

# PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

## 1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 1:1-3 INTRODUCTION

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“WHAT JESUS CHRIST SEES IN HIS CHURCH”**

*HOW TO BE A CHURCH THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Corinthians, Carnality, Sanctification, Sin, Holiness**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:1-3**

### 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes *our* brother, :2 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: :3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### In Taking a Trip.

There's The Planning, Preparing & The Packing...

What was Paul and his missionary team going to take with them. Who were they going to take – and like any trip, what were they going to wear?

## What Was Ringing Hot in Believers Hearts and Ears

### Acts 1:6-8

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” :7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. :8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

### Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. :19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, :20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.”

## Background Info:

*The church of Corinth was born in 50 A.D. - out of Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary journey which resulted in 9 major stops before returning back to Israel. Corinth was the 8<sup>th</sup> stop. It appears that the 7<sup>th</sup> stop, before Corinth, was a reminder to Paul – "stay true to the Gospel message and forget about human philosophies..."*

### 1 Corinthians 2:1

And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. :2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

## Background Info:

*The Book of Romans was written from Corinth, Rome's most affluent, advanced, and economically powerful province in the empire. - - but with success, the human nature easily forgets God... "ancient pagan religions were practiced everywhere. 7 new greek cults were being born by the day.... "Spirituality" was cool...*

## We Can See and Hear What Corinth was Like

*Paul defines the state of the empire by Corinth's example. Thus Romans 1:18-31 was a graphic indictment against paganism – the church had lost its light.*

### Romans 1:18

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, :19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. :20 For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, :21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. :22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, :23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. :24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, :25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. :26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. :27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. :28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; :29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, :30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, :31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; :32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

# Paul was describing the “Corinthian Lifestyle”

In Fact – If You Wanted to Insult someone in those days  
you would say; - - “what a Corinthian”

but it was to this kind of lifestyle the true gospel went  
and transformed the lives of those who had enough of what cannot last.

**The Power of The Gospel Message;**  
*It's pre-programmed by the Lord to answer the hearts cry*