

GREETING

1 Paul,^a called as an apostle^b of Christ Jesus by God's will,^c and Sosthenes^d our brother:

a Christian known in Corinth. poss. same guy as Acts 18:17

2 To the church of God at Corinth,^e to those sanctified^f in Christ Jesus, called^g as saints, with all those in every place who call on the name^h of Jesus Christ, our Lord—both their Lord and ours.

All Christians in every place are God's Holy people by calling

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Fatherⁱ and the Lord Jesus Christ.

THANKSGIVING

4 I always thank^j my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus, **5** that you were enriched in him^k in every way, in all speech and all knowledge. **6** In this way, the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you,^m **7** so that you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly waitⁿ for the revelation^o of our Lord Jesus

Christ .⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end,^p so that you will be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.^q ⁹ God is faithful;^r you were called by him^s into fellowship with his Son,^t Jesus Christ our Lord.

DIVISIONS AT CORINTH

¹⁰ Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, that there be no divisions among you, and that you be united with the same understanding and the same conviction . ¹¹ For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by members of Chloe's people, that there is rivalry ^u among you. ¹² What I am saying is this: One of you says, "I belong to Paul,"^v or "I belong to Apollos,"^w or "I belong to Cephas,"^x or "I belong to Christ."^y ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul

crucified for you? Or were you baptized in Paul's name? ¹⁴ I thank God^{A,B} that I baptized none of you except Crispus^z and Gaius,^{aa} ¹⁵ so that no one can say you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did, in fact, baptize the household^{ab} of Stephanas;^{ac} beyond that, I don't recall if I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross^{ad} of Christ will not be emptied of its effect.

CHRIST THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved.^{ae} ¹⁹ For it is written,

These are links
the wisdom is not words
but Christ

¹⁹ I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and I will set aside the intelligence of the

^A Other mss omit *God*

^B Or *I am thankful*

intelligent.^{C,af}

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the teacher of the law?^D Where is the debater of this age?^{ag} Hasn't God made the world's wisdom foolish? ²¹ For since, in God's wisdom, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of what is preached. ²² For the Jews ask for signs^{ah} and the Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified,^{ai} a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles.^E ²⁴ Yet to those who are called,^{aj} both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, ²⁵ because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than

^D Or *scholar*

^E Other *mss* read *Greeks*

human strength.

BOASTING ONLY IN THE LORD

Think of what you've seen

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, consider your calling : Not many were wise from a human perspective,^F not many powerful,^{ak} not many of noble birth.

²⁷ Instead, God has chosen^{al} what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen what is weak in the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God

has chosen what is insignificant and despised in the world^{am}—what is viewed as nothing—to bring to nothing what is viewed as something, ²⁹ so that

no one^G may boast in his presence.^{an} ³⁰ It is from him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God for us—our righteousness,^{ao}

sanctification,^{ap} and redemption^{aq} ³¹—in order

duet 7:7

^F *Lit wise according to the flesh*

^G *Lit that not all flesh*

that, as it is written:^a  **Let the one who boasts,**

boast in the Lord.^{A,b}

Sections of the letter

1. Greeting and Thanksgiving (1:1-1:9)
2. Wisdom of the cross (1:10-4:21)
3. Issues of Impurity (5:1-7:40)
4. The gospel freedom and love (8:1-11:1)
5. Community Worship (11:2-14:40)
6. Resurrection (15)
7. Conclusion (16)

Occasions for writing:

1 – 1:11 The first mention of why Paul is writing. He had heard from others that there were divisions among the church. This letter seeks to address those division.

2– 5:1 Severe sexual immorality is being reported among Corinth.

3– 5:9 indicates Paul wrote an earlier letter to Corinth. This letter is no longer known, but Corinth seems to have issues previously regarding sexual immorality.

4 – 7:1 The church in Corinth specifically asks questions regarding sexual immorality.

5 – 11:18 – Misconduct and division during the Lords Supper

6- 15:12 issues regarding feelings of resurrection