:27f.; 6:2; 11:32; James 4:4
^b Luke 12:32; Gal. 1:15; Col. 1:19
^c 1 Cor. 1:18, 23, 25; 2:14; 4:10
¹ Lit., *preaching*
^d Rom. 11:14; James 5:20
^a Matt. 12:38
¹ Or, *attesting miracles*
¹ I.e., Messiah
^a 1 Cor. 2:2; Gal. 3:1; 5:11
^b Luke 2:34; 1 Pet. 2:8
^c 1 Cor. 1:18, 21, 25; 2:14; 4:10
^a Rom. 8:28
^b Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:18
^c Luke 11:49; 1 Cor. 1:30
^a 1 Cor. 1:18, 21, 23; 2:14; 4:10
^b 2 Cor. 13:4
¹ Lit., *see*
^a Rom. 11:29
^b Matt. 11:25; 1 Cor. 1:20; 2:8
² Or, *human standards*
^a James 2:5
^b 1 Cor. 1:20
^b 1 Cor. 1:20
^a 1 Cor. 1:20
^b Rom. 4:17
^c Job 34:19; 1 Cor. 2:6; 2 Thess. 2:8; Heb. 2:14

^a Eph. 2:9

¹ Lit., *flesh*

¹ Lit., *of Him*

^a Rom. 8:1; 1 Cor. 4:15

^b 1 Cor. 1:24

² Or, *both*

^c Jer. 23:5f.; 33:16; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:9

^d 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11; 1 Thess. 5:23

^e Rom. 3:24; Eph. 1:7, 14; Col. 1:14

^a Jer. 9:23f.; 2 Cor. 10:17

ⁱ *The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.