

Good Morning
and
Welcome to Genesis the Church!



***This Morning We Continue Our Journey
Through The New Testament Epistle Of
I Corinthians!***

The Text:

I Corinthians 1:10-17!

The Title:

Paul's Call for Unity!

The Theme:

Is Written as a Warning to All Believers!

***The Sin of Self-Centeredness
Brings Shame upon the Name
Of the Savior!***

The Focus is Our Personal Testimony!

This morning we continue our journey through the New Testament epistle of I Corinthians! And as we journey through the pages of this book, we will quickly discover that the problems faced by the first century church, some 2000 years ago, are the same problems the church faces today, in the twenty-first century.

Divisions in the Church



Thus, the message concealed in the pages of this book (expressed in it's theme) will be most applicable and convicting to all those willing to hear it's message and apply it's wisdom to their lives. To make the point even more clear, I will not have to hold a gun to your head to get the book's message across. It will be crystal clear!
(Theme)



Problems Addressed by Paul!

Chapter(s)

1-2 – Divided over church leaders.

3-4 – Divided over who's spiritually mature.

5 – Divided over sin ignored in the assembly.

6 – Divided over being involved in litigation.

7 – Divided over getting married or being single.

8 – Divided over food offered to idols.

9 – Divided over supporting ministers.

10 – Divided over being prideful.

11 – Divided over the role of women / communion.

Problems Addressed by Paul!

Chapter(s)

12-14 - *Divided over spiritual gifts.*

15 - *Divided over the resurrection of Jesus.*

16 - *Divided over taking a collection for Jerusalem.*

Just like today they too lived in a divided world, a world that was always ready to look for a fight!



Let's Get Familiar With Today's Text!

1 Corinthians 1:10-17!



The Setting of the Book!

Paul will arrive in Corinth in 51AD while on his second missionary journey.

In Corinth Paul will meet a Jewish couple who hire him to work with them in their tent making business.

Paul will work full time as a tent maker until Timothy and Silas arrive in Corinth. Then he will devote his full time to presenting the message of the gospel.

The Setting of the Book!

When Sosthenes, the chief priest in the synagogue, places his faith in Christ the Jews become hostile toward Paul and his message.

As a result Paul is thrown out of the synagogue and warned not to return.

He will move into the house of Titius Justus, a new convert, who lives next door to the synagogue. Paul will spend the next year and a half establishing the church in Corinth.

The Setting of the Book!

Because of Paul's impact on the Jews – many are turning to Christ – Paul will be arrested and forced to stand before Gallio, the Roman proconsul. And when Sosthenes and Crispus refuse to testify against Paul the case is dismissed and Paul is released.

Sosthenes and Crispus will be grabbed by the Jews and beaten because of their standing up for Paul.

As a result the church will continue to grow.

The Setting of the Book!

After a year and a half in Corinth, Paul will sail to Ephesus with Aquila and Priscilla. And while in Ephesus Paul will be visited by some members of the house of Chloe, **and later by an official delegation from the church in Corinth – Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus.**

This epistle is written by Paul to address their questions and concerns.

Last Week's Sermon Outline

I. (1:1) The **RESPONSE** of the Apostle.

II. (1:2-3) The **RECIPIENTS** of the Letter.

III. (1:4-9) The **RECONGNITION** of God's
Faithfulness.

Why does Paul Begin by focusing on The Recognition of God's Faithfulness?

I personally believe that Paul begins this way because he knows that once the Person and Work of Christ is removed from the center of our lives, it is only too easy to allow our sinful pride to take over. And once this is allowed to happen, we are easily taken captive by the sin of self-centeredness!



This Week's Sermon Outline

The Call for Unity!

I. (1:10) The Apostle's PLEA.

II. (1:11-12) The Corinthian's PROBLEM.

III. (1:13-16) The Apostle's PRINCIPLE.

IV. (1:17) The Corinthian's PURPOSE.

I. (1:10) The Apostle's **PLEA!**
REMAIN LOYAL to CHRIST!



II. (1:11-12) The Corinthian's **PROBLEM!**

THEIR LOYALTY WAS to MEN!

A. (v.11) The Problem is Introduced.

Paul has been informed by some of Chloe's people, who have traveled to Ephesus at their own expense, that the church he founded and loved has been divided over the issue of who to follow.

Note: The intensity of this problem will later be confirmed by the sending of an official delegation to Paul in chapter 16.

II. (1:11-12) The Corinthian's **PROBLEM!**

THEIR LOYALTY was to MEN!

B. (v.12) The Problem is clearly Identified.

It is here that Paul not only identifies the church's problem but reveals his shock and dismay over the fact that those once under his care and ministry have chosen to follow men rather than Christ.

Note: All of the men mentioned in this verse are good and honorable men.

III. (1:13-16) The Apostle's **PRINCIPLE!**

***NO MAN, NO MATTER HOW GODLY, OR GIFTED,
OR LIKED, DESERVES THE LOYALTY THAT
BELONGS TO CHRIST!***



III. (1:13-16) The Apostle's **PRINCIPLE!**

A. (v.13) Paul's Impulsive response is revealed by three rhetorical questions:

1st ... Has Christ been divided?

2Nd ... Was it Paul who was crucified for you?

3Rd ... Were you baptized in the name of Paul?

III. (1:13-16) The Apostle's PRINCIPLE!

B. (vs.14-16) Paul shows that he is Insulted by the Corinthian's division:

- 1. (vs.14-15) Paul's Immediate response.**
 - a. (v.14a) Crispus – Jewish priest.**
 - b. (v.14b) Gaius – Roman host (Rom.16:23).**
 - c. (v.15) Reason – For his immediate response.**

- 2. (v.16) Paul's Inability to remember.**

Today We Must Remember

That the church is not a democracy! Nor is it a smorgasbord! We do not get to pick and choose who we want to lead us. Our responsibility is to recognize the person God has already raised up.

Warning: II Timothy 3:13. 4:3!

Note: The guidelines for leadership are clearly laid out in the epistles of I Timothy and Titus, and in the Acts of the apostles.

A silhouette of a person and a dog standing on a hill, looking out over a sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. The person is on the right, and the dog is on the left, facing the person.

IV. (1:17) The Corinthian's PURPOSE!

***WAS TO BRING GLORY TO GOD AS THEY LIVE
A GODLY and CHRIST-LIKE LIFE STYLE!***

***In this verse Paul drives this point home by focusing on
his commission and calling!***

***It is in this final verse that Paul reveals something that very
few Christians grasp – God focuses on the heart of man,
while men focus on the actions or result of the works of
man. Here we discover that what pleases God is a life-style
of obedience to God and not the praise of men!***

Next Week We Continue Our Journey

I. (1:1-9) The Introduction: Christ's **Divine** Faithfulness.

II. (1:10-4:21) The **Divisions** in the Church.

III. (5:1-6:20) The **Disorders** in the Church.

IV. (7:1-15:58) The **Difficulties** in the Church.

V. (16:1-24) The Conclusion: The Church's **Direction**.



Once Again, The Book's Focus:

Is to help the believer understand that he/she has been called to become living testimonies for Christ!

Matthew 5:13-16

