

God Chooses His Ministers

(1 Corinthians 1)

1 Paul, called as an apostle of **Jesus Christ** by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,

Christ Jesus Sanctifies Individuals as Saints

2 To the church of **God** which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in **Christ Jesus**, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, their Lord and ours:

God is Gracious (1)

The Father Supplies Grace;
The Father Supplies Peace

3 Grace to you and peace from **God our Father**

Jesus Christ Supplies
Grace; Jesus Christ
Supplies Peace

and the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

Christ Jesus is the Channel of
God's Grace to Saints

4 I thank my **God** always concerning you for the grace of **God** which was given you in **Christ Jesus**,

Christ Jesus Enriches Saints
in All Speech; Christ Jesus
Enriches Saints in All
Knowledge

5 that in everything you were enriched in **Him**, in all speech and all knowledge,

6 even as the testimony concerning **Christ** was confirmed in you,

Jesus Christ will Return

7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our **Lord Jesus Christ**,

Jesus Christ will Confirm the
Saints Blameless at His Return

8 **who** will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

God Called Saints into Fellowship with Jesus Christ

God is Faithful (1); Jesus
Christ is God's Son

9 **God** is faithful, through **whom** you were called into fellowship with **His Son, Jesus Christ**

10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you.

12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of **Christ**."

13 Has **Christ** been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,

15so that no one would say you were baptized in my name.

16Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.

17For **Christ** did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of **Christ** would not be made void.

God Pours out His Power for Salvation

18For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of **God**.

19For it is written,

"I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,
AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

God has Made Worldly Wisdom Look Foolish

20Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not **God** made foolish the wisdom of the world?

21For since in the wisdom of **God** the world through its wisdom did not come to know **God**, **God** was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

22For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom;

23but we preach **Christ** crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,

Christ Crucified Reveals the Power of God; Christ Crucified Reveals the Wisdom of God; God is Wiser Than Mankind; God is Stronger Than Mankind

24but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ** the power of **God** and the wisdom of **God**.

25Because the foolishness of **God** is wiser than men, and the weakness of **God** is stronger than men.

26For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;

God has Chosen the Foolish Things of the World to Shame the Wise; God has Chosen the Weak Things of the World to Shame the Strong; God has Chosen the Despised Things of the World; God has Chosen the Things that are Not to Nullify the Things that Are; God has Chosen the Things that are Not so No Man May Boast

27but **God** has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and **God** has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,

28and the base things of the world and the despised **God** has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are,

29so that no man may boast before **God**.

God Enabled Saints to be in Christ Jesus

Christ Jesus Became, to Saints, Wisdom from God; Christ Became, to Saints, Righteousness; Christ Became, to Saints, Sanctification; Christ Became, to Saints, Redemption

30But by **His** doing you are in **Christ Jesus**, who became to us wisdom from **God**, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

31so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

(1 Corinthians 2)

1And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of **God**.

2For I determined to know nothing among you except **Jesus Christ**, and **Him** crucified.

3I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling,

The Spirit Demonstrates Power so that Saints' Faith will Rest on God's Power

4and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the **Spirit** and of power,

5so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of **God**.

6Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away;

God Planned the Lord's Crucifixion Before the Ages

7but we speak **God's** wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which **God** predestined before the ages to our glory;

8the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified **the Lord of glory**;

9but just as it is written,

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,
AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

God Revealed His Plan Through the Spirit

The Spirit Searches All Things

10For to us **God** revealed them through the **Spirit**; for the **Spirit** searches all things, even the depths of **God**.

The Spirit Searches the Depths of God; The Spirit Knows the Thoughts of God

11For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of **God** no one knows except the **Spirit of God**.

12Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the **Spirit** who is from **God**, so that we may know the things freely given to us by **God**,

The Spirit Teaches Saints the Thoughts of God

13which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the **Spirit**, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

14But a natural man does not accept the things of the **Spirit of God**, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

15But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one.

16For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of **Christ**.

(1 Corinthians 3)

1And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in **Christ**.

2I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able,

3for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

4For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not mere men?

The Lord Gives Opportunity to Minister

5What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as **the Lord** gave opportunity to each one.

6I planted, Apollos watered, but **God** was causing the growth.

7So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but **God** who causes the growth.

8Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

God Grants Opportunity to Work with Him

9For we are **God's** fellow workers; you are **God's** field, **God's** building.

God is Gracious (2)

10According to the grace of **God** which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

Jesus is the Foundation of God's Spiritual Building

11For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is **Jesus Christ**.

12Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

13each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

14If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

15If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The Spirit Dwells in the Community of Saints

16 Do you not know that you are a temple of **God** and that the **Spirit of God** dwells in you?

God Will Judge Anyone Who Damages the Community of Saints

17 If any man destroys the temple of **God**, **God** will destroy him, for the temple of **God** is holy, and that is what you are.

God is Wiser Than Mankind (2)

18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.

19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before **God**. For it is written, "He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";

20 and again, "THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS."

21 So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you,

22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you,

Christ is Head of the Community of Saints; God is Head of Christ

23 and you belong to **Christ**; and **Christ** belongs to **God**.

(1 Corinthians 4)

God is Judge

1 Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of **Christ** and stewards of the mysteries of **God**.

2 In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.

3 But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself.

God is the Judge of His Servants

4 For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the **Lord**.

God Determines Who Deserves Praise

5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the **Lord** comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from **God**.

6 Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what is written, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

7 For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

8 You are already filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and

indeed, I wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you.

9For, I think, **God** has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

10We are fools for **Christ's** sake, but you are prudent in **Christ**; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor.

11To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless;

12and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure;

13when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now.

14I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.

15For if you were to have countless tutors in **Christ**, yet you would not have many fathers, for in **Christ Jesus** I became your father through the gospel.

16 Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me.

17 For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the **Lord**, and he will remind you of my ways which are in **Christ**, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

18Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you.

God Rules a Kingdom of Power

19 But I will come to you soon, if the **Lord** wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power.

20For the kingdom of **God** does not consist in words but in power.

21What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

(1 Corinthians 5)

1It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

2You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

3For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present.

4In the name of our **Lord Jesus**, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our **Lord Jesus**,

5I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the **Lord Jesus**.

6Your boasting is not good Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?

Christ is the Fulfilment of the Passover Feast

7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For **Christ** our Passover also has been sacrificed.

8Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

9I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

10I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world.

11But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

12For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church?

13But those who are outside, **God** judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

(1 Corinthians 6)

1 Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before the saints?

2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

3Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?

4So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who are of no account in the church?

5I say this to your shame Is it so, that there is not among you one wise man who will be able to decide between his brethren,

6but brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers?

7Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

8On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud. You do this even to your brethren.

9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of **God**? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

10nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of **God**.

Jesus Christ Sanctified Those in God's Kingdom; Jesus Christ Justified Those in God's Kingdom; The Spirit is the Agent of Sanctification

11Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the **Lord Jesus Christ** and in **the Spirit of our God**.

12All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

13Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but **God** will do away with both of them Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the **Lord**, and the **Lord** is for the body.

God Raised Jesus from the Dead (1); God Raises the Saints to Union with Him by His Power

14 Now **God** has not only raised the **Lord**, but will also raise us up through **His** power.

15Do you not know that your bodies are members of **Christ**? Shall I then take away the members of **Christ** and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!

16Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For **He** says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

17But the one who joins himself to the **Lord** is one spirit with **Him**.

18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

The Holy Spirit Enables
the Saints to Glorify God
with Their Bodies

19Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the **Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from **God**, and that you are not your own?

20For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

(1 Corinthians 7)

1 Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman.

2But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

3The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

5Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

God Gives Saints Wisdom
About Their Personal Lives

6But this I say by way of concession, not of command.

7Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am. However, each man has his own gift from **God**, one in this manner, and another in that.

8But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.

9But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

10But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the **Lord**, that the wife should not leave her husband

11(but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

12But to the rest I say, not the **Lord**, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

13And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

14For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

God Calls the Saints to Live at Peace with Others (1)

15 Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but **God** has called us to peace.

16 For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?

17 Only, as the **Lord** has assigned to each one, as **God** has called each, in this manner let him walk. And so I direct in all the churches.

18 Was any man called when he was already circumcised? He is not to become uncircumcised. Has anyone been called in uncircumcision? He is not to be circumcised.

19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is the keeping of the commandments of **God**.

20 Each man must remain in that condition in which he was called.

21 Were you called while a slave? Do not worry about it; but if you are able also to become free, rather do that.

22 For he who was called in the **Lord** while a slave, is the **Lord's** freedman; likewise he who was called while free, is **Christ's** slave.

23 You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men.

24 Brethren, each one is to remain with **God** in that condition in which he was called.

25 Now concerning virgins I have no command of the **Lord**, but I give an opinion as one who by the mercy of the **Lord** is trustworthy.

26 I think then that this is good in view of the present distress, that it is good for a man to remain as he is.

27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

28 But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.

29 But this I say, brethren, the time has been shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should be as though they had none;

30 and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess;

31 and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world is passing away.

32 But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the **Lord**, how he may please the **Lord**;

33 but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife,

34 and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the **Lord**, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

35 This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the **Lord**.

36But if any man thinks that he is acting unbecomingly toward his virgin daughter, if she is past her youth, and if it must be so, let him do what he wishes, he does not sin; let her marry.

37But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well.

38So then both he who gives his own virgin daughter in marriage does well, and he who does not give her in marriage will do better.

39A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the **Lord**.

40But in my opinion she is happier if she remains as she is; and I think that I also have the **Spirit of God**.

(1 Corinthians 8)

God is the Only God Over All Mankind

1Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

2If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know;

God Knows Those Who Love Him

3but if anyone loves **God**, he is known by **Him**.

4 Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that there is no **God** but one.

5For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords,

God is Father of the Saints; The Father is the Source of Creation; The Father is the Reason for Existence; Jesus Christ is the Agent of Creation; Jesus Christ Sustains Creation

6yet for us there is but one **God**, the **Father**, from **whom** are all things and we exist for **Him**; and one Lord, **Jesus Christ**, by **whom** are all things, and we exist through **Him**.

7However not all men have this knowledge; but some, being accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if it were sacrificed to an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

God Allows Mankind to Eat Whatever Foods He Wants

8But food will not commend us to **God**; we are neither the worse if we do not eat, nor the better if we do eat.

9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

10For if someone sees you, who have knowledge, dining in an idol's temple, will not his conscience, if he is weak, be strengthened to eat things sacrificed to idols?

11For through your knowledge he who is weak is ruined, the brother for whose sake **Christ** died.

12And so, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against **Christ**.

13Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.

(1 Corinthians 9)

Jesus Revealed Himself Miraculously after His Resurrection

1Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen **Jesus our Lord**? Are you not my work in the **Lord**?

2If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the **Lord**.

3My defense to those who examine me is this:

4Do we not have a right to eat and drink?

5Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the **Lord** and Cephas?

6Or do only Barnabas and I not have a right to refrain from working?

7Who at any time serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?

8I am not speaking these things according to human judgment, am I? Or does not the Law also say these things?

9For it is written in the Law of Moses, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING " **God** is not concerned about oxen, is **He**?

10Or is **He** speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it was written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher to thresh in hope of sharing the crops.

11If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?

12If others share the right over you, do we not more? Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we endure all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of **Christ**.

13Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the food of the temple, and those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar?

**God Wants the Saints to
Provide for their Leaders**

14 So also **the Lord** directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.

15 But I have used none of these things And I am not writing these things so that it will be done so in my case; for it would be better for me to die than have any man make my boast an empty one.

16For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel.

17For if I do this voluntarily, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.

18What then is my reward? That, when I preach the gospel, I may offer the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

19For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.

20To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law;

21to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of **God** but under the law of **Christ**, so that I might win those who are without law.

22To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.

23I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

24Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

(1 Corinthians 10)

1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea;

2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

Christ is the Fulfilment of the Type of the Rock Which Provided Water in the Wilderness

3 and all ate the same spiritual food;

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was **Christ**.

God was Not Pleased with Many Israelites in the Wilderness

5 Nevertheless, with most of them **God** was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness.

6 Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.

7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, "THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY."

8 Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

9 Nor let us try the **Lord**, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents.

10 Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

11 Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

God is Faithful (2); God will Make a Way for Saints to Resist Temptation

13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and **God** is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

15 I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say.

16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of **Christ**? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of **Christ**?

17 Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

18 Look at the nation Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices sharers in the altar?

19 What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to **God**; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

21 You cannot drink the cup of the **Lord** and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the **Lord** and the table of demons.

God Can Be Stirred to Jealousy; God is Stronger than Mankind (2)

22 Or do we provoke **the Lord** to jealousy? We are not stronger than **He**, are we?

23 All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable All things are lawful, but not all things edify.

24 Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

25 Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake;

26 FOR THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S, AND ALL IT CONTAINS.

27 If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that is set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake.

28 But if anyone says to you, "This is meat sacrificed to idols," do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for conscience' sake;

29 I mean not your own conscience, but the other man's; for why is my freedom judged by another's conscience?

30 If I partake with thankfulness, why am I slandered concerning that for which I give thanks?

God Deserves All Glory

31 Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of **God**.

God Rules the Church

32 Give no offense either to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of **God**;

33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit but the profit of the many, so that they may be saved.

(1 Corinthians 11)

Christ is An Example for the Saints

1 Be imitators of me, just as I also am of **Christ**.

2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.

Christ is the Head of Every Man; God is the Head of Christ

3 But I want you to understand that **Christ** is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and **God** is the head of **Christ**.

4 Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.

5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved.

6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.

God Made Man in His Image; God Made Man in His Glory

7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of **God**; but the woman is the glory of man.

8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man;

9 for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

The Lord Created Men and Women to Be Interdependent

11 However, in the **Lord**, neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman.

God is the Source of All Things

12 For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man has his birth through the woman; and all things originate from **God**.

God Receives Prayers

13 Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to **God** with her head uncovered?

14 Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him,

15 but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her for a covering.

16 But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of **God**.

17 But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse.

18 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it.

19 For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you.

20 Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the **Lord's** Supper,

21 for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of **God** and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

Jesus Served Communion on the Night He was Betrayed

23 For I received from the **Lord** that which I also delivered to you, that the **Lord Jesus** in the night in which **He** was betrayed took bread;

24 and when **He** had given thanks, **He** broke it and said, "This is **My** body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of **Me**."

25 In the same way **He** took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in **My** blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of **Me**."

Jesus Will Come Again

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the **Lord's** death until **He** comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the **Lord** in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the **Lord**.

28 But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly.

30 For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.

The Lord Disciplines the Saints so They Won't be Condemned with the World

31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the **Lord** so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

33 So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

34 If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you will not come together for judgment. The remaining matters I will arrange when I come.

(1 Corinthians 12)

The Holy Spirit Exalts Jesus as Lord

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware.

2 You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led.

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by **the Spirit of God** says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by **the Holy Spirit**.

The Spirit is the Agent of
Charismata; The Lord Rules
Over Spiritual Offices and
Roles

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same **Spirit**.

5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same **Lord**.

God Operates Supernaturally
Through His People

6 There are varieties of effects, but the same **God** who works all things in all persons.

God Manifests Himself for the
Common Good

7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the **Spirit** for the common good.

8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the **Spirit**, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same **Spirit**;

9 to another faith by the same **Spirit**, and to another gifts of healing by the one **Spirit**,

10 and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.

11 But one and the same **Spirit** works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as **He** wills.

12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is **Christ**.

13 For by one **Spirit** we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one **Spirit**.

14 For the body is not one member, but many.

15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

God Chooses His Ministers

18 But now **God** has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as **He** desired.

19 If they were all one member, where would the body be?

20 But now there are many members, but one body.

21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;

23 and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,

24 whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But **God** has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,

25 so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now you are **Christ's** body, and individually members of it.

28 And **God** has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.

29 All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they?

30 All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?

31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

(1 Corinthians 13)

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,

5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

9For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

10but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

11When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

12For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.

13But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.

(1 Corinthians 14)

1 Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

God Understands When a Spirit-Led Believer Speaks in Tongues

2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to **God**; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

3But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.

4One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.

5Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.

6But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?

7Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be known what is played on the flute or on the harp?

8For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?

9So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.

10There are, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind is without meaning.

11If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will be a barbarian to me.

12 So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.

13Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

15What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.

16Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?

17For you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not edified.

18I thank **God**, I speak in tongues more than you all;

19however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others

also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.

20 Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.

21 In the Law it is written, "BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.

22 So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.

23 Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?

24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all;

God Uses Supernatural Prophecies to Convict the Unbeliever

25 the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship **God**, declaring that **God** is certainly among you.

God Calls His Saints to Live at Peace with Others (2)

26 What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation Let all things be done for edification.

27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret;

28 but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.

29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.

God Expects Those Who Consider Themselves Prophets to Exercise Self-Control; God Expects Those Who Consider Themselves Spiritual to Exercise Self-Control

30 But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.

31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted;

32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets;

33 for **God** is not a **God** of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

34 The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

35 If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.

36 Was it from you that the word of **God** first went forth? Or has it come to you only?

37 If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the **Lord's** commandment.

38 But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.

39 Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues.

40 But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.

Christ Resurrected from the Dead

(1 Corinthians 15)

1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

Christ Died For the Sins of Mankind

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ** died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

Christ was Buried; Christ Resurrected on the Third Day After His Death

4 and that **He** was buried, and that **He** was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

5 and that **He** appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

6 After that **He** appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

7 then **He** appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, **He** appeared to me also.

9 For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of **God**.

God Influences People to Become His Ministers

10 But by the grace of **God** I am what I am, and **His** grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of **God** with me.

11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

12 Now if **Christ** is preached, that **He** has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even **Christ** has been raised;

14 and if **Christ** has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

God Raised Jesus from the Dead(2)

15 Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of **God**, because we testified against **God** that **He** raised **Christ**, whom **He** did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.

16 For if the dead are not raised, not even **Christ** has been raised;

17 and if **Christ** has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

Christ Gave Mankind Hope for the Next Life Through His Resurrection

18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in **Christ** have perished.

19 If we have hoped in **Christ** in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

20 But now **Christ** has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

21 For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.

Christ will Resurrect His Own at His Imminent Return

22 For as in Adam all die, so also in **Christ** all will be made alive.

23 But each in his own order: **Christ** the first fruits, after that those who are **Christ's** at **His** coming,

Christ will Hand Over the Kingdom to the Father at the End of Time; Christ Will Abolish All Earthly Authority at the End of Time

24then comes the end, when **He** hands over the kingdom to the **God and Father**, when **He** has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

Christ will Rule the Earth Christ Will Abolish All His Enemies at the End of Time

25For **He** must reign until **He** has put all **His** enemies under **His** feet.

26The last enemy that will be abolished is death.

Christ will Abolish Death at the End of Time

27For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET But when **He** says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that **He** is excepted who put all things in subjection to **Him**.

God Will Put all Things Under Christ

28When all things are subjected to **Him**, then the **Son Himself** also will be subjected to the **One** who subjected all things to **Him**, so that **God** may be all in all.

Christ will Be Subject to God at the End of Time; God is All in All

29Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them?

30Why are we also in danger every hour?

Christ is the Boast of the Saints

31 I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in **Christ Jesus our Lord**, I die daily.

32If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.

33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

God Can be Known

34 Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of **God** I speak this to your shame.

35But someone will say, "How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?"

36You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies;

37and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which is to be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else.

God Will Change Earthly Bodies into Eternal Bodies

38But **God** gives it a body just as **He** wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own.

39All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish.

40There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another.

41There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

42So also is the resurrection of the dead It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body;

43it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

44it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

45So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL " The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

46However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

47The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven.

48As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly.

49Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

God Rules a Kingdom

50Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of **God**; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

51Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

53For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

55"O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"

56The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;

God Gives Saints Victory
Through Jesus Christ

57but thanks be to **God**, who gives us the victory through our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

The Lord Gives Opportunity
for Ministry; The Lord
Rewards the Good Deeds of
the Saints

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the **Lord**, knowing that your toil is not in vain in **the Lord**.

(1 Corinthians 16)

1Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.

2 On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

3When I arrive, whomever you may approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem;

4and if it is fitting for me to go also, they will go with me.

5But I will come to you after I go through Macedonia, for I am going through Macedonia;

6and perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way wherever I may go.

7For I do not wish to see you now just in passing; for I hope to remain with you for some time, if the Lord permits.

8But I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost;

9for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

10 Now if Timothy comes, see that he is with you without cause to be afraid, for he is doing the **Lord's** work, as I also am.

11 So let no one despise him But send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brethren.

12 But concerning Apollos our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren; and it was not at all his desire to come now, but he will come when he has opportunity.

13 Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

14 Let all that you do be done in love.

15 Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints),

16 that you also be in subjection to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.

17 I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking on your part.

18 For they have refreshed my spirit and yours Therefore acknowledge such men.

19 The churches of Asia greet you Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily **in the Lord**, with the church that is in their house.

20 All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

21 The greeting is in my own hand--Paul.

**The Lord Defines Saints by
Their Love for Him**

22 If anyone does not love **the Lord**, he is to be accursed Maranatha.

Jesus is Gracious (2)

23 The grace of **the Lord Jesus** be with you.

24 My love be with you all in **Christ Jesus**. Amen.