

1st Corinthians Chapter 1

Feb 18, 2026

Chapter 1. The background of this letter is that Paul had received, through various sources, reports of problems in the Corinthian Church. Problems of jealousy, divisiveness, sexual immorality, and failure to discipline members and more were all issues that hindered the church from being the 'light of the world' the Lord had called them to be. The same issues plague us today. But God has always provided a way of correction. Now we study that we may overcome.

Verses 1-9: The way that Paul addresses this group in his opening sounds as if they were already perfect in the Lord. How is it that those "sanctified in Christ Jesus" and "called to be holy" can be this and still be so far from it? The key is "called to be." As opposed to "is." Just as Jesus did, Paul speaks good and positive in the opening. But as in Revelation there comes the "Nevertheless."

Verses 10-17: Paul opens, let's get one then straight; we follow Jesus and Jesus alone. Those that minister the word and services on behalf of Jesus are servants of Jesus, not replacements for Jesus. These saints had begun to develop different emphasis on God's Word based on the teachers that were before them. Not realizing these differences were pulling them apart, not binding them together. Paul stresses here, in the very opening, that Christ way is the only way. And unity in Christ was the mortar that held the bricks (Saints) together. This is the root of denominationalism which we suffer from today.

Verses 18-25: Man's wisdom vs God's wisdom is the heart of this matter. (Unless you be born again, you cannot see) From Isaiah 29: 14; it is written that God will expose the wisdom of man as foolishness before the wisdom of God. There is a wisdom in the world, and it is **by** men and it is **of** the world. The trap is; as men we seek what we like, and we see and perceive according to those likes. So, the desires of our hearts are what shapes and colors our perception. Paul's argument is; if man's wisdom was greater than God, why didn't man know that God was here? It is the fool that has said in his heart, "there is no God." So, Jews look for a sign, while Greeks seek wisdom. Still not able to see Jesus is the sign and His Word is the Wisdom. Verses 26-31; Now Paul appeals to natural reason with Truth. Think about where you were before Christ. Think about how God has shown himself to you. It was not and is not through those things you consider great and mighty, but through those things that are small and pure. Humility, Kindness, Holiness, sacrifice and such are anti-thetical to this world that say's money, strength, numbers, possessions, brilliance, political power and control are the way of man and shows the success of a life well lived. But if you will boast of anything, boast in the Lord. How good God is. How much He loves us. and in the name of Jesus, we have the victory for there is power, wonderworking, sanctifying, redeeming and saving power in the Blood and name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!