

# Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

## Chapter One

What does God reveal about Himself in this epistle?

### A Portrait of God

In the first epistle to the Corinthians, Paul introduces us to three divine characters - Father, His Son and the Holy Spirit.

### A Portrait of Father

God is identified as a Father who exercises His will, dispenses grace, peace and is the giver of the Holy Spirit. Paul states that Father is the Only God. He is said to be jealous, faithful, and the author of peace. Paul speaks about God's Spirit, glory, power, image, mysteries, knowledge, wisdom and testimony. God is said to be the owner of the church, a kingdom and a work. He is the God of commandments. Paul states that all things are from God. He will put an end to all rule, authority and power and will be all in all.

### A Portrait of the Son of God

In Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians, Jesus is introduced as the Christ, the Life-giving Spirit, Lord from heaven and the head of every man. He is called the heavenly man. He is the source of grace and peace.

Jesus is the power and wisdom of God. He is called righteousness, sanctification and redemption. He is known as the Spiritual rock, and the firstfruit of those who have fallen asleep. He is the Lord of glory, our passover and the foundation on which men build.

### Influence and Outcomes

Apostle of Jesus      Sanctified in Christ Jesus      Revelation of our Lord      Name of

Jesus      Day of our Lord      Fellowship of      Cross of Christ      Message of the  
cross      being saved      Mind of Christ      servants of Christ

Brings to light the hidden things of darkness      reveals the counsels of the heart

Day of the Lord Jesus      Justified in the name of the Lord Jesus      Member of Christ

## Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

Christ through whom are all things      Through Jesus we live      gospel of Christ

Sin against Christ      tempt Christ      Communion of the blood of Christ

Communion of the body of Christ      cup of the Lord      Lord's table

Lord's supper      New covenant in My blood

Remember me      Proclaim the Lord's death till He comes      The Lord's body  
Chastened by the Lord      differences of Ministries

One body      the body of Christ      Christ died for our sins was sacrificed for us

He was buried      He rose again the third day

He was seen after the resurrect - by Cepheas, the 12, by over 500 brethren, James, Paul

Christ was raised from the dead      Christ has brought resurrection from dead

In Christ all shall be made alive      Christ is the firstfruit

Christ will deliver the kingdom to God the Father

Christ will reign until all enemies are put under His feet

The Son will be subject to Father - God will be all in all

We have victory through our Lord Jesus Christ      Work of the Lord

### A Portrait of the Holy Spirit

#### Essence

Demonstration of the Spirit      Truth revealed through the God's Spirit

The Holy Spirit

#### Influence and outcomes

God reveals truth through His Spirit      The Spirit searches all things

The Spirit searches the deep things of God

The Spirit of God knows the things of God      The Spirit is from God

## Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

The Spirit reveals the things that have been freely given us    Holy Spirit teaches

The Spirit compares spiritual things with spiritual    The things of the Spirit

The Spirit dwells in you    God's Spirit justifies us    Our body - temple of HS

The Holy Spirit is in you    Men speak by the Spirit of God

The Spirit is responsible for: diversities of gifts

The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each for the profit of all

Manifestation of the Spirit: the Word of Wisdom

Manifestation of the Spirit: the word of knowledge

Manifestation of the Spirit: faith

Manifestation of the Spirit: gifts of healings

Manifestation of the Spirit: working of miracles

Manifestation of the Spirit: prophecy

Manifestation of the Spirit: discerning of spirits

Manifestation of the Spirit: different kinds of tongues

Manifestation of the Spirit: interpretation of tongues

The Spirit works all the manifestations    The Spirit distributes all manifestations

The Spirit distributes according to His will    The Spirit distributes to each

By the Spirit we are baptized into one body    All are made to drink onto one Spirit

Men pray with the spirit, sing with the spirit, bless with the spirit

**Concluding Remarks**

## Chapter Two

## Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

**What does this epistle reveal about God's  
intention toward the human race?**

### **God's Good Intention - The Positive Component**

Enriched in everything by Him    enriched in all utterance and all knowledge

Testimony of Christ confirmed in you    confirmed to the end

Blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus    called into the fellowship of His Son

Your faith in the power of God, not wisdom of men

Received the hidden wisdom ordained before the ages for our glory

Eyes has not see, nor ear hear, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things God  
has prepared for those who love Him

God has revealed them to us through His Spirit            We received the Spirit from God

The Spirit from God reveals the things freely given to us by God

The Holy Spirit teaches    The Holy Spirit compares spiritual things with spiritual

We have the mind of Christ            God gives the increase

Each will receive His reward according to his own labor

God's fellow workers            We are God's field    We are God's building

Each one's work will become clear for the Day will declare it

Our work will be revealed by fire

Fire will test each man's work - what sort it is

All things are yours men, the world, life, death, things present, things to come

Each one's praise will come from God, You are full, rich, reign as kings, are wise in  
Christ, are strong

You are distinguished            gather with the power of our Lord Jesus

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You are washed, sanctified, justified in the name of the Lord

You are justified by the Spirit of our God      God will raise us by His power

We can be joined to the Lord and be one spirit with Him

Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit      Our body is from God

We are not our own      We were bought at a price

Each has his own gift from God in relation to marriage

Keep the commandments of God      We are bought at a price

Be without care      Serve the Lord without distraction

God's ministers:

do not go to war at their own expense      eat the fruit they plant

drink of the milk of their own flock      plows in hope      partakes in hope

sows spiritual things - reaps material things

minister the holy things and eats the things of the temple

serve at the altar partakes of the offerings of the altar

Those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel

History are an example of how we ought to live or not

History is written for our admonition

God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able

When tempted, God will make a way of escape

When tempted, God will enable us to bear it

We drink from cup of blessing - it is communion of the blood of Christ

We eat bread - it is the communion of the body of Christ      We are one bread

## Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

We are one body    We drink the cup of the Lord

We are partakers of the Lord's table    We are the image and glory of God

Nature teaches us    WE break break in remembrance of Jesus

We drink of the cup in remembrance of Jesus

The cup we drink is a new covenant in Jesus' blood

We eat the bread and drink the cup to proclaim the Lord's death

We are judged and chastened so we are not condemned with the world

We have received the manifestation of the Spirit for the profit of all

Samples of the manifestation of the Spirit include, the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healings, the working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, different kinds of tongues, the interpretation of tongues

The Spirit distributes to each as He wills    The Spirit baptizes us into the body

We have all been made to drink into one Spirit

God has set the members as He pleases

God has appointed gifts in the church in the following orders: apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues

God desires that we earnestly desire the best gifts

We now see God dimly, but then we will see Him face to face

We now know in part, but then we shall know fully

God desires that we be zealous for spiritual gifts

God desires that we seek to excel

God will reveal the secrets of the heart    We are who we are by the grace of God

In Christ all shall be made alive    He will destroy death

Discussion about our body:

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Now, body sown in:	Then, raised in:
corruption	incorruption
dishonor	glory
weakness	power
a natural body	a spiritual body
Born image of the man of dust	Bear the image of the heavenly man

We shall be changed

Corruptible must put on incorruption

The mortal must put on immortality

Death will be swallowed up in victory

God gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ

### **God's Good Intention - The Negative Component**

God will destroy the wisdom of the wise.

God will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent

God will put to shame the wise    God will put to shame the things that are mighty

God will bring to nothing the things that are

No flesh will glory in His presence

Each man's work will become clear for the Day will declare it

Each man's work will be revealed by fire

Fire will test each one's work - what sort it is

If a man's work is burned, he will suffer loss, but will be saved, yet so as through fire

God will destroy him who defiles the temple of God - who we are

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The Lord will bring to light the hidden things of darkness

The Lord will reveal the counsels of the heart

Some are delivered to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus

Those outside God judges    The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God

We sin against Christ      We tempt Christ

### Concluding Remarks

## Chapter 3

### What does God reveal about the condition of men before His intervention?

We were perishing      God was in the process of destroying the wisdom of the wise

God was in the process of bringing to nothing the understanding of the prudent

God made foolish the wisdom of this world    We did not know God

The message the cross was a stumbling block and foolishness

God put to shame the wise

God put to shame the things which are mighty

God brought to nothing the things that are    We embraced the wisdom of this age

We embraced the wisdom of the rulers of this age

No one knew the hidden wisdom of God

We crucified the Lord of glory

We do not receive the things of the Spirit of God

The things of God were foolishness to us

## **Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians**

We did not know the things of God      We were marked for destruction

Our wisdom was foolishness to God      We were caught in our craftiness

Our thoughts were futile      We were unrighteous      Of the world

We were unbelievers      We were unable to inherit the kingdom of God

Our practices disqualified us from inheriting the kingdom of God: Some of us were fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, extortioners

We were unbelievers      We lusted after evil things

We were involved in sexual immorality

### **Concluding Remarks**

# Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

## Chapter Four

### What does God reveal about the condition of men after His intervention?

Sanctified in Christ Jesus    Called to be saints    Grace and peace from the Lord Jesus

Enriched in everything by Him    Enriched in all utterance    Enriched in all knowledge

Testimony of Christ was confirmed in you    You come short in no gift

You are in Christ Jesus    Christ is the Wisdom from God    Christ is righteousness

Christ is sanctification    Christ is redemption    Glory in the LORD

Through His Spirit, God has revealed those things He has prepared for us

We have received the Spirit from God – that we might know the things freely given to us

We have the mind of Christ    God gives the increase-growth

Each one of us will receive his own reward according to his own labor

We are builders    We will receive a reward    We are strong

We are distinguished    We are joined to the Lord    We are one spirit with Him

We are bought at a price    We received the cup of the new covenant in His blood

We proclaim the Lord's death till He comes every time we eat and drink the cup

The Spirit distributes gifts to us as He wills    The Spirit baptized us into one body

We all drank into one    We will see Him face to face    We will know fully

We speak in tongues to edify ourselves    We prophecy to edify the church

We pray with the spirit    Pray with understanding    sing with the spirit

Sing with understanding    We do all things for edification

We are saved if we hold fast the word    the grace of God labors abundantly in us

We are made alive in Christ    We love the Lord Jesus

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We eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ

He will confirm us to the end

He will keep us blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ

We are called into the fellowship of His Son

Your faith should be in the power of God      We have received the Spirit from God

The Spirit of God dwells in you      We are Christ's

Our praise will be from God      We love God and are known by Him

We are the church of God      We can be perfectly joined together in the same mind

We can be perfectly joined together in the same judgment

Our eye has not seen - ear not heard - nor has entered into the heart - the things God has prepared for those who love Him

We are God's fellow workers      We are God's field      We are God's building

You will be rewarded according to how you build      You are the temple of God

All things are yours - world, life, death, things present and things to come

We are full      you are rich      You reign as kings      You are a new lump

We will judge the world      we will judge angels      We are washed

We are sanctified      We are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus

We are justified by the Spirit of God      God will raise us up by His power

Our bodies are members of Christ      Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is in you      glorify God in our body and spirit

We are the Lord's freedman      We are Christ's slaves

If we preach the gospel willingly - we have a reward

Paul made himself a servant of all that he might win the more

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We run to obtain an imperishable crown

We drink the cup of blessing – which is the communion of the blood of Christ

We eat the bread – which is the communion of the body of Christ

We are the image and glory of God

We have received the manifestation of the Spirit

The Spirit gives men: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, different kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues

God sets members in the body just as He pleases      We are the body of Christ

We speak to God in mysteries when we speak in tongues without interpretation

We edify the church when we prophecy

In the church meeting we can speak by revelation, knowledge, prophesying or teaching

We are zealous for spiritual gifts      We seek to edify the church

We seek to excel

In the meeting we can offer a psalm, teaching, tongue, revelation or interpretation

We are the churches of the saints

Our body will be raised in incorruption

We will be raised in glory

We will be raised in power

We will be raised a spiritual body

We will bear the image of the heavenly Man

We shall be changed

We will put on incorruption

## **Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians**

This mortal will put on immortality

Death will be swallowed up in victory

We have the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ

We are called beloved brethren

**Concluding Remarks**

# Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians

## Chapter Five

### What is God's Expectation of Us?

#### Actions Related to the Individual

put your faith in the power of God      Take heed how you build on the foundation

Build using gold, silver, precious stones      Do not defile the temple of God

Do not be puffed up      Keep the commandments of God      Be without care

Serve the Lord without distractions      preach the Gospel

Be temperate in all things      Compete for an imperishable crown

Do not lust after evil things      Do not become idolaters

Do not commit sexual immorality      Do not tempt Christ      Do not complain

Flee from idolatry      Do not fellowship with demons

Do not drink the cup of demons      Do not provoke the Lord to jealousy

Do all to the glory of God      Examine yourself

Do not be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts      Suffer long and be kind

Do not envy      Do not parade yourself      Do not be puffed up

Do not behave rudely      Do not seek your own      Do not be provoked

Do not think evil      Do not rejoice in iniquity      Rejoice in the truth

Believe all things      Bear all things      Hope all things      Endure all things

Pursue love      Desire spiritual gifts      Be zealous for spiritual gifts

Seek to excel      Do not be children in understanding      In malice be babes

In understanding be mature      Desire earnestly to prophecy

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Do not forbid to speak with tongues      Let all things be done decently and in order

Awake to righteousness      Do not sin      Be steadfast

Be immovable      Always abound in the work of the Lord

Know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord

Watch      Stand fast in the faith      Be brave      Be strong

Let all that you do be done with love

### **Actions Related to Others**

Be perfectly joined together in the same mind

Be perfectly joined together in the same judgment      Let no man boast in men

Gather together with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ

Purge out the old leaven – be a new lump

Keep the feast with the unleaven bread of sincerity and truth

Do not keep the feast with old leaven of malice and wickedness

Do not keep company or eat with those who call themselves a brother and are ...  
sexually immoral people, covetous, extortioners, idolaters, revilers, drunkards,  
extortioner

Put away the evil person from you

Do not take a bother to court before the unrighteous – take them before the saints

Flee sexual immorality

Husband render to your wife the affection due her and wife to the husband

Do not deprive each other except with consent for a time

Do not let Satan tempt you because of your lack of self control

Run in such a way that you may obtain the prize      Give no offense

## **Reflections: The First Epistle to the Corinthians**

Please all men in all things and seek the profit of many that they may be saved

Keep the traditions          Eat and drink in remembrance of Jesus

Proclaim the Lord's death till He comes - by observing the Lord's Supper

There should be schism in the body

Members should have the same care for one another

If one members suffers - all members suffer

If one member is honored - all members rejoice

Earnestly desire the best gifts          Speak in tongues but pray that you may interpret

When you come together, have a psalm, teaching, tongue, revelation, interpretation

Let all things be done for edification

If anything be revealed to another, let the first keep silent

All can prophecy one by one

Do not be deceived - Evil company corrupts good habits

Greet one another with a holy kiss

### **Actions Related to God**

Eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord          glory in the LORD

Love God          Love the Lord Jesus Christ

### **Concluding Remarks**