

**A STUDY OF**

**FIRST CORINTHIANS**

Prepared by

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## **LESSON #1: INTRODUCTION AND SALUTATION**

### **The City of Corinth**

Corinth was located in Achaia in the southern part of Greece. It was eminent among all ancient cities for wealth, luxury, and dissipation. Its principle deity was Venus, the goddess of love or licentious passion. The temple of Venus was located in the southern part of the city. It was commanded by law that one thousand beautiful women would officiate as courtesans, or public prostitutes, before the altar of the goddess. One can imagine the influence that such sensuous “worship” could have upon a city, and ultimately upon a church in that city, partially made up of people who formerly engaged in such immoral activities.

### **The Establishment of the Church**

The church was established by Paul on his second preaching tour (Acts 18:1-18). He remained in Corinth on the second journey for eighteen months, supporting himself through tent making during the early part of his stay, but later being supported by the churches of Macedonia (2 Cor. 11:7-9). It was in this city that Paul met Aquila and Priscilla. The church was made up of both Jews and Gentiles, many of whom had engaged in gross immorality before their conversion (1 Cor. 6:9-11). Soon after Paul’s departure, the Corinthian church fell into a state of sin and error, prompting the writing of this epistle.

### **Place of Writing**

One can determine with a great deal of certainty that this letter was written from Ephesus. Paul states his plans to remain in Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:8), then to come to Corinth via Macedonia (1 Cor. 16:5). The churches of Asia (where Ephesus was located) sent their greetings, along with Aquila and Priscilla, who were in Ephesus at this time (1 Cor. 16:19).

### **Time of Writing**

With equal certainty we can know that this letter was written during Paul’s third journey. It could not have been written on the first journey, for the church in Corinth was not in existence at that time. Neither was it written on the second journey, for when Paul was in Ephesus on the second journey he was traveling **away** from Corinth. It was on his third journey that Paul was in Ephesus, traveling **toward** Corinth, this being the exact setting in which he wrote First Corinthians (1 Cor. 16:5-9).

### **General Background**

Paul learned about the Corinthians’ problems thorough two sources: (1) the household of Chloe (1 Cor. 1:11), and (2) a letter that had been received from the church (1 Cor. 7:1). He wrote this letter to try to correct these problems, stating in his second epistle: *“For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears ”* (2 Cor. 2:4). From his second epistle to the Corinthians we learn that Paul was successful in the fulfillment of this purpose.

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*Answer the following questions from the previous page*

1. What religious practice contributed heavily to the general immorality that existed in Corinth?
2. From what two sources had Paul's financial needs been met while he preached in Corinth?
3. From what city did Paul write this letter?
4. What were some of his plans for the future at the time he wrote it?
5. During what journey did he write it?
6. From what two sources had he learned of problems in Corinth?

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

7. Who joined Paul in the salutation, according to verse 1?  
Can you find this name elsewhere within the scriptures?
8. Find expressions in these nine verses that indicate that God still recognized this church as one of His and the people who made it up as His people.



## **LESSON #2: IS CHRIST DIVIDED?**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 1:10 - 2:5*

1. Describe the unity that should exist within a congregation as pictured in verse 10.
2. **Thought Question:** What is the difference between what Chloe's household did and gossip which is condemned in the scriptures?
3. What questions did Paul raise in verse 13 as he considered the nature of their divisions?

What conclusion did he want them to come to as he raised these questions?

4. Why was Paul thankful that he had not baptized many of the Corinthians, according to verses 14-16?

Consider Acts 18:8. Were the people in Corinth baptized?

5. According to verse 17, what was Paul's primary responsibility?

Does this indicate that baptism is not important?

Explain.

6. What will result if our preaching is with "wisdom of words," according to verse 17?

7. Consider carefully verses 18-31. What is God's view of human wisdom?

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8. According to these same verses, what is to be preached?

Is there power in that message?

Will everyone be moved by it?

9. Why has God chosen such a message according to verses 27-29 (*Be sure to read all verses before answering.*)?

10. Describe Paul's preaching among the Corinthians as stated in 2:1-4.

11. Why did he do this kind of preaching according to verse 5?

12. As one thinks of this lesson it becomes obvious that the real cause of division in Corinth was that they were placing more emphasis on human \_\_\_\_\_ than on God's \_\_\_\_\_.

### **LESSON #3: GOD'S WISDOM REVEALED**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 2:6-16*

1. Consider verses 6-7. What wisdom did Paul **not** speak?

What wisdom did he speak?

2. What is said of God's wisdom in verse 7?
3. According to verse 9, by what means could man not come to know this mystery as to what God had prepared for those who love him?
4. How did man come to know it according to verse 10?
5. Consider the word "us" in verse 10. God did not reveal the mystery in a direct way to every individual, but to specially selected individuals who in turn taught it to others. Who were some of these specially selected individuals, according to Ephesians 3:5?
6. What responsibility then did these individuals have according to 1 Corinthians 2:13?

Who supplied the words used in this work?

7. **Thought Question:** Who is the "natural man" of verse 14?
8. What is said of the "natural man" in verse 14?
9. Consider verse 16. What is man incapable of doing?

Consequently, what must he rely on?

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10. Where do we in this generation find the revealed mystery of God?

11. **Thought Question:** What will result today if one preaches his own wisdom rather than God's wisdom as it is revealed in the New Testament?



**LESSON #4: THE CARNAL -VS- THE SPIRITUAL**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 3:1-17*

1. Consider verses 1-4. In what way were the Corinthians showing that they were carnal (worldly) ?
  
2. According to these same verses, what kind of food must be fed to such babes in Christ?
  
3. What role did teachers play in the increase of the Lord's church, according to verses 5-7?  
  
What role does God play?
  
4. According to verse 10, who had laid the foundation of the spiritual building that existed in Corinth?  
  
Who had built on it?
  
5. Who is the foundation, according to verse 11?
  
6. What kinds of material might be built into this spiritual building, according to verse 12?
  
7. What will provide the test of the various materials?

**Thought Question:** What do you believe is the testing fire?

8. Consider verses 14-15. Will a person be lost just because those he has converted are lost and cannot stand up to the test of fire?  
  
Explain.
  
9. This building is referred to in verse 16 as the \_\_\_\_\_.

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10. What is our responsibility as the temple of God, according to verse 17?

11. **Review Question:** Describe the carnally minded as pictured in this passage.

Describe the spiritually minded.

**LESSON # 5: PROPER ATTITUDES TOWARD GOD'S SERVANTS**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 3:18 - 4:21*

1. What does Paul counsel one to do who seems to be wise in this age, according to 3:18-19?
2. What does the Christian have, according to 3:21-22, making it foolish for him to glory in just one man?
3. How should the Corinthians look on Paul and others like him, according to 4:1-2?
4. Whose judgment should we be concerned about, and to whom should we look for praise, according to 4:3-5?

Whose judgment should give us far less concern?

5. Consider 4:4. Does a good conscience assure one that he is right with God?  
Discuss this.
6. What two things will be revealed in judgment according to 4:5?
7. What did Paul want the Corinthians to learn from his references to himself and Apollos, according to 4:6?
8. In 4:7-13 Paul contrasts the humility and suffering of the apostles with the arrogance being shown within the Corinthian church. **Think!!** Write a brief paragraph as to why we in our own generation appreciate the apostles of Christ. Include in your paragraph the contribution they made to our salvation.

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9. How did Paul differ from other teachers in his relationship with the Corinthian church, according to 4:14-15?
  
10. What would Timothy do when he came to Corinth, according to 4:17?
  
11. Consider 4:17. Were different doctrines taught in different churches in the first century?
  
12. What were the two choices as to how Paul would come to the Corinthians according to 4:21?

**Thought Question:** What would be the determining factor?

## LESSON #6: THERE IS FORNICATION AMONG YOU

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 5:1-13*

1. Paul in verse 1 uses the expression, "It is reported." From what source had the report concerning division come, according to 1 Corinthians 1:11?
2. How did Paul describe the terribleness of this case of sexual immorality (fornication) in 5:1?
3. What had been the Corinthians' attitude about this immorality, according to verse 2?
4. What instructions are given in verses 3-5?
5. **Thought Question:** In what way does a church's withdrawal from a man deliver him to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, as stated in verse 5?
6. What is the goal in this action according to this same verse?
7. What danger exists if an immoral man is allowed to continue association with Christians, according to verse 6?
8. Consider verses 7-8. **Thought Question:** What does the word "leaven" suggest as it is used in these verses?  
  
"Unleavened"?
9. Against whom does the church not take disciplinary action, according to verses 9-11?  
  
Against whom does it take action?

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10. Specifically, what is that action as stated in these verses?

11. Consider verses 12-13. Is all judging on the part of Christians wrong?

When the church withdraws from an immoral brother, is it involved in wrongful judging?

Discuss this.

## **LESSON #7: BROTHER GOES TO LAW AGAINST BROTHER**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 6:1-11*

1. What shameful practice was taking place among the Christians in Corinth, according to verse 1?
2. What two groups will saints judge according to verses 2 and 3?

Do the scriptures tell us in what way this will take place?

3. What should be done by a brother who would bring a "suit" against another brother, according to verses 4 and 5?

What should not be done?

4. What should one prefer to happen rather than taking his brother to law before unbelievers, according to verse 7?
5. **Thought Question:** Considering your answer to # 4, would it be best for you just to "forget it" if a brother cheats you in some financial dealings?

Discuss this.

6. **Thought Question:** Discuss the harm that would come to a church as a result of brethren taking other brethren to law.
7. **Thought Question:** In your opinion, would you get a **fairer** settlement by placing your differences before wise brethren or by placing your differences before a judge with lawyers representing-each side?

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8. What had been the former conduct of some who made up the Corinthian church, according to verses 9-11?

9. Can such people change?

**Thought Question:** What dangers do these face after conversion?

10. There have been those who have said that alien sinners are not subject to God's law. Show from verses 9-11 that this is not true.



## **LESSON #8: THE BODY IS NOT FOR FORNICATION**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

1. What care must one take even in his participation in lawful things, according to verse 12?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The expression found in the early part of verse 13 was apparently used by some to try to justify fornication. The same argument is made today. **Think!!** What is the present day wording of this argument?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What is Paul's answer in the latter part of verse 13?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Paul gives four reasons in verses 15-20 why Christians must not give their bodies to sexual immorality. State the reason found in each of the following verses:  
  
verse 15 -  
  
verse 16 -  
  
verse 18 -  
  
verses 19-20 -
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. **Thought Question:** In verse 18, Paul says to flee sexual immorality (fornication). What are the actions of one who does so?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Can you think of a Bible character who did flee fornication?  
  
Can you think of one who failed to flee and became guilty?

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7. Verse 20 states that Christians have been bought with a price. Consider Acts 20:28. What is that purchasing price?
  
8. **Thought Question:** What should be our response to the fact that we have been purchased at such a great price?

## **LESSON #9: SHOULD WE DIVORCE OUR COMPANIONS?**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 7:1-26*

1. Observe the term "present distress" found in verse 26. This chapter will be confusing to us if we do not recognize that it was written in a time of "present distress". Does the Bible tell us what that "present distress" was?
2. Under those circumstances, what would be the preferred marital state, according to verses 1, 7, 8, 25, and 26?
3. What is taught in verses 2-4 to help avoid sexual immorality (fornication)?
4. Under what conditions might a couple briefly discontinue sexual activity, according to verse 5?

Why is it important that this be a brief period, according to the same verse?

5. According to verse 9, even in the "present distress", what should an unmarried couple do if they cannot exercise self-control?

Why?

6. Who had already spoken concerning a person's departing from his or her companion, according to verse 10?

Can you find scriptures where He spoke on this subject?

7. What command is given to the wife, according to verses 10-11?

What are the possibilities if she leaves him in spite of the Lord's command?

Does this teaching also apply to the husband?

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8. Had the Lord specifically addressed what a believer should do if he was married to an unbeliever?

What instructions are given to these in verses 12-14?

9. Consider verse 15. Does Paul say that a believer is free to marry again if his unbelieving companion leaves him?

What does he say?

10. What instructions does Paul give in verse 17?

11. What specific conditions does he speak of along these lines in verses 18-24?

12. **Thought Question:** Is Paul encouraging people to remain in illegitimate relationships (homosexual relations, polygamy, unlawful marriages) that they are in when "called"?

**LESSON #10: SHOULD WE MARRY UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES?**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 7:27-40*

1. **Review Question:** Observe the term "present distress" found in verse 26. This chapter will be confusing to us if we do not recognize that it was written in a time of "present distress". Does the Bible tell us what that "present distress" was?
2. Why did Paul advise the unmarried to remain in that state in the "present distress", according to verse 28?
3. Consider I Timothy 5:14; Ephesians 5:22-25. Was Paul opposed to marriage?
4. What consolation did Paul offer those who would live without mates in verses 29-31?
5. What other advantage could an unmarried person have over one who is married, according to verses 32-35?
6. What was Paul's advice to those who had unmarried daughters in verses 36-38?
7. What was Paul's teaching concerning one whose companion had died, according to verse 39?

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8. Two ideas have been suggested as to the meaning of the expression, "Only in the Lord": (1) that it means a widow must marry a Christian: (2) that she does not necessarily have to marry a Christian, but that she must marry in keeping with general Bible teaching concerning marriage. Which do you believe is the correct explanation?

Be prepared to discuss this.

9. In 1 Corinthians 7:1, Paul says that the Corinthians had written to him concerning marriage as well as other matters discussed in this letter. Look back over chapter 7. What questions did the Corinthians apparently ask concerning marriage?

**LESSON #11: EATING MEATS SACRIFICED TO IDOLS - PART 1:  
DISREGARD FOR BRETHREN**

**Note:** The Corinthians had written to Paul concerning eating meats sacrificed to idols, and his answer covers chapters 8-10. These three chapters should be studied as a unit. The first section looks at the subject of proper regard for brethren.

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 8:1 - 9:23*

1. Where were some of the Christians actually eating these meats, according to 8:10?
2. They apparently tried to defend their actions on the basis of two arguments, found in 8:1, 8. What were these two arguments?
3. What did Paul say in answer to those who boasted of their knowledge in verses 1-2?
4. Even if they were justified on the basis of their knowledge, what problem existed as stated in 8:7, 9, 10?
5. What are the consequences when we disregard our brethren in such a way, according to verses 11-12?
6. What would be Paul's actions if his eating of meats were to cause his brother to stumble, according to 8:13?
7. What rights did Paul have as an apostle, as stated in 9:1-6?
8. What "occupations" did Paul mention in his discussion of the rights of preachers to receive support for their work, according to 9:7, 13?

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9. What was his conclusion concerning preacher support, according to 9:11, 14?
10. Had Paul exercised this right by receiving financial support from the Corinthians?  
Consider 9:12, 15.
- Why?
11. **Thought Question:** How does this discussion of Paul's giving up rights to financial support, lest he hinder the gospel, apply to the Corinthians and their eating of meats in an idol's temple?
12. Give a one sentence summary of Paul's practice whenever he was in the presence of any individual, as stated in 9:19-22.
13. Why did he do this, according to verse 23?
14. **Thought Question:** Would Paul have done something sinful in order to win someone to Christ?
- Discuss this.



**LESSON #12: EATING MEATS SACRIFICED TO IDOLS - PART 2:  
DISREGARD FOR SELF**

**Note:** The second section of Paul's discussion of eating meats sacrificed to idols looks at the subject from the standpoint of the danger to one's own soul.

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 9:24 - 11:1*

1. In what way did Paul run the Christian race and fight the Christian fight, according to 9:24-26?

2. What concern did he have for his own salvation as stated in 9:27?

What did he do in his efforts to assure his own salvation, according to the same verse?

3. What spiritual advantages had the Israelites had, according to 10:1-4?

4. What happened to them, according to verse 5?

5. Why were these things written, according to verses 6-12?

6. What assurance is given in verse 13?

7. What should be one's actions regarding idolatry according to verse 14?

8. Consider verses 15-20. What does the word "communion" mean?

What is taking place when one eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord's table?

What is taking place when Israel eats sacrifices that have been offered on an altar?

What is taking place when the Gentiles sacrifice to idols (demons)?

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9. What will God not allow as stated in verse 21?
  
10. What were Paul's instructions concerning meats sold in the meat market (shambles) according to 10:24-26?
  
11. What if one was invited to dinner by an unbeliever, according to 10:27-30?
  
12. What was Paul's conclusion as stated in 10:31 - 11:1?
  
13. List practical lessons we can learn from chapters 8-10.

**LESSON #13: PROPER HEAD ATTIRE WHEN PRAYING OR  
PROPHECYING**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 11:2-16*

1. For what did Paul praise the Corinthian brethren in verse 2?

For what was he unable to praise them in verse 17?

2. Give God's order of authority as stated in verse 3?
3. How did instructions differ for man and woman when praying or prophesying? verses 4-5.
4. What (who) would be dishonored if he or she failed to obey these instructions, according to these same verses?
5. Give the reasons for these instructions as stated in verses 7-9?
6. Compare translations of verse 10. Instead of "power" (King James), what do you find in other translations?
7. What reminder is given to men in verses 11-12?
8. What does nature teach concerning this subject, according to verses 13-15?

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9. **Thought Question:** Is "hair" the covering that is commanded of woman in verse 5 and not to be had by man as suggested in verse 4?

Discuss this.

10. What if someone seems to be contentious, according to verse 16? (Give your answer from several translations if you have them.)

11. **Thought Question:** Do you believe the teaching is applicable today?

Why?

**VARYING POSITIONS CONCERNING  
THE APPLICATION OF 1 COR. 11:3-16**

1. The teaching applied only to the time of spiritual gifts, that when a woman prophesied (Acts 21:9) or prayed while exercising a spiritual gift (1 Cor. 14:14), her head should be covered. A man should not be covered while doing so. Since we are not living in the time of spiritual gifts (1 Cor., chapter 13), the teaching does not apply to us.
2. The teaching does apply today but that hair is the covering under consideration, especially if the hair is long.
3. The teaching of 1 Cor. 11:3-16 is based on the customs of the day. The woman's covering her head was a cultural matter, similar to the "holy kiss" (Rom. 16:16) or washing of feet (John 13:3-17). Since the custom does not exist in our society, the teaching does not apply to us.
4. The teaching was based on a Corinthian custom, a custom that the apostles and churches generally did not have (founded on an interpretation of verse 16). Since it was shameful for a woman not to be covered in Corinth, she should be covered there when praying or prophesying. The teaching did not apply elsewhere.
5. The teaching does apply today. Those who accept this position must decide whether it applies only in public worship or if it also applies when one approaches God privately.

**LESSON #14: AS OFT AS YOU EAT THIS BREAD AND  
DRINK THIS CUP**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 11:17-34*

1. What did Paul say of the Corinthians when they came together in verse 17?
2. **Thought Question:** Is it possible that this could be true of our coming together?  
How?
3. What is one good result of divisions (factions) according to verse 19?
4. Consider verses 20-21. What was occurring at the time they were supposed to be eating the Lord's supper?
5. What was Paul's reaction to what was taking place, according to verse 22?
6. Consider verses 23-26. In what spirit is one to eat the Lord's supper?
7. Consider verses 27, 29. What are the consequences of partaking in an unworthy manner?
8. **Thought Question:** The word "unworthy" in these verses does not describe the person who is partaking but the manner in which he partakes. How would one partake in an unworthy manner?
9. **Thought Question:** Verse 28 teaches that one should "examine himself." Examine himself for what?
10. **Thought Question:** Are the conditions mentioned in verse 30 physical or spiritual?
11. What were Paul's final instructions about the Lord's supper in verses 33-34?

**LESSON #15: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - PART 1:  
ALL ARE IMPORTANT**

**Note:** Chapters 12-14 are all devoted to a discussion of spiritual gifts, and should be studied as a unit. We will divide this unit into three sections.

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 12:1-31*

1. What were the former religious beliefs of the Corinthians?

What were their beliefs as learned by the Holy Spirit? verses 2-3

2. What three diversities (differences) are mentioned in verses 4-6?

But these all proceed from the same \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Research Question:** Nine different gifts are listed in verses 7-10. According to Acts 8:14-19; Acts 19:6; and II Timothy 1:6, how were these gifts received?

4. On what basis were the gifts distributed, according to verse 11?

5. How many bodies are there according to verses 12-13?

How did we get into the one body?

**Research Question:** Can you find scriptures that teach that the one body is the church?

6. Consider verses 14-22: In what way did Paul illustrate the fact that all members are needed in the Lord's body, whatever gift they might have?

7. In what way did God compose (temper) the physical body, according to verses 24-25?

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8. What further observation did Paul make concerning the physical body in verse 26?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. List the various offices and works God has appointed in His church as given in verse 28.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. **Thought Question:** What is the answer to all questions raised in verses 29-30?

Was there ever a time in the church when all members spoke in tongues?

11. **Catch Question:** I was once asked, "Does the church of Christ have apostles?" What would be your answer to that question?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. What was Paul about to show the Corinthians that would be more important than all spiritual gifts, according to verse 31?



**LESSON #16: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - PART 2:  
LOVE MORE EXCELLENT**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 13:1-13*

1. **Thought Question:** What was Paul to show the Corinthians, according to 1 Corinthians 12:31?

As one studies chapter 13, it becomes obvious that the more excellent way is the way of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Consider verses 1-3. List several things, mentioned in these verses, that are of no value unless they are accompanied by love (charity).

3. Verses 4-8 contain phrases that describe love. Give the phrase or phrases found in these verses that prove each of the statements below.

"A loving person is not selfish."

"A loving person is not jealous."

"A loving person expects the best of others."

"A loving person bears patiently with others."

"A loving person is humble."

"A loving person does not keep records of wrongs done to him."

"A loving person extends unconditional love."

4. Consider verses 8 and 13. What three things would cease?

What three things would abide after these cease?

5. When would "that which is in part" be done away, according to verse 10?

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6. **Thought Question:** How does verse 11 fit into this discussion of the end of spiritual gifts?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How did Paul say they were seeing and knowing at the time he was writing, according to verse 12?

How would they see and know when "that which is perfect has come"?

**LESSON #17: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - PART 3:  
ORDERLY USE IN MEETINGS**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 14:1-40*

1. Consider verses 1-5. Why was it better to prophesy than to speak in tongues?

2. **Thought Question:** Define the word "prophesy."

Does it always include the idea of foretelling the future?

3. **Research Question:** Read Acts 2:1-11. What were the "tongues" of the New Testament?

Can you find the term "special prayer language" in your New Testament?

4. How did Paul illustrate the need for distinctive sounds when we speak, according to 1 Corinthians 14:6-9?

5. For what should the tongue speakers pray, according to verse 13?

6. What did Paul say of his praying and singing in verse 15?

7. What problem existed when someone heard the giving of thanks but could not understand it, according to verse 16?

**Puzzling Question:** Why are we hearing so few "Amens" at the end of prayers in our day?



**LESSON #18: SOME SAY THERE IS NO RESURRECTION**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 15:1-34*

1. List four things said of the gospel in verses 1-2.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
2. List three fundamental facts of the gospel as given in verses 3-4.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
3. What evidence did Paul give of the resurrection of Christ in verses 5-8?
4. What did Paul say of his apostleship and labors as an apostle in verses 9-10?
5. In verses 12-13, Paul pointed out the absurdity of saying that there is no resurrection from the dead while believing that Christ was raised. Discuss this briefly.
6. List five consequences to be faced if indeed Christ was not risen, as given in verses 14-19.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.

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7. What does the word "firstfruits" mean?

In being raised from the dead, of what did Christ become the firstfruits, according to verse 20?

8. What is the "order" of resurrections as stated in verse 23?

**Thought Question:** What is said of the resurrection of the disobedient dead in this chapter?

9. What is to occur after the resurrection of the dead, according to verses 24-26?

**Thought Question:** Does this passage teach that Christ will begin reigning after the resurrection?

10. What two actions would be foolish if the dead are not to be raised, according to verses 29-32?

a.

b.

11. **Thought Question:** Find scriptures that teach that man will be judged by what he does in his own lifetime, not by what someone else does for him after he is dead.

What then is the meaning of "baptized for the dead" as found in verse 29?

12. What warning is given in verse 33?

**Thought Question:** How does this warning fit into the context of the resurrection of the dead?

**LESSON #19: HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED ?**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 15: 35-58*

1. What questions were raised in verse 35? (Note: These are questions of skeptics, not sincere inquirers.)
  
2. How did Paul illustrate the process of dying and receiving a new body in verses 36-38?
  
3. What differences exist in kinds of flesh, bodies, and glory, according to verses 39-41?
  
4. Describe the body that will be raised as taught in verses 42-44.
  
5. Consider verses 45-49. Whose image do we bear in this natural fleshly body?  
Whose will we bear when we take on our new spiritual body?
  
6. What cannot inherit the kingdom of God, according to verse 50?
  
7. What will happen to the living when Christ comes, according to verses 51-53?
  
8. **Review Question:** Is there any discussion of the disobedient dead in this chapter?
  
9. At the point of resurrection, death will be swallowed up in \_\_\_\_\_.  
What is the source of this victory, according to verse 57?

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10. Consider verse 58. What should be our response as we think of the resurrection of the dead and victory that can be gained in Jesus Christ?



**LESSON # 20: THE COLLECTION FOR THE SAINTS AND  
FINAL EXHORTATIONS**

*Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 16:1-24*

1. By what means were funds to be raised for the poor saints in Jerusalem, according to verses 1-2?

Where had the same orders been given?

2. What is said in verses 3-4 concerning the carrying of the funds?
3. What were Paul's travel plans, according to verses 5-9?
4. What instructions were given concerning Timothy in verses 10-11?
5. What commendable things were said of the household of Stephanas?

What were to be the actions of the Corinthians toward such, according to verses 15-16?

6. What had the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus meant to Paul, according to verses 17-18?
7. Who sent greetings to the church at Corinth?

Why would Aquila and Priscilla especially want to send greetings? Consider Acts 18:1-2 as you answer.

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8. What is said in verse 22 of anyone who does not love the Lord Jesus Christ?
  
9. **Research Question:** Consider 2 Corinthians 2:4-8; 2 Corinthians 7:6-11. How did the church in Corinth receive this letter that we have just studied?