

Workbook On 1 Corinthians



The Temple of Apollo 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: grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 1:2-3)

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(The above outline is by Merrill C. Tenney, *New Testament Survey*, pp. 296–297)

1 CORINTHIANS: THE PROBLEMS AT CORINTH

I. SALUTATION (1:1–9)

1. How was Paul “called to be an apostle”? Are men “called” to preach today (1:1)?
2. What does it mean to “call on the name of Jesus Christ” (1:2)?
3. Why was Paul thankful to God (1:4)? Be specific!
4. How was “the testimony of Christ” confirmed in the Corinthians (1:6)?
5. What are the implications of the phrase, “that you come short in no gift” (1:7)?
6. What is the “fellowship of His Son” (1:7)?

II. REPLY TO REPORT FROM “HOUSE OF CHLOE” (1:10—6:20)

A. Party Strife (1:10—3:23)

1. Define “divisions” (1:10) [Gr. *schisma*, SR# 4978].
2. Who told Paul about the problems at Corinth (1:11)?
3. What does the phrase “I am of” mean (1:12)?

4. What would be required before one could say they were “of Paul” (1:13)?
5. Why was Paul glad he had not baptized many people (1:14–15)?
6. What qualifications (*if any*) must one possess before they can baptize (1:14–17)?
7. How has God chosen to “save those who believe” (1:21)?
8. What type of “sign” did the Jews request (1:22)? Why?
9. What type of “wisdom” did the Greeks seek (1:22)? Why?
10. What is the “foolishness of God” (1:25)?
11. How can “foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise” (1:27)?
12. What is “righteousness and sanctification and redemption” (1:30)?
13. What one thing did Paul preach (2:1–2)? What would this include?
14. How did Paul give “demonstration of the Spirit and of power” (2:4)?
15. Why did Paul refrain from using “persuasive words of human wisdom” (2:5)?

16. What is it that “eye has not seen, nor ear heard” (2:9)? Be specific!
17. How did God choose to reveal His will to Paul (2:10)?
18. How can one know the mind of God (2:10–11)?
19. What is “the mind of Christ” (2:16)?
20. Why did Paul have difficulty in speaking to the Corinthians (3:1)?
21. What is the “milk” of the word of God (3:2)?
22. What evidence did Paul have that these brethren were carnal (3:3)?
23. Who is responsible for “increase” (3:6)?
24. What is the “foundation” spoken of in 1 Corinthians 3:10?
25. What “Day” is referred to in 1 Corinthians 3:13?
26. In what way are we the “temple of God” (3:16)?
27. How could we defile this temple (3:17)?

28. How are “all things” ours (3:21)?

B. Defense of Paul’s Ministry (4:1–21)

1. How was Paul a steward “of the mysteries of God” (4:1)?

2. How important was it for Paul to be judged by the brethren (4:3)?

3. Are we allowed to “judge” *anything* before the Lord returns (4:5)?

4. What had Paul “figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos” (4:6)? Why?

5. How had the Corinthians “reigned as kings” (4:8)?

6. Had did God “display” the apostles (4:9–13)? Why?

7. How is one “begotten through the gospel” (4:15)?

8. In what ways should we “imitate” Paul (4:16)?

9. Why did Paul send Timothy to Corinth (4:17)?

10. Explain the phrase, “the kingdom of God is not in word but in power” (4:20).

C. Criticism of Immorality (5:1–13)

1. What specific act of immorality was found in the church at Corinth (5:1)?
2. How had the Corinthian brethren treated this immorality (5:2)?
3. What action were the brethren to take? When (5:4–5)?
4. What was the purpose for this action (5:5)?
5. Why did Paul bring up the use of “leaven” (5:6)?
6. Are we to be totally separate from the world (5:9–10)?
7. What does it mean to “not keep company with” (5:11)?
8. Are we to make “judgements” on those who are “inside” (5:12–13)?

D. Criticism of Lawsuits (6:1–11)

1. Why were some of the Corinthians going “to law before the unrighteous” (6:1)?
2. Who should have been able to settle these matters (6:4–5)?
3. Instead of going to law before unbelievers, what should they have done (6:7–8)?

4. Describe the moral life of the Corinthians before their conversion (6:9–11).

E. Reply to Libertinism (6:12–20)

1. How could “all things be lawful” for Paul (6:12)?

2. What is the purpose of the body (6:13)?

3. Explain how “every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body” (6:18).

4. How is our body the “temple of the Holy Spirit” (6:19)?

III. REPLY TO QUESTIONS IN LETTER (7:1—16:9)

A. Marriage (7:1–24)

1. According to 1 Corinthians 7:2, what is one purpose of marriage?

2. Define “affection” {KJV “benevolence”} (7:3) [Gr. *eunoia*, SR# 2132].

3. Under what circumstances may one spouse “deprive” the other of the “affection” due (7:5)?

4. Explain the phrase, “it is better to marry than to burn” (7:9).

5. Was Paul giving his personal opinion in 1 Corinthians 7:10? Explain.
6. How is “the unbelieving husband sanctified by the wife” (7:14)?
7. Define “bondage” (7:15) [Gr. *douloo*, SR# 1402].
8. Why are we to “remain in the same calling” as when we were called (7:20)?

B. Virgins (7:25–40)

1. Was Paul giving his personal opinion in 1 Corinthians 7:25? Explain.
2. What “present distress” was under consideration (7:26)?
3. What was Paul’s advice in view of the “present distress” (7:27–31)?
4. What do the unmarried “care” for (7:32)?
5. What do the married “care” for (7:33)?
6. How long is a wife “bound by law” to her husband (7:39)?

C. Things Sacrificed to Idols (8:1—11:1)

1. In this context, what does knowledge do? What does love do (8:1)?

2. What problem was there in eating “things offered to idols” (8:4)?
3. What “knowledge” was lacking in some (8:7)?
4. Is there any harm in eating food offered to idols (8:8)?
5. How could your liberty be a stumbling block to another (8:9)?
6. What violation of conscience is discussed in 1 Corinthians 8:10?
7. How could we “wound” the “weak conscience” of another (8:12)?
8. Instead of harming a brother in Christ, what was Paul willing to do (8:13)?
9. What was Paul’s “seal of apostleship” (9:2)?
10. What things did Paul mention in his defense (9:3–9)?
11. What was the principle behind the command to “not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain” (9:9)?
12. What “right” had Paul not exercised (9:12)?
13. How do “those who preach the gospel live from the gospel” (9:14)?

14. Why did Paul say “woe is me if I do not preach the gospel” (9:16)?
15. Define “stewardship” {KJV “dispensation”} (9:17) [Gr. *oikonomia*, SR# 3623].
16. Was Paul playing the part of a hypocrite in 1 Corinthians 9:16–22? Explain.
17. How are we to run our race (9:24)?
18. What reward is waiting for us at the end of our race (9:25)?
19. Why did Paul have to “discipline” his body daily (9:27)?
20. How were the Israelites “baptized into Moses” (10:2)?
21. Who or what was the “spiritual Rock that followed them” (10:4)?
22. What are we to learn from the “example” of the Israelites (10:5–11)?
23. How could we “tempt Christ” (10:9)?
24. Why do we have a record of the events from the Old Testament (10:11)?
25. What comfort should we receive from 1 Corinthians 10:13?

26. Define “communion” (10:16) [Gr. *koinonia*, SR# 2844].

27. To whom did the Gentiles sacrifice (10:20)?

28. How could we “have fellowship with demons” (10:20)?

29. How could “all things” be lawful to Paul (10:23)?

30. Under what circumstances should we “ask no questions” (10:27)?

31. In what ways are we to imitate Paul (11:1)?

D. Problems of Worship (11:2–34)

1. What are the “traditions” in 1 Corinthians 11:2?

2. How could a man dishonor God in prayer (11:4)?

3. In what two acts was a woman to have her head “covered” (11:5)?

4. Is “shameful” the same as “sinful” in 1 Corinthians 11:6?

5. What act is shameful for a man (11:14)?

6. What type of covering has God given women (11:15)?
7. What “custom” is under consideration in 1 Corinthians 11:16?
8. Why did the Corinthians “come together in one place” (11:20)?
9. How did some of the Corinthians despise the church of God (11:22)?
10. Why do we partake of the Lord’s Supper (11:24–25)?
11. How do we “proclaim” the Lord’s death in partaking of the Lord’s Supper (11:26)?
12. How could one partake of the Lord’s Supper in an unworthy manner? Is it ever sinful for one to partake of the Lord’s Supper (11:27)?
13. What are the consequences of partaking of the Lord’s Supper in an “unworthy manner” (11:28–29)?
14. Explain the phrase, “wait for one another” (11:33)?
15. If one is hungry for physical food where should they go (11:34)?

E. Spiritual Gifts (12:1—14:40)

1. Explain how “no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit” (12:3).

2. 1 Corinthians 12:7–10 lists nine different spiritual gifts—please explain the purpose of each one of the following gifts:

a. “the word of wisdom”

b. “the word of knowledge”

c. “faith”

d. “gifts of healing”

e. “working of miracles”

f. “prophecy”

g. “discerning of spirits”

h. “different kinds of tongues”

i. “the interpretation of tongues”

3. What role did the Spirit play in our being “baptized into one body” (12:13)?

4. How did God “set the members” in the body (12:18)?

5. Please answer the series of questions Paul asked in 1 Corinthians 12:29–30.
- a. Are all apostles?
 - b. Are all prophets?
 - c. Are all teachers?
 - d. Are all workers of miracles?
 - e. Do all have gifts of healings?
 - f. Do all speak with tongues?
 - g. Do all interpret?
6. What is the “more excellent way” (12:31)?
7. What kind of *knowledge* and *faith* is spoken of in 1 Corinthians 13:2?
8. How and why does love “believe all things” (13:7)?
9. When will prophecies fail (13:8)?
10. What is “that which is perfect” (13:10)?
11. What did Paul “see in a mirror dimly” (13:12)?
12. Why is love greater than faith and hope (13:13)?
14. Why was the gift of prophesy a gift to be desired (14:1–3)?

15. How would “he who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church” (14:4)?
16. What advantage did speaking in tongues have by itself (14:6)?
17. Why should one with the gift of tongues “pray that he may interpret” (14:13)?
18. Why would one say “Amen” at the end of someone’s prayer (14:16)?
19. 1 Corinthians 14:21 is a quotation from what Old Testament passage? What group of people was this verse speaking of? Why?
20. What is the purpose of speaking in tongues (14:22)?
21. Why would an unbeliever think the Christians at Corinth were “out of their minds” if they heard them speak in tongues (14:23)?
22. According to 1 Corinthians 14:26, what was the public worship assembly like at Corinth before Paul wrote this letter?
23. How many individuals were to speak in tongues during a worship service (14:27)? What were they to do if there was no interpreter?
24. What is to happen if a prophet received a revelation while another prophet was speaking (14:29–30)?

25. Could the prophets control the gift of prophesy (14:31–32)?

26. Define “silent” (14:34) [Gr. *sigao*, SR# 4601].

27. Does 1 Corinthians 14:35 mean that women can never speak in the public assembly under any circumstances? Explain your answer.

F. The Resurrection of the Body (15:1–58)

1. How did “Christ die for our sins according to the Scriptures” (15:3)?

2. Who was the last person to see Jesus (15:8)?

3. How was Paul “born out of due time” (15:8)?

4. What proof did Paul offer to show that the grace of God was not shown on him in vain (15:10)?

5. List the consequences of the doctrine which denies the resurrection (15:12–19).

6. How is Christ “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (15:20)?

7. What will happen when Christ returns (15:24–28)?

8. What is the baptism “for the dead” (15:29)?

9. How did Paul “die daily” (15:31)?
10. How and when did Paul “fight with beasts at Ephesus” (15:32)?
11. Why was the question about how the dead would rise up foolish (15:35–38)?
12. What are the “celestial bodies” and the “terrestrial bodies” (15:40)?
13. Whose image will we bear after the resurrection (15:49)?
14. When, where and why will we be changed (15:51)?
15. How is “death swallowed up in victory” (15:54)?
16. In view of the resurrection, what should our attitude be (15:58)?

G. The Collection (16:1–9)

1. Why was the collection taken (16:1)?
2. When and where was the collection to be taken (16:2)?
3. Where was Paul hoping to spend the winter (16:6)?

4. Where was Paul going to “tarry” until Pentecost (16:8)? Why?

IV. CONCLUDING SALUTATIONS (16:10–24)

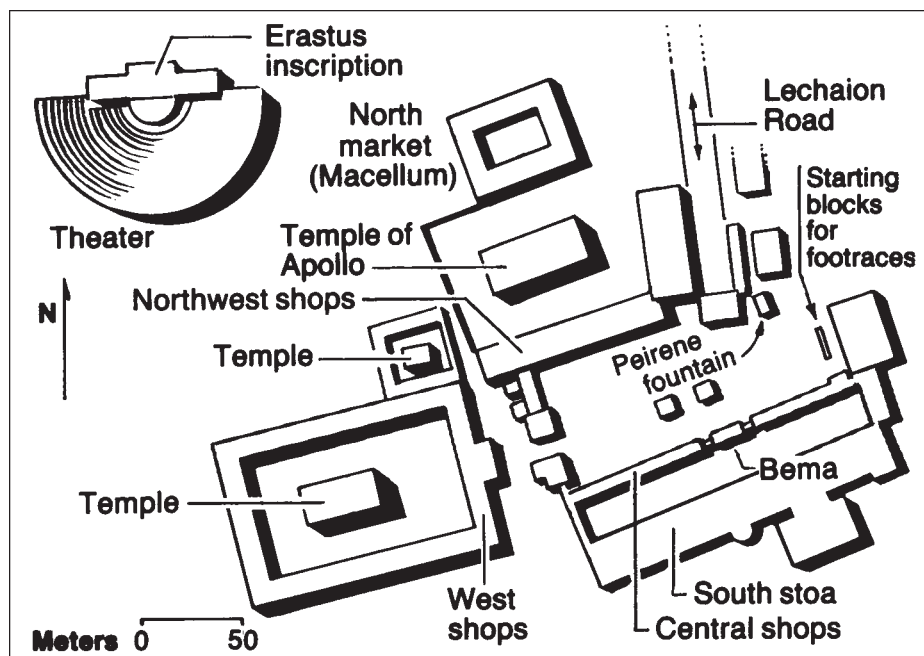
1. Why would some “despise” Timothy (16:11)?

2. What do we know about Apollos from other passages (16:12)?

3. Why was Paul glad for the arrival of Stephanas, Fortunatus and Achaicus (16:17)?

4. What do we know about Priscilla and Aquila from other passages (16:19)?

5. Why would some be accursed (16:22)?



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City Streets and Acrocorinth



Sacred Fountain in Agora



Ex Votos from Sanctuary of Asklepios



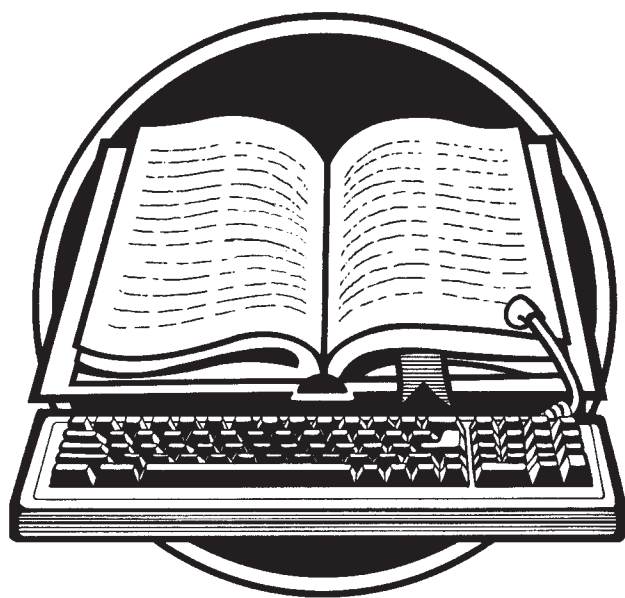
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