

# 1 Corinthians - Introduction

## Introduction

### 1. Purpose of the study of 1 Corinthians

- a. All scripture is profitable, even stern reproof! - 2 Tim 3:16-17
- b. **Reproof** is a good medicine if it is regarded— Pro 9:8, 15:31, 27:5, 2 Tim 4:2
- c. The will of God is our sanctification – 1 Thess 1:8, 3:10, 4:1-6,9
- d. Using right division to resolve some popular confusions – 2 Tim 2:7, 15

### 2. What to Expect

- a. Dispensational context: An early Pauline epistle to the body of Christ.
  - i. That Paul went to Corinth shows a change – Acts 22:19-28, 1 Cor 9:2
  - ii. It wasn't the first epistle to them – 1 Cor 5:9
  - iii. Paul went to Corinth (Macedonia) for 1.5 years - Acts 18:5-11
  - iv. Apollo goes to Corinth after Paul leaves – Acts 18:24-19:1
  - v. Acts 19 = tongue talking, John's baptism, and healing handkerchiefs
  - vi. Written by Paul from Ephesus – Acts 19:1,22, 1 Cor 16:5-8,19
- b. Audience: Jews, Gentiles, and church of God. Mixed crowd. 1 Cor 1:2, 10:32
  - i. Corinth: a port city, renowned for debauchery. (carnality) 1 Cor 3:1-3
- c. Purpose: Paul received a letter, and had some bad reports – 1 Cor 1:11, 7:1
  - i. They would be walk in their sanctified position in Christ – 1 Co 6:11
  - ii. They would be joined to the same mind – 1 Cor 1:10
  - iii. That all things would be done in charity – 1 Cor 16:14 (1 Tim 1:5)
- d. Themes: Reproof then correction in almost every chapter.
  - i. Shame, fault, ignorance, fool – 1 Cor 4:14 vs. 6:5, 15:34-36

### 3. Brief Outline of 1 Corinthians

- a. (1-4) – Glorifying in men – 1:29, 3:4, 3:21, 4:6
- b. (5-6) – Glorifying in their flesh – 5:1, 5:6, 6:12-13
- c. (7-10) – Liberty and Idolatry
  - i. (7) Who should be married - 7:2, 7:27, 7:39
  - ii. (8) Things offered to idols – 8:4, 8:7
  - iii. (9) Paul's liberty and service – 9:12, 9:19
  - iv. (10) Partakers of evil: communion with Christ – 10:5-6, 10:14, 10:23
- d. (11-14) – Order for the Body
  - i. (11) Coming together unto disorder – 11:2, 11:17-18, 11:34
  - ii. (12-13) Spiritual gifts disorder – 12:13-14, 12:21, 12:31
  - iii. (14) Tongues disorder – 14:4, 14:12, 14:19, 14:40
  - iv. (15) Doctrinal disorder – 15:12, 15:31-34
- e. (16) Paul's Salutation – 16:21-24