

References

Biblical References

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

- 1 Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,
- 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:
- 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4 I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus,
- 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,
- 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 8 who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 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,
- 15 so that no one would say you were baptized in my name.
- 16 Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.
- 17 For 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.

Acts 17:10-12

- 10 The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.
- 11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.
- 12 Therefore many of them believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men.

1 Corinthians 4:11-16

- 11 To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless;
- 12 and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure;
- 13 when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now.
- 14 I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.
- 15 For 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.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

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.

2 Corinthians 11:2

2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

Ephesians 5:25

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

James 4:1-2

1 What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

James 2:5-9

5 Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?

7 Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.

9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Revelation 21:1-2

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

Quotes

"A time will come when instead of shepherds feeding the sheep, the church will have clowns entertaining the goats"

CH Spurgeon

"If you have to give a carnival to get people to come to church, then you will have to keep giving carnivals to keep them coming back."

CH Spurgeon

"One hundred religious persons knit into a unity by careful organization do not constitute a church any more than eleven dead men make a football team."

AW Tozer

"The church is like Noah's Ark: The stench inside would be unbearable if it weren't for the storm outside. The institutional church, like all other institutions, comes under the influence of the Fall. But as Murray (John Courtney Murray) and many others have recognized, this dynamic may well save us all from the one fate worse than chaos: Triumphalism. That is, the very real temptation to believe that we have all of the truth, thus confusing ourselves with the kingdom of God. This is the church we have. And as imperfect and even repugnant as we find it at times, we need to acknowledge that it is through this church of fact that truth is being proclaimed and portrayed."

Chuck Colson

Founder of Prison Fellowship

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