

1 Corinthians

1 Paul, called an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, and Sosthenes our brother, ²to God's called-out people in Corinth, to those who have been set apart in Christ Jesus, called saints, with all those in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is their Lord and ours too: ³grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I always thank my God for you, because God's grace was given to you in Christ Jesus. ⁵In every way you have been enriched in him, in every word and in all knowledge, ⁶as the testimony of Christ has been confirmed in you. ⁷You fall short in no gift, awaiting eagerly the disclosure of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will strengthen you until the end, so that you are blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is trustworthy, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹⁰I beg you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be completely joined together in the same mind and in the same understanding; ¹¹for it has been made known to me, my brothers, by them of the family of Chloe, that there are quarrels among you.

¹²I am saying this, that one of you is declaring, "I indeed am of Paul"; or another, "I am of Apollos"; or another, "I am of Cephas"; or another, "I am of Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you, or were you immersed in Paul's name? ¹⁴I am thankful to God that I immersed none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that none of you might say that you were immersed in my name. ¹⁶I also immersed the household of Stephanas, but beyond these I do not know if I immersed anyone else. ¹⁷Christ did not send me to immerse, but to proclaim the gospel, not in wisdom of speech, lest Christ's cross become meaningless.

¹⁸The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is God's power, ¹⁹for it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the understanding of the intelligent." ²⁰Where is the wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the skillful debater of this age? Has not God made foolish worldly wisdom? ²¹Since, in God's wisdom, the world by its wisdom has not known God, it pleased God through the foolishness of what is preached to save the ones who believe. ²²On the other hand, the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, ²³while we preach Christ crucified: to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Gentiles foolishness; ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is both the wisdom and the power of God. ²⁵God's foolishness is wiser than men, and God's weakness is stronger than men.

²⁶Consider your calling, brothers, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many influential, not many of high social status are called. ²⁷Rather, God has chosen the world's foolish things, that he may humiliate the wise; and God has chosen the world's weak things, that he may humiliate the strong things. ²⁸God has chosen the inferior things of the world, and the things counted as nothing, the things that are not, that he might bring down the things that are, ²⁹so that no flesh may boast before God. ³⁰You are his in Christ Jesus, who has become to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and dedication and redemption, ³¹as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

2 When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with high-flown words or wisdom, proclaiming God's mystery. ²I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness and fear and much trembling. ⁴My speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in a display of the spirit and power, ⁵that your faith should not be in human wisdom, but in God's power.

⁶However, we speak wisdom among mature people, a wisdom not

of this world, or of its rulers, who are coming to nothing. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery which has been kept secret, and which God predetermined before the ages to our glory; ⁸which none of this world's rulers knew, for if they had known, they would not have crucified the glorious Lord.

⁹It is written, "The things that no eye has seen, which no ear has heard, and which have not entered a human heart: these are the things God has prepared for those who love him." ¹⁰But God has revealed them to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit examines all things, even God's deep things. ¹¹What man knows the things of a man, except his own spirit within him? Likewise, no one knows God's things except God's Spirit.

¹²We have not received the world's spirit, but God's Spirit, that we might know the things which God has given to us. ¹³We are not speaking in words taught by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. ¹⁴The unspiritual man does not receive the things of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot know them, for they are judged spiritually; ¹⁵the spiritual man judges all things, but he himself is judged by no one. ¹⁶"Who has known the Lord's mind? Who will advise him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

3 Brothers, I cannot speak to you as to spiritual, but as to fleshly, as to infants in Christ. ²I have given you milk to drink, not solid food, for you were not able to receive it; neither can you now, ³because you are still fleshly. Since jealousy and strife are in you, are you not fleshly, and live as men?

⁴When anyone says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I of Apollos," are you not men? ⁵Who then is Apollos? Who is Paul? They are servants by whom you believed, even as the Lord has given to each one. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God is giving the increase. ⁷Neither is he who plants important, nor he who waters, but God who gives the growth.

⁸The one who plants and the one who waters are united, and each will receive his own reward according to his own work. ⁹We are God's co-workers, and you are God's garden.

You also are God's building, ¹⁰and according to God's grace which was given to me as an expert builder, I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each one be particular how he builds, ¹¹for no man can lay another foundation other than the one laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²If any one builds gold, silver, precious stones, timber, hay, or straw on the foundation, ¹³the work of each one will be seen: the day will show it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will prove the nature of each one's work. ¹⁴If the work anyone built remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work will be burned, he will suffer a loss; but he himself will be saved, though as through fire. ¹⁶Do you not know that you are God's temple, and that God's Spirit lives in you? ¹⁷If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are his temple.

¹⁸Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this world, let him become foolish, that he may become wise. ¹⁹This world's wisdom is foolishness with God, as it is written, "He catches the wise in their own cunning," ²⁰and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are worthless." ²¹So let no one boast in men.

All things are yours, ²²whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or the present or the future, all are yours; ²³and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

4 Let a man consider us as Christ's servants and as trustees of God's mysteries. ²It is required in trustees that a man be found trustworthy. ³It matters very little to me that I should be judged by you, or by a human court; I do not judge myself. ⁴I am aware of nothing against myself, but I am not by this proved to be right, for he who judges me is the Lord. ⁵So, do not judge anything before the time, until the Lord

comes. He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will reveal the intentions of hearts. Then approval will come to each one from God.

⁶Brothers, I have transferred these things to myself and to Apollos for your sake, that you may learn in us not to think of men higher than what is written, that you may not be puffed up against one another. ⁷Who makes you superior? Do you have anything that you did not receive? If you received, why do you boast as though you did not? ⁸You have already become fully content; you have already become rich; you have reigned without us. I wish that you did reign, that we might reign with you.

⁹I think that God has placed us, the apostles, last as condemned to death, because: we have become a spectacle to the world and to angels and to men. ¹⁰We are foolish for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are respected, but we are despised. ¹¹Until this hour we both hunger and thirst; we are poorly clothed, beaten, and homeless; ¹²we labor, working with our hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure; ¹³when we are slandered, we encourage. We have become as the refuse of the world, the scum of all things, even until now.

¹⁴I do not write these things to embarrass you, but to teach you, as my cherished children. ¹⁵Though you have countless guides in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for I have begotten you in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ¹⁶I therefore beg you, be imitators of me. ¹⁷For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, my beloved and trustworthy child in the Lord. He will remind you of my ways in Christ Jesus, even as I teach everywhere in every congregation.

¹⁸Certain ones have become puffed up, as if I were not coming to you. ¹⁹But I will come to you right away, if the Lord wills; and I will know, not the word of those who have become puffed up, but the power; ²⁰for God's kingdom is not in word, but in power. ²¹What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love, and with a gentle spirit?

5 Fornication is actually reported among you, such fornication as is not among the Gentiles: that a certain man has his father's wife. ²Further, you are puffed up, and have not mourned instead, so that the one who has done this deed might be expelled from you.

³Though I am absent in body, yet am I present in spirit; and I have already judged, as though I was present, the one who has done this. ⁴In the name of our Lord Jesus and of my spirit, when you have assembled together with the power of our Lord Jesus, ⁵deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit might be saved in the day of the Lord.

⁶Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole batch of dough? ⁷Remove the old leaven, that you may be fresh dough, even as you are without leaven. Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸So let us observe the festival, not with old leaven, or with the leaven of evil and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

⁹I wrote to you in the letter not to associate with fornicators, ¹⁰not at all meaning with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous and greedy, or with idolaters; for otherwise you would have to get out of the world. ¹¹But now I write to you not to associate with a fornicator or a covetous man or an idolater or a slanderer or a drunkard or a greedy person if he is named a brother; do not eat with him. ¹²What have I to do with judging those who are on the outside? Do you not judge those who are within? God will judge those who are outside. Expel the evil man from among you.

6 Does any one of you who has a lawsuit against another dare to be judged by the unrighteous, and not by saints? ²Do you not know that saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge trivial matters? ³Do you not know that we will judge angels, not to speak of matters involving everyday life? ⁴If therefore you

have cases involving everyday life, do you appoint as judges those who are least esteemed in the congregation? ⁵I speak to your shame. Is there not one wise man among you, who will be able to judge between his brothers? ⁶But a brother goes to law against his brother, and that before unbelievers. ⁷It is an utter defeat for you that you have lawsuits among yourselves. Why not rather take wrong? Why not rather be cheated? ⁸But you behave unjustly and cheat, and that your brothers.

⁹Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not deceive yourselves. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sexual perverts, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor swindlers, will inherit God's kingdom. ¹¹Some of you were these, but you were washed, you were set apart, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

¹²All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be made subject to any. ¹³Foods are for the stomach, and the stomach is for foods, but God will do away with both. The body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and Lord is for the body. ¹⁴God raised the Lord, and he will raise us by his power.

¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ, and make them members of a prostitute? No, indeed! ¹⁶Do you not know that one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body? For, he said, "The two shall be one flesh." ¹⁷But he who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit. ¹⁸Run away from fornication! Every sin a man commits is outside the body, but he who fornicates sins against his own body. ¹⁹Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰You were bought with a price; therefore, honor God in your body.

7 Now, about the things you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman; ²but because of fornication, let each man have his own

wife, and let each woman have her own husband. ³Let the husband give to his wife what is due, and likewise also the wife to the husband. ⁴The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband; and likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife. ⁵Do not deprive each other, except for a time by mutual consent, that you may have leisure for prayer; and then be together again, that Satan might not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

⁶I say this as a concession, not as a commandment; ⁷for I wish that all people were as I. But each one has his own endowment from God: one has this kind, and another that kind. ⁸I say to the unmarried and the widows that it is good to remain even as I. ⁹But if they do not exercise self-control, let them marry, for it is better to marry than to burn.

¹⁰To the married I give a charge (not I, but the Lord): that the wife not be separated from her husband; ¹¹but if she is separated, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband; and that the husband not leave his wife.

¹²To the rest I say (not the Lord), if any brother has an unbelieving wife, and she is willing to live with him, let him not leave her. ¹³And if a wife has an unbelieving husband, and he is willing to live with her, let her not leave her husband. ¹⁴The unbelieving husband has been set apart in his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been set apart in the believing husband. Otherwise, your children would be unclean, but now are they set apart. ¹⁵If the unbeliever separates himself, let him be separated, the brother or sister is not under obligation in such cases, but God has called you in peace. ¹⁶Who knows, wife, if you will save your husband? Who knows, husband, if you will save your wife?

¹⁷But, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called him, so let him live. So I give instruction in all the congregations. ¹⁸Has anyone been called who has been circumcised? Let him not remove the marks of circumcision. Has anyone been called in uncircumcision? Let him not be circumcised. ¹⁹Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the obeying of God's commands. ²⁰Let each one remain in

the station of life in which he was called.

²¹Were you called as a slave? Let it not be a concern. However, if you can become free, make use of it. ²²The one called in the Lord as a slave is the Lord's freedman; likewise, the one called as a freedman is Christ's slave. ²³Since you were bought with a price, do not become slaves of men. ²⁴Brothers, let each one remain with God in the station in which he was called.

²⁵I have no instruction from the Lord about virgins, but I give my advice, as one who has received the Lord's mercy to be trustworthy. ²⁶I therefore think it is good – because of the present crisis – for a man to remain as he is. ²⁷Are you bound to your wife? Do not seek a release. Are you free of a wife? Do not seek one. ²⁸But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries she has not sinned. But such will have trouble in the flesh, and I want to spare you.

²⁹Brothers, I say this: the time has grown short, so that, from now on, those who have wives must be as though they did not; ³⁰and those who weep as though they did not; and those who rejoice as though they did not; and those who buy as though they did not keep; ³¹and those who use the world as though they really did not use it, for the present form of this world is disappearing.

³²I want you to be free from worry. The unmarried man cares about the Lord's things, how he may please the Lord; ³³the married man cares about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, ³⁴and he is divided. The unmarried woman and the virgin care about the Lord's things, that they may be dedicated, both in body and spirit. But she who has married cares about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your benefit, not that I might restrict you, but for good order and devotion to the Lord without distraction.

³⁶If anyone thinks he is acting unbecomingly toward his virgin, if she is mature, and it ought to be so, let him do what she wishes; she is not sinning; let them marry. ³⁷But he who stands firm in his heart, having no necessity, but has power over his own will, and has decided

this in his own heart to keep his own virgin, he will do well. ³⁸So he who gives his own virgin in marriage will do well, but he who does not give in marriage will do better.

³⁹A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if he dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. ⁴⁰But she is happier if she remains as she is, according to my advice, and I think that I also have God's Spirit.

8 Now, we know that we all have knowledge about things offered to idols. Knowledge puffs up but love builds up. ²If anyone thinks that he knows something, he has not yet understood what he ought to know. ³If anyone loves God, God knows him.

⁴As to the eating of the things sacrificed to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is only one God. ⁵Even though there are those that people call gods, either in heaven, or on the earth, as there are many gods and many lords, ⁶yet to us there is one God the Father, from whom are all things, and we are for him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we are through him.

⁷However, everyone does not know this. Some people are still accustomed to idols, and they eat as though the meat was sacrificed to an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

⁸Now food will not bring us into God's presence; neither are we inferior, if we do not eat; nor superior, if we eat. ⁹But be careful, so that your liberty does not become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰If any one sees you – one who knows – dining in an idol's temple, will not his weak conscience be emboldened to eat things sacrificed to an idol? ¹¹The weak brother for whom Christ died is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹²As you sin against the brothers in this manner, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. ¹³Consequently, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never again eat flesh, so that I do not cause my brother to stumble.

⁹ Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen our Lord Jesus? Are not you my work in the Lord? ²If I am not an apostle to others, certainly I am to you, for you are the proof of my apostleship in the Lord.

³This is my defense to those who are examining me: ⁴do we not have a right to eat and drink? ⁵Do we not have a right to take along a wife (a sister), even as the other apostles and the Lord's brothers and Cephas? ⁶Do only Barnabas and I have no right not to work? ⁷What soldier ever serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard, and does not eat the fruit? Who shepherds a flock and does not drink milk from the flock?

⁸Do I speak these things as a man, or does not the law also say these things? ⁹In Moses' law it is written, "You shall not muzzle the threshing ox." Did God only care for the oxen? ¹⁰Or did he not certainly speak for our sake? Indeed, it was written for our sake, because he who plows ought to plow in hope; and he who threshes, in hope of partaking.

¹¹If we sowed spiritual things among you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? ¹²If others among you partake of this right, do not we even more so have this right? However, we have not exercised this right. We have asked for nothing, that we might not hinder the gospel of Christ. ¹³Do you not know that those who serve in the temple eat of the sacrifices? And they who wait at the altar share the sacrifices on the altar? ¹⁴The Lord has commanded in this manner, that they who proclaim the gospel should live by the gospel. ¹⁵But I have not used any of these things, and I did not write these things in order that they be done for me, for it is better for me to die, rather than for someone to deprive me of my reason for boasting.

¹⁶Though I proclaim the gospel, I have no reason to boast, because compulsion presses hard upon me; yes, woe is to me if I do not proclaim the gospel. ¹⁷If I do this willingly, I have a reward; if unwillingly, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸What is my reward? That I might proclaim the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my

right in the gospel.

¹⁹Though I am free of all, yet I have enslaved myself to all, that I might gain the more. ²⁰To the Jews, I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews; to those under the law, I became as one under the law (not being under the law), that I might gain those under the law; ²¹to those without the law, I became as one without the law (not being without God's law, but under Christ's law), that I might gain those not under the law; ²²I became weak to those who are weak, that I might gain the weak: I have become all things to all men, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do all things for the sake of the gospel, that I might be a fellow-partaker of it.

²⁴Do you not know that all of those who run in a stadium indeed run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a manner that you might win. ²⁵Everyone who competes exercises self-control in all things: they indeed do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable. ²⁶I do not run as without an aim; I box, but not as beating the air. ²⁷I buffet and enslave my body, so that I might not be rejected after I have preached to others.

10 I do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, that all of our fathers were under the cloud, and passed through the sea, ²and all were immersed into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and drank the same spiritual drink. They were drinking from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.

⁵But God was not pleased with the most of them, and they were struck down in the desert. ⁶Now these things became warnings for us, that we should not desire evil things, as they desired them. ⁷Do not become idolaters, as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and to drink and rose up to dance in revelry." ⁸Let us not fornicate, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. ⁹Let us not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the snakes. ¹⁰Do not grumble, as some of them did, and

were destroyed by the destroyer.

¹¹These things happened to them as warnings, and were written for our instruction, to whom the completion of the ages has arrived. ¹²Let the one who thinks he stands be on guard, so that he does not fall. ¹³No temptation has taken hold of you, except what is common to humanity; and God is trustworthy, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will provide an escape, so that you can endure.

¹⁴My beloved, run from idolatry. ¹⁵I speak as to wise people: judge what I say. ¹⁶The consecrated cup, for which we give thanks, is it not a sharing of Christ's blood? The bread which we break, is it not a sharing of Christ's body? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we, the many, are one body, for we all eat of the one bread.

¹⁸Consider Israel after the flesh: do not those who eat the sacrifices partake of the altar? ¹⁹Am I saying that a sacrifice to an idol, or an idol itself, is anything? ²⁰No, but what they sacrifice, they are sacrificing to evil spirits, and not to God; and I do not want you to partake of evil spirits. ²¹You cannot drink the Lord's cup, and the cup of evil spirits; you cannot eat at the Lord's table, and at the table of evil spirits. ²²Do we make the Lord jealous? We are not stronger than he, are we?

²³All things are lawful, but all things do not build up. All things are lawful, but all things are not upbuilding. ²⁴Let no one seek what is his own, but what is another's. ²⁵Eat whatever is sold in the market, questioning nothing for the sake of conscience, ²⁶because "the earth is the Lord's, and its fullness." ²⁷If an unbeliever invites you, and you wish to go, eat whatever is placed before you, questioning nothing for the sake of conscience. ²⁸But if anyone says to you, "This is a temple sacrifice," do not eat, for the sake of the one who told you, and because of conscience. ²⁹However, I do not speak of your own conscience, but of the other.

Why should my freedom be judged by the conscience of another?
³⁰If I eat thankfully, why am I criticized for eating something for which I

give thanks? ³¹Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to God's praise. ³²Do not offend the Jews or the Greeks or God's called out people, ³³even as I also please all men in everything, not seeking my own advantage, but that of the many that they may be saved.

11 Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ. ²I commend you, because you have remembered me in all things, and because you continue to hold fast the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.

³I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ. ⁴Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered disgraces his head. ⁵But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered disgraces her head, for it is exactly as though her head were shaved. ⁶If the woman does not cover her head, let her be sheared; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to be sheared or shaved, let her cover her head. ⁷A man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the likeness and splendor of God, but the woman is the splendor of the man.

⁸The man is not of the woman, but the woman is of the man; ⁹the man was not created for the woman, but the woman for the man. ¹⁰For this reason the woman ought to have authority upon her head because of the angels. ¹¹Nevertheless, the woman is not without the man in the Lord, neither is the man without the woman. ¹²As the woman is of the man, so the man is by the woman, and all things are of God.

¹³Judge among yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? ¹⁴Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair, it is a dishonor to him? ¹⁵But if a woman wears long hair, it is glory to her, because the long hair is given to correspond to her covering. ¹⁶However, if anyone is disposed to be quarrelsome, we have no such custom, neither do God's congregations.

¹⁷As I command this, I am not commending you, because you have not come together for the better, but for the worse. ¹⁸First, I hear that there are divisions among you when you assemble in a congregation,

and I partially believe it. ¹⁹Factions must exist among you, that those who are approved might be revealed. ²⁰When you come together in the same place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, ²¹for each one begins eating his own supper ahead of time, and one is hungry, and another has drunk freely. ²²Do you not have houses for eating and drinking? Or do you look down on God's congregation, and humiliate the ones who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you? I do not commend you in this.

²³I received from the Lord what I delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴gave thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in memory of me." ²⁵Likewise, he also took the cup after eating, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink, do this in memory of me." ²⁶Whenever you eat this bread, and drink the cup, you are proclaiming the Lord's death; until he comes.

²⁷Whoever eats the bread or drinks the Lord's cup in an improper manner will be guilty of sin against the body and the blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, and let him eat of the bread, and let him drink of the cup in the appropriate manner. ²⁹If one eats and drinks who does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks condemnation to himself.

³⁰On this account many among you are weak and sick, and many are asleep. ³¹If we discern ourselves, we are not being judged; ³²but, while we are being judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined, so that we might not be condemned with the world. ³³So, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait one for another. ³⁴If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, in order that you do not come together for condemnation. And when I come, I will instruct you about the other things.

12 Brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed about spiritual gifts. ²You know that when you were Gentiles, you were led astray to

idols which cannot speak. ³This is why I make known to you that no one who speaks by God's Spirit says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are various ways of serving, but the same Lord. ⁶There are varieties of workings, but the same God, who works everything among all. ⁷The revelation of the Spirit is given to each one for that which is good. ⁸To one indeed through the Spirit is given the word of wisdom; and to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; ⁹to another, faith by the same Spirit; and to another, gifts of healings by the one Spirit; ¹⁰and to another, workings of miracles; and to another, prophecy; and to another, recognition of spirits; and to another, kinds of languages; and to another, interpretation of languages. ¹¹The one and the same Spirit works in all these things according to his will, distributing to each one individually.

¹²Just as there is one body that has many members and all of the many members of the body are one body, so also is Christ; ¹³for we were all immersed into the one body by the one Spirit, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or freemen; and we all have been given to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴The body is not one member, by many. ¹⁵If the foot says, "Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not part of the body? ¹⁶If the ear says, "Because I am not the eye, I am not part of the body," is it therefore not part of the body? ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But now God has placed each one of the members in the body, as he desired.

¹⁹If they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰Now indeed there are many members, but one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I do not need you"; neither the head to the feet, "I do not need you." ²²But the members of the body which appear to be weaker are much more necessary, ²³and we give more honor to the members of the body which we think are less honorable; and our unpresentable members

are more presentable, ²⁴while our presentable members have no need. God has put the body together, and has given greater honor to the member that is lacking, ²⁵that there should be no division in the body, but the members should have the same care one for another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all of the members sympathize, and if one member is praised, all of the members rejoice together.

²⁷You are Christ's body, and members individually. ²⁸God has placed some in the called-out people: first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then workers of miracles; then those with gifts of healings; those who are helpful, those who lead, those who speak languages. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak in languages? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts, and yet I show you a far better way.

13 If I speak in the languages of men and of angels but do not love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have the gift of prophecy, and I know all the mysteries and all the knowledge, and if I have all the faith, so as to remove mountains, but I do not love, I am nothing. ³And if I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body that I may boast, but I do not have love, I am accomplishing nothing.

⁴Love waits patiently. Love is kind, is not jealous. Love does not boast, is not puffed up, ⁵is not rude, is not selfish, is not irritable, holds no grudges, ⁶does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷throws a cloak of silence over what is displeasing in another person, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, ⁸love never dies.

But whether there are gifts of prophecy, they will pass away; or languages, they will cease; or knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹We know incompletely, and we prophesy incompletely; ¹⁰but when that which is complete comes, then that which is incomplete will pass away.

¹¹When I was a child, I spoke as a child, thought as a child, and

understood as a child; but when I became a man, I stopped childish behavior. ¹²Now we see indistinctly in a mirror; but then face to face. I now partially know, but then I shall know fully, even as I was fully known. ¹³Faith, hope, and love now remain, these three; and love is the greatest of these.

14 Pursue love, yet strive for spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. ²The one who speaks in a language does not speak to men, but to God; no one understands him, since he speaks mysteries by the Spirit. ³The one who prophesies builds up and encourages and brings good cheer to men. ⁴The one who speaks in a language builds himself up, but the one who prophesies builds up the congregation. ⁵I want all of you to speak in languages, but rather that you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in a language, unless he interprets, that the congregation might be built up.

⁶Brothers, if I come to you speaking in languages, how will I help you, unless I speak either in a revelation, or in knowledge, or in prophecy, or in teaching? ⁷Even inanimate things give a sound, as a flute or a harp; but if they do not give a difference in their sounds, how will the sound of the flute or of the harp be understood? ⁸If a trumpet gives an indistinct sound, who will prepare for battle? ⁹In the same manner also, if you do not utter intelligible speech through the language, how will what is spoken be known? You will be as speaking into the air.

¹⁰There are so many kinds of voices in the world, and none is meaningless; ¹¹but if I do not understand the voice, I will be a foreigner to him who is speaking, and he who speaks will be a foreigner to me. ¹²In the same manner also, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, strive for the upbuilding of the congregation, that you may abound. ¹³Therefore, let the one who speaks in a language pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴If I pray in a language, my spirit prays, but my mind is barren. ¹⁵So what is it? I will pray in my spirit, and I will also pray in my mind; I will sing in my spirit, and I will also sing in my mind.

¹⁶Otherwise, how shall the one who sits in the place of the inquirer say "Amen" at your thanksgiving, since he does not understand what you said? ¹⁷Indeed, you may give thanks well enough, but the other one is not built up. ¹⁸I thank God that I speak in languages more than all of you; ¹⁹but in the congregation I would rather speak five words with understanding (that I might teach others) than ten thousand words in a language.

²⁰Brothers, be not children in understanding. Be infants in wrongdoing, but adults in understanding. ²¹It is written in the law,

I will speak in other languages and with strange lips to this people; but even so, they will not obey me,

says the Lord. ²²So languages are for a sign, not to believers but to unbelievers; while prophecy is not for unbelievers, but for believers.

²³If the whole congregation has come together at the same place, and all are speaking in languages, and the inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say, "You are out of your mind!"? ²⁴But if all are prophesying, and an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in, he is convinced by all, is judged by all. ²⁵The secrets of his heart are revealed, and he will fall down on his face and worship God, exclaiming, "God is truly among you!"

²⁶So brothers, what is it? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a teaching, a revelation, a language, an interpretation. Let all things be for upbuilding. ²⁷If one speaks in a language, let it be by two, or at the most three, and one at a time; and let one interpret. ²⁸But if there is no interpreter, let him be silent in the congregation; let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹Let the prophets, two or three, speak, and let the others judge. ³⁰If a revelation comes to another who is sitting down, let the first man be silent. ³¹You can all prophesy one by one, that all might be taught, and all might be encouraged. ³²The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³God is not the source of disorder,

but of peace.

As in all the congregations of the saints, ³⁴let the women be silent in the congregations, for they are not allowed to speak. Let them be in subjection, as the law also says. ³⁵If they wish to learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home, for it is a disgrace for a woman to speak in the congregation. ³⁶Did God's message come from you, or did it come only to you?

³⁷If a man thinks he is a prophet or is spiritual, let him acknowledge that I am writing to you the Lord's command. ³⁸If anyone continues to be unformed, let him be uninformed. ³⁹So, my brothers, strive to prophesy, and do not forbid languages. ⁴⁰Let all things be done fittingly and orderly.

15 Brothers, I make known to you the gospel which I proclaimed to you, which also you accepted, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold fast the certain message which I proclaimed to you, unless you have believed in vain. ³I gave to you – as the most important things – what I had also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴that he was buried; and that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures; ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom remain until now, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles; ⁸and last of all he appeared to me as to one who was born prematurely.

⁹I am the least of the apostles, and not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted God's called-out people. ¹⁰But I am what I am by God's grace, and his grace to me was not in vain: I worked harder than any of them; yet not I, but God's grace which was with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preached, and so you believed.

¹²If it is preached that Christ was raised from the dead, why do some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no

resurrection of the dead, Christ has not been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is empty, as also is your faith. ¹⁵Further, we are also found to be false witnesses of God, because we have testified, according to God, that he raised the Christ, whom he did not raise, if indeed the dead are not raised. ¹⁶So, if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised; ¹⁷and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain, and you are yet in your sins. ¹⁸Also, those who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹If only in this life we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most pitiable.

²⁰But Christ has now been raised, the firstfruits of those who are asleep. ²¹Since death came by man, by man also is the resurrection of the dead. ²²As in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive, ²³and each in his own turn: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming, those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then is the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God, even the Father, when he will destroy all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵He must reign until he has placed all enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy he destroys is death, ²⁷for "He has subjected all things under his feet." When he said all things are subjected, it is clear that the One who subjected all things is the exception. ²⁸When he has subjected all things to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the One who subjected all things to him, that God may be all in all.

²⁹Otherwise, what will they do who are being immersed for the dead? If the dead are not actually raised, why are they being immersed for them? ³⁰Why are we in danger every hour? ³¹As certainly as I am proud of you in Christ Jesus our Lord, brothers, I affirm that I die every day. ³²If I fought with wild beasts in Ephesus like an ordinary man, what is the gain to me? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for we die tomorrow." ³³Do not be deceived: "Bad associations ruin upright morals." ³⁴Come fully to your senses, and do not continue to sin, for some do not know God. I say this to shame you.

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised, and with what sort of body will they come?" ³⁶Senseless man, what you sow, if it does

not die, is not made alive; ³⁷and you do not sow the body that shall be, but a bare grain: maybe of wheat, or of one of the others. ³⁸God gives to it a body as he has desired, and to each of the seeds its own body.

³⁹Not all flesh is the same: there is one of men, another of cattle, another of birds, and another of fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies: the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one; that of the earthly is another. ⁴¹The splendor of the sun is one, the splendor of the moon is another, and the splendor of the stars is another. Each star has a splendor all its own.

⁴²The resurrection of the dead is like this: it is sown in decay, but raised in immortality; ⁴³it is sown in humiliation, but raised in splendor; it is sown in weakness, but raised in power; ⁴⁴it is sown a physical body, but raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵It is also written in this manner, "The first man Adam became a living soul"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.

⁴⁶However, the spiritual was not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was of the earth, made of dust; but the second is of heaven. ⁴⁸Those who are made of dust are like the one who was made of dust; and those who are heavenly are like the One who is heavenly. ⁴⁹As we have worn the image of the one who was made of dust; we will also wear the image of the One who is heavenly.

⁵⁰I say this, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's kingdom, neither can mortality inherit immortality. ⁵¹Behold! I show you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be transformed, ⁵²in an instant, in the blinking of an eye, at the last trumpet; for it will sound, and the dead shall be raised immortal, and we will be transformed.

⁵³This perishable must put on imperishability, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When this perishable has clothed itself with imperishability, and when this mortal has clothed itself with immortality, then the written prediction shall take place.

Death has been swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵Death, where is your

victory? Where, Death, is your sting?

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; ⁵⁷but thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸So, my beloved brothers, be firm, unshakable, always abounding in the Lord's work, knowing that your labor in the Lord is not vain.

16 Now concerning the collection for the saints, do the same thing that I commanded the Galatian congregations: ²every Sunday, let each one of you lay aside by himself, if he earns anything, and put it in the treasury; so that there will be no collections when I come. ³When I arrive, I will send to Jerusalem the ones whom you approve by letters, to carry the expression of your kindness. ⁴If it is fitting for me also to go, they will go with me.

⁵I will come to you when I pass through Macedonia, for I am passing through Macedonia. ⁶It may be that I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, that you may help me on my way wherever I may go. ⁷I do not want to see you now in passing, for I hope to stay with you awhile, if the Lord allows. ⁸I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹for a great and powerful door has been opened to me, though there are many opponents.

¹⁰If Timothy comes, make sure that he is free from fear while among you, for he is doing the Lord's work just as I am. ¹¹Therefore let no one look down on him; but help him on his way in peace, that he may come to me, for I expect him with the brothers.

¹²Now concerning Apollos the brother, I earnestly insisted that he come to you with the brothers. However, it was not at all his desire to come now, but he will come when he has an opportunity.

¹³Stay awake. Stand firm in the faith. Act as men. Become strong. ¹⁴Let everything that you do be done in love.

¹⁵I encourage you, brothers, to get acquainted with the household

of Stephanas, because it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and they have set themselves to serve the saints. ¹⁶Submit to such people; and to everyone who works and cooperates. ¹⁷I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaichus, because these have made up your deficiency. ¹⁸They have refreshed my spirit and yours. So, recognize such people.

¹⁹The Asian congregations greet you. Aquila and Prisca, with whom I am lodging, and the congregation in their house greet you heartily in the Lord. ²⁰All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a sacred kiss.

²¹The greeting of Paul with my hand. ²²If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! ²³May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. ²⁴My love is with all of you in Christ Jesus.