

# 1 Corinthians

The book of first and second Corinthians is addressed to “*the church of God which is at Corinth*” (1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1). This church formed from the ministry of the Apostle Paul as detailed in Acts chapter eighteen. Paul travelled to the city during his second missionary trip and many of the Corinthians hearing the gospel believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8).

It is interesting to note the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision assuring him not to be afraid to speak. The Lord assured Paul he was with him and no man would hurt him. In fact, the Lord said he had much people in the city (Acts 18:9-10). Consequently, Paul remained in Corinth for a year and six months teaching the Word of God among them (Acts 18:11).

Paul’s two letters to the church of Corinth served to correct inappropriate behavior in the church and to deepen the faith and walk of each believer. As with all the New Testament, we need to feed upon this section of God’s Word in the interest of growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## I. Major Elements of the Book of 1 Corinthians

- A. Addressing divisions in the church: (1:1-3:23).
- B. Addressing scandals in the church: (5:1-6:20).
- C. Addressing the importance of marriage: (7:1-40).
- D. Addressing the matter of Christian liberty: (8:1-11:1).
- E. Addressing abuses of the Lord’s table: (11:17-34).
- F. Addressing the proper use of spiritual gifts: (12:1-14:40).
- G. Without charity we are nothing: (13:1-13).
- H. The gospel defined and the necessity of the resurrection: (15:1-58).

## II. Three Important Teachings from the Book of 1 Corinthians

### A. The preaching of the cross is the power of God (1:12-21):

*“The preaching of the cross is to them that perish \_\_\_\_\_; but unto us which are \_\_\_\_\_ it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God” (1:18).*

How did Paul determine to preach the gospel (v17)?

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How do we know from this passage that baptism is not a part of the saving gospel of Christ?

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If baptism is not a part of the saving gospel, why are we commanded by Christ to be baptized?

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### B. Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (6:15-20).

Notes:

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### C. Experiencing God’s faithfulness when we are tempted (10:1-13).

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Conclusion – Key Verse

*“If there be no resurrection from the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain . . . But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that died” (1 Cor. 15:13-14, 20).*