

Studies in 1 Corinthians

LESSON II: An Introduction

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

1 This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.

2 I am writing to God's church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

3 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

4 I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. **5** Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. **6** This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. **7** Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8** He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. **9** God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. There is no doubt that the Lord's church at Corinth had its share of troubles—doctrinally, morally, and relationally. Yet, Paul was able to affirm some basic truths about them. Let see if we can find them in our text:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. According to verse 2, how are Christians “made holy”? If this is so, why do you think so many seek external means to holiness (cf. Colossians 2:20-22)? Do these additional rules and restrictions make us any holier in the eyes of God?

3. What were the Christians in Corinth eagerly looking forward to in verse 7? Can you say that this is your expectation and longing, as well? What about as a church, how can we strengthen our focus on this?

4. What does verse 8 mean? Does it apply to you and me today? How is it accomplished (see vs. 9)?

