

# STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF FIRST CORINTHIANS

## 2

### *STUDY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BOOK OF 1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS* Please Read Carefully

- Remember that all Home Bible School studies are **FREE** and pre-denominational. You will never be asked for money.
- This is Part Two of the “**Studies in the Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians**” series. When you finish this lesson, you should continue your study with the lesson on **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians**. Afterwards, other courses you may want to consider are:  
**Survey of the Old Testament, Making Sense of the Bible, the book of Revelation, the Church of the Bible, Hebrews & Galatians or a Home Bible Study Curriculum.**
- **YOUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR “STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF 1ST CORINTHIANS” PART TWO:**
  - The King James Bible is the text for these Bible study courses, but you may use your own Bible.
  - \* Please read the lesson very carefully and make notes in your notebook. then complete all the test questions at the end of this lesson. **All answers to the test questions are found in the lesson.**
  - **Send the** test questions back to the address below.. **Please do not send back the entire lesson.** It is yours to keep.
  - **Please make sure your name and address are on the test questions before you mail them back.**
  - Your lesson will be graded and the results sent back to you and when you finish each of these lessons and the rest of the courses, you will be sent a **Certificate of Completion.**

God blesses those who sincerely study the Bible and we pray his blessings on you as you study.

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# 1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS - PART 2

## LESSON ONE: Chapters ten and eleven

Welcome back to your study of 1 Corinthians. In our first booklet, the apostle Paul used the scripture and reason to help them with several problems they had: Division in the name of Christ (wrong), letting an immoral couple stay in fellowship with the church (also wrong), taking other Christians to court (wrong) and teaching what Jesus taught about marriage (right), divorce (right), Paul's advice for people wanting to marry and who were already married (right in line with what Jesus taught) and eating meats sacrificed to idols (okay if it didn't hurt someone's conscience).

Now, we're ready to continue studying this wonderful letter to a church that had serious problems, but which Paul still considered to be his brethren in dire need of repentance.

### CHAPTER 10 Warnings to the Corinthians

The Jews were "baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea", referring to the time when the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea on dry land after Egyptian bondage (Exodus 15). This means that when they went down onto the dry passageway with the waters on each side of them that they were "immersed", that is, completely covered. The same thing is true of baptism today: it is a complete covering of the repentant sinner's body.

What does it mean that their spiritual rock was Christ in verse 4? God, Christ and the Holy Spirit are one (1 John 5:7), and Paul is saying that the children of Israel looked forward to the coming of their Messiah (Christ) as being the bedrock of all that they held dear. Read Matthew 16:15-18, "But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The "rock" Jesus spoke of here was not Peter, but the confession that Peter made, that Jesus was the Christ, the son of God. The same is true for us today.

Those Jews in the wilderness, though, did not stay loyal to God, but turned to worshiping the golden calf (Exodus 32:4-8) and for this cause were destroyed (v 5). In the same way, Christians are not to commit idolatry or fornication in any period of history (vv 6-8). That includes putting our faith in little statues on our dashboards and letting our lives be governed by horoscopes, dirty books, dirty jokes, dirty movies, etc. **These things are just not for Christians.**

What good is it to study these things from the Old Testament? Paul says they are there for our example, encouragement and learning (v 11) so we can practice verse 12, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Everybody is tempted. John wrote in 1 John 2:16, "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." The world is without Christ and acts like it! But where does temptation come from? The answer is in James 1:13,14, "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man, but every man is tempted, when he is **drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.**"

Don't be fooled. The devil doesn't make us do anything; when we sin, it is because our lust makes us give in to temptation!

Verses 13, 14 teach that God is on the side of Christians, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry." That which is common to man is the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. God's way of escape is to flee from those lusts through prayer and strength of Christian commitment. **If a person is not a Christian, he or she is fair game for the devil!** Don't give in to sin!

This "cup of blessing" in verse 16 is the communion of the blood of Christ and is a reference to the fruit of the vine (grape juice) Christians take every Lord's day in the Lord's Supper. The reference to the "body of Christ" is to the unleavened bread that we take each Lord's day as part of the Supper. The Lord's Supper can be called "communion", but it cannot be called "eucharist" because that word is not in the Bible and who can spell it anyway?!

Paul gets back to his point that idols are nothing (v 19), but now he adds that idolatry is a sacrifice to devils and is a rejection of the true God, but Christians worship God and God alone (v 20). **Christians can't have one foot in the world and one foot in the church at the same time** (v 21)!

Paul wanted those Christians (and us today) to be considerate of others (v 24). Then he gets back into eating meat offered to idols and tells them they can eat that kind of meat because all things are of God anyway and idols are nothing (vv 25,26). However, there may be a conscience problem involved. If a person says this meat is offered to idols, don't eat it. You can do without it (v 28) even though it's not a sin to eat the meat (v 29). Christians are not to offend people (vv 32,33) and this reminds us of Jesus' statement in Matthew 18:6, "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

The point for today is that all Christians must have strong faith in the word of God and in the Lord of the Bible. But some people are not strong at all and we should be considerate of their conscience feelings.

## **CHAPTER ELEVEN**

### **Men Are Men and Women Are Women**

Men are men and women are women? Why would Paul talk about gender in this chapter? Just take another look at what he's been discussing.

- A man with his father's wife as his own wife (chapter 5)
- Their former lives as adulterers, fornicators and homosexuals (chapter 6)
- Marriage questions (chapter 7)
- Fleshly temptations (chapter 10)

These sins are moral sins involving sinning with their bodies and Paul calls such sinning "carnal" which means "after the flesh."

What's the bottom line of solving these kinds of things, especially homosexuality? **Men are men and women are women and don't ever confuse the two!**

Paul followed Jesus and wanted all Christians to do the same (v 1) and the only way that we follow Christ is to keep his word (v 2). **Christians can't claim to love Jesus and then refuse to do what he teaches!**

**God is the head of Christ, Christ is the head of the man and man is the head of the woman (v3).**

**Christ did what God wanted.** “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak” (John 12:49). Men do what Jesus wants.

**The husband does what Christ wants.** “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it...So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself” (Ephesians 5:23, 28).

**The husband is the head of the wife.** “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body” (Ephesians 5:23).

God and Christ know their part in their plan for man and when men and women today know their parts in God and Christ's plan for them, then immorality will not be in the church, divorce will be uncommon, children will be happier and **society will be a better place in which to live!**

### **Illustrations of These Points**

Look at verses 4 and 5: “Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head. But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.”

If we find out what this “covering” is, we can better understand what Paul is teaching. Look at verse 15: “Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered? Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? **But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.**”

The point: **One of the ways a man can be told from a woman is by looking at their hair! As a matter of fact, we ought to be able to look at any person and tell if they are a man and a woman. That is the main point that Paul is making here.** When we get Paul's point firmly in our minds, then we can understand:

- ☐ Why men should look like men when they do things in a public worship service (v 4)
- ☐ Why women should look like women when they serve the Lord (v 5)
- ☐ If a woman doesn't look like a woman, it's the same as being like a harlot, whose heads were shaved in those days (v 6)
- ☐ The angels are subject unto God and so should the woman act like a woman and thus be subject unto the man (vv 7-10)
- ☐ Men and women are subject unto God and Christ (v 11,12).

**NOTE:** Some churches are real strict about teaching women that they are never to cut their hair – then allow them to preach, or serve as deaconesses, or be church bosses, or do other things specifically reserved for men. This is a misuse of Paul's teachings in this chapter and borders on hypocrisy.

God is God; Christ is Christ; men are men and women are women. This is the basis for a successful society.

### Problems at the Lord's Table

Corinth had several problems with the Lord's Supper and we find many problems concerning Communion today. The Roman Catholics believe that when the priest blesses the bread and cup that they become the actual body and blood of the Lord. Some churches take the Lord's Supper every Sunday, some take it every day; some take it twice a year, once a quarter or once a month. We think the Corinthian church had problems at the Lord's table – we still have problems.

The Lord's Supper is part of every Sunday worship for Christians who are wanting to do Bible things in Bible ways. Acts 20:7, "And upon the first day of the week, **when the disciples came together to break bread**, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight." Matthew 26:26-28 says, "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; **this is my body**. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it, for this is **my blood of the new testament**, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Pretty clear, isn't it? The bread reminds us of his body, the grape juice reminds us of his blood and when we take the supper, it shows the Lord's death till he returns again, so we take it each and every Sunday.

So, what was Corinth's problem at the Lord's table? "When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken" (1 Corinthians 11:20,21).

- When they came together to worship, it was not to eat the Lord's supper (v 20)

**NOTE: When any church comes together to worship on the Lord's day and does not eat the Lord's supper, that church is not the church of the New Testament!**

- They had mixed up their fellowship meals (what we would call "dinner on the grounds") with the Lord's supper.

**NOTE: The Lord's supper feeds our souls and not our bodies.** Some modern day churches combine their fellowship meals with the Lord's supper and they are doing the exact same thing that Corinth was being condemned for.

- They didn't wait for the whole church to come together (v 33)

What did Paul say Jesus taught about the Lord's supper?

- He took bread (unleavened bread), blessed it and said "this is my body" (vv 23,24)
- He took the cup (grape juice) and said, "This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me" (v 25)
- The purpose of the supper is to remind us of Jesus' death till he returns again (v 26)
- If the bread is just a piece of cracker and the cup is just a sip of grape juice and we do not remember Jesus' death, it's the same as killing the Lord (v 27)
- If we do not remember Calvary, we are unworthy (v 29)
- When people do not eat the Lord's supper every Sunday, they are spiritually sick (v 30)
- We cannot mix the Lord's supper and our fellowship meals (v 34)

## How often should we eat the Lord's supper?

Here are the reasons Jesus said to eat the Lord's supper on the first day of the week, our Sunday:

1. The first day of the week was the day he arose from the dead.
2. The first time the Lord's supper was ever taken after Jesus' death was on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, which was also on a first day of the week
3. Acts 20:7 again says, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

**Why do people eat the Lord's supper on other days of the week?** It's because their church has decided to do it, a direct sin against the time Jesus said to take the supper.

**Why do people not eat the Lord's supper every first day of the week?** Because their church has said they didn't have to, another direct sin against the teachings of the Bible.

**The New Testament church ate the Lord's supper every first day of the week and that should be good enough for us to do the very same thing.**

### LESSON TWO: Chapter twelve

#### CHAPTER TWELVE

#### Corinth Had Problems Understanding the Holy Spirit's Work in Their Day

We have a lot of problems understanding the work of the Holy Spirit today too, don't we? There sure is a lot of confusion about the Holy Spirit in the religious world today, isn't there? As a matter of fact, there is probably more confusion about the Holy Spirit than any other Bible subject.

This church says the spirit does **miracles** today; that other one says **no**. That church says the spirit is **not** a person; that other one says he **is**. Still another church says there is **no** holy Spirit at all and not many churches believe that! And when folks take the Bible and find out what God says about the Holy Spirit, some others say, "You're sinning against the Holy Spirit!"

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (1 Peter 1:21). **Whatever people teach about the Holy Spirit cannot go against what the Bible teaches because the Holy Spirit, through God's instructions, inspired the Bible.**

The Holy Spirit worked in miraculous ways during the first century. There are two scriptures which tells us what those miraculous gifts were and they are 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 and Mark 16:17,18.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 says, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the **word of wisdom**; to another the word of **knowledge** by the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of **healing** by the same Spirit, to another the working of **miracles**; to another **prophecy**; to another **discerning of spirits**; to another divers kinds of **tongues**; to another the **interpretation** of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, **dividing to every man severally as he will.**"

Mark 16:17,18 adds to this list, “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they **cast out devils**; they shall speak with new **tongues**, they shall take up **serpents**; and if they **drink any deadly thing**, it shall not hurt them; they shall **lay hands on the sick**, and they shall recover.”

In the New Testament day, and **only** in the New Testament day, the Bible teaches that these were the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit:

- ✓ The **word of wisdom**, which gave those people which had this gift immediate wisdom, which now comes through experience and practice of the truth
- ✓ The **word of knowledge**, which gave those who had this gift immediate knowledge of the truth, which now comes through a knowledge of the Bible
- ✓ Immediate **faith**, which now comes by the word of God (Romans 10:17)
- ✓ **Healing**, which was to confirm the truth spoken in the first century (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- ✓ **Miracles**, which were to confirm the truth spoken in the first century (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- ✓ **Prophecy**, which was the public teaching of the truth
- ✓ **Discerning** of spirits, which was the immediate ability to tell if the truth was being preached, or not
- ✓ **Tongues**, which was to let the first century church speak in every language spoken in the first century so that the gospel could go to every person (Mark 16:15)
- ✓ **Interpretation** of tongues, which was to let people in the first century who did not speak a human language know what was being said.
- ✓ **Casting out devils** in the first century to show the power of heaven over the powers of hell
- ✓ Take up **serpents**, which would protect the first century teachers from harm (see Acts 28:3)
- ✓ Drink **poison**, which would also protect the first century teachers from harm
- ✓ **Lay hands** on the sick, which would confirm the truth spoken in the first century (Hebrews 2:1-4)

Some of these gifts would only be in the first century and those gifts are: healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues, casting out devils, taking up serpents, drinking poison and laying hands on the sick.

Some of these items last forever and they are: wisdom, knowledge and faith, which comes an understanding and practice of pure Bible teaching.

**The problem in the Corinthian church was that those who spoke in tongues thought they were better than those who did not have this gifts, such as the prophets.**

Paul wanted them to fully understand spiritual gifts (v 1), which purpose was to be able to tell truth from lies (vv 2,3). He says there are many kinds of gifts but that they all come from heaven (vv 4-6); however these gifts were for profit (v 8). The Holy Spirit did not give all these gifts to every baptized believer, but to those he wanted to give them to (v 11) and the reason for this is that the church would not be divided, even though there are different kinds of people in the church (v 12).

**NOTE: Christians cannot let our differences divide the church**

The Holy Spirit taught them that when they were baptized into Christ, they were baptized into the body of Christ, the church and they could not have Christ and still be divided (v 13) because even different parts of the human body have their own functions, but they are still part of only one body (vv 14-17). Besides, God knows the hearts of men and gave these gifts anyway (vv, 18,19) and one of the great characteristics of the church is that it is to be united (vv 20-27).

To accomplish unity in the first century and to preach the gospel to every person alive, God's plan was to have apostles first, then prophets (public teachers), teachers (teachers publicly or privately), miracles, healings, helps, governments and tongues (v 28). Not all Christians in the first century were apostles, miracle workers or tongue speakers (vv 29,30), but all Christians in the first century and for **every** century must have the "more excellent way", i.e. love for one another (v 31).

### **LESSON THREE: Chapters thirteen and fourteen**

#### **CHAPTER THIRTEEN Love Is The Excellent Way**

At the heart of Christianity is total love for God and commitment to man. "The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:29-31). In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul gives the most detailed description of true love ever found in any written work. Let's have our souls be thrilled by studying what he has to say.

A person could have the gift of speaking in tongues in the first century, but without love, he is nothing but a bunch of noise (v 1). A person can understand every word in the Bible and have the deepest level of faith possible, but if he doesn't have love, he is absolutely nothing (v 2). He can be the most generous person in the world, even to the point of giving everything he has to the poor, but if he has no love in his heart, he is nothing. He can even be persecuted ("give my body to be burned") for Jesus, but if he has no love in his heart, he is nothing and gains nothing (v 3).

#### **Christian love:**

- † Is **patient** and endures the weakness of others for a long time and is very
- † Is **kind** to all men
- † Is not green with **envy** when others have something we don't have
- † Is not **pushy** of our own selves (vaunteth not itself)
- † Is not **puffed up** like an old bullfrog for anything we've done
- † Minds its **manners** and is not a loudmouth (behave itself unseemly)
- † Loves **all** people (seeketh not her own)
- † **Doesn't fly off the handle** in anger (not easily provoked)
- † **Doesn't love evil things** (rejoiceth not in iniquity)
- † Always **loves the truth** and others over all things in that order (rejoiceth in the truth)
- † Is not only patient but **bears all things**
- † **Believes the best** in people
- † Is **patient beyond imagination**

Paul then teaches that there are something that will only be in the New Testament days such as prophecies, tongues and the miraculous giving of knowledge (v 8) and these miraculous things were never to be forever (in part, v 9). There will come a time when something "perfect" will be among men and at that time these miraculous "in part" things will vanish from the earth. 2 Timothy 3:16,17 says, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be perfect**, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Another word for “perfect” is “complete” and this scripture tells us that the Bible makes us complete. The Bible cannot make us complete unless it itself is complete (perfect). Verses 8 and 9 teach us that during the first century, the Holy Spirit would perform miracles, but when the Bible was completely written, there would be no more miracles.

These miracles of the first century are then spoken of by Paul as like being in childhood (v 11) and a “dark glass” (v 12), looking to the time when the complete New Testament truth would make Christians mature and give us all the light we need.

***“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (v 13) and the reason charity (love) is the greatest is because it is the only one of these three that will last forever!***

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN Getting Back to Problems

Do we still speak with unknown tongues today? Many believe that Christians do and they also believe that if you don't speak in the unknown tongue, then somehow you're not blessed by the Holy Spirit.

What was the purpose of tongues in the New Testament? Mark 16:15-18 again says, “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”

The early church was commanded to go “into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (person) and, in order to obey the Lord, Jesus sent them the ability to speak in human language. How do we know these “tongues” were human languages? Because of Acts 2:8, “And how hear we every man in our own tongue, **wherein we were born?**” This settles the question of “Can we speak in unknown tongues today?” based upon the original Pentecostal experience! Tongue speakers today do not speak in human languages.

So what was the problem in Corinth with tongue-speakers? **They claimed to be more spiritually blessed because they could speak in tongues and looked down their noses at the local prophets who only preached to the local church!**

What does Paul have to say about this?

- ☐ Spiritual gifts are for teaching (v 1)
- ☐ A tongue speaker may speak the gospel but no one can understand him (v 2)
- ☐ Local prophets spoke to help the local church (v 3)
- ☐ But tongue speakers spoke sometimes to build up others, but the prophets built up the local church (v 4)
- ☐ Paul wished they were all evangelistic, but all evangelism is for the purpose of teaching the truth and tongue speaking is worthless unless someone is there to interpret (v 5)
- ☐ Tongue-speaking in the first century was for the purpose of teaching (v 6) and besides...
- ☐ If you can't be understood, why speak at all? It's like shouting to the air (v 7-9)
- ☐ All human language is important (v 10), but if tongue-speakers spoke in a human language that no one could understand (just to show off), it's shameful and people will think they're barbarians (v 11)

- ☉ Spiritual gifts are for the building up of the local church (v 12)
- ☉ Don't speak in a tongue if there's no one to interpret (v 13) because prayers and singing must be understood by those around you (vv 14,15)
- ☉ When you claim to have a wonderful spiritual gift and the "unlearned" can't understand a thing you say, keep quiet (vv 16,17)
- ☉ Paul spoke with tongues "more than ye all" because he had visited more places than they did (v 18), but he would rather be understood with a few words than by a lot of words which could not be understood (v 19)
- ☉ He tells them to grow up and not be so proud of tongue-speaking that they would not be understood (v 20)
- ☉ Tongues are for the purpose of teaching the unbeliever but prophesying is for the teaching of the believers (v 21)
- ☉ If unbelievers hear you babbling away in tongues, they would think you're crazy (v 23)
- ☉ But if unbelievers could be spoken to in their own language, they would believe (v 24)
- ☉ The truth of God makes a person know he's a sinner and any way we can teach the truth is okay, but any way we confuse things is no okay (v 25)
- ☉ Whatever heaven gives you, teach it and nothing else and certainly not because of pride (v 26)
- ☉ Again, don't speak in a tongue unless there is someone there to tell what you're saying (v 27)
- ☉ If there's no one thing to interpret, keep quiet (v 28)
- ☉ Also, let the local teachers (prophets) teach with others bearing witness (v 29-32)
- ☉ The wives of the prophets couldn't interrupt services to ask their husbands questions – they should wait till they get home because women are not to speak publicly in church (vv 34,35)
- ☉ "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I **write unto you are the commandments of the Lord**" (v 37)
- ☉ It's okay to speak in tongues, but only for evangelism, but the main purpose of the local church is to teach the gospel (v 39)
- ☉ "Let all things be done decently and in order" (v 40)

**Modern-day tongue-speaking today does not meet any of these requirements and does not come from God and certainly not from the Holy Spirit. To claim to be able to speak in tongues today denies the Holy Spirit**

#### **LESSON FOUR: Chapters fifteen and sixteen**

### **CHAPTER FIFTEEN The Resurrection Chapter**

The Corinthian church had problems with the resurrection because Paul said in verse 12, "how say some of you that there is no resurrection of the dead?" How could these people believe such a thing? It's like they accepted everything Jesus taught except what he taught in John 5:28,29, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." We just don't know why they denied that there would be a "general" resurrection, but they did and Paul uses a whole chapter to discuss the problem.

The very heart and breathing soul of the gospel of Christ is summarized by Paul in verses 3-8: *“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died** for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was **buried**, and that he **rose again** the third day according to the scriptures: and that he was **seen** of Cephas, then of the twelve; after that, he was **seen** of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was **seen** of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was **seen** of me also, as of one born out of due time.”*

**The gospel truth of Jesus revolves around the death, burial, resurrection and witnessed appearances of Jesus Christ.**

All Christians in the first century, and today as well, believe, remember and stand in these facts (vv 1,2) because without them, Christianity is just another manmade religion. It is through Jesus Christ, his life, death, burial, resurrection and witnessed appearances that the grace of God “hath appeared to all men” (Titus 2:11) and which caused Paul to work so hard (v 10).

Evidently, some of the Corinthian Christians believed Jesus did not rise from the dead and that there was no general resurrection at the end of time (v 12), but that doesn't make sense because they are tied together (v 13). Besides that, if there is no resurrection, why believe in Jesus (v 14) and besides even that, if there is no resurrection, why even preach the gospel at all (v 15). Without the resurrection, everything in Christianity is worth nothing (vv 16,17), especially those loved ones who had died (v 18).

Beginning in verse 20, Paul gives the most detailed description of that coming day, the day of resurrection of the dead. He teaches:

- ✦ As Jesus was after his own resurrection (the firstfruits), so will we all be at the general resurrection (v 20,21)
- ✦ Adam caused death to come into the world; Christ caused life (v 22)
- ✦ Christ was the “first fruits”, that is, he is the only person who has ever lived who has gone through the circle of life: **Conception, birth, life, death, resurrection** and **ascension** and that is the schedule every human keeps: we are conceived, we are born, we live, we die, we will be resurrected and we will go to our destinies (v 23).
- ✦ Christ rules in his kingdom, the church, right now (v 24) and at the judgment day, he will turn the kingdom/church over to God and all those who die faithful Christians (v 25)
- ✦ Christ is in charge of the church/kingdom and we do what he wants (v 26-28)

### **What is Baptism for the Dead?**

Verse 29 says, “Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?” Bible baptism is described in Romans 6:1-4, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of **us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death**? Therefore **we are buried with him by baptism into death**: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also should walk in newness of life.**” When a person is baptized into Christ, he goes all the way under the water (picturing the burial of Christ) and he is brought up out of the water (picturing the resurrection of Christ). Sprinkling or pouring water on the head of a penitent person is not Bible baptism because it paints the wrong picture.

The Mormon church teaches that people who are alive can be baptized for friends and relatives who have already died and they use verse 29 as “proof” for their doctrine. Does verse 29 teach such a doctrine.

## We think not.

Read Ephesians 2:1-5 and you'll find the key to who these "dead" are: *"And you hath he quickened [made alive], who were **dead in trespasses and sins**, wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation [the way we live] in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is **rich in mercy**, for his **great love** wherewith he loved us, even when we were **dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)."*

People are spiritually dead in their sins and when they believe in Jesus as the son of God (Hebrews 11:1), repent of their sins (Luke 13:3,5), confess Jesus as God's son (Romans 10:10) and are baptized into Christ (Acts 2:38), their sins are washed away—and not before then.

The phrase "baptism for the dead" refers to a person being **dead in sin** until that person is baptized and become alive in Christ, which is why 1 Peter 3:21 says, *"The like figure whereunto even **baptism doth also now save us** (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**"*

Paul says that if there is no resurrection, why in the world would he be making sacrifices for a permanently dead Jesus (vv 31,32)? And a warning: *"Be not deceived: evil communications [companions] corrupt good manners"* (v 33). Christians must be awake and always ready to defend the truth and give answers for our faith which is based on the resurrection (v 34).

### More Details About the Resurrection

† The resurrected body won't arise from the dead until it is dead and buried, just like seed in the ground (v 35-37) and this new body will be given by God himself (v 38)

**NOTE:** Will we recognize each other in heaven? The answer to that is "yes" because of verse 38, "and to every seed his own body" which means that our resurrected bodies will in some way be recognizable in heaven. Each body will be different, that is, each person is different, therefore, the resurrected body will be recognizable (vv 39-42)

† Verse 39 says, **"All flesh is not the same flesh:** but there is one kind of flesh of **men**, another flesh of **beasts**, another of **fishes**, and another of **birds.**"

**NOTE:** The theory of evolution that's taught in our schools says that man began on this earth as an animal, then became a thinking animal, but is still nothing but an animal. **Verse 39 proves differently.** That's why doctors can't take monkey blood and put it into human beings: different flesh, different blood. **Man is not an animal and there is no true scientific evidence that we are.**

† The resurrected body will not be a physical body, but a spiritual body (vv 42-45)

† Adam was made alive but Jesus makes us alive (v 45).

† We begin as a physical body but enter eternity as a spiritual body (v 46) and our new bodies will not be of the earth (vv 47-49)

† The reason that we go to heaven in a spiritual body is that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption" (v 50)

- † When Jesus returns, not every person on earth will be dead (v 52), but some will still be alive and be changed from a physical body to a spiritual body (v 51)
- † **Faithful Christians look forward to the time when we will gain the final victory over death (vv 53-56) and our victory will be gained through Jesus (v 57)**

**“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”**  
This is the hope of Christians and only faithful Christians. **Are you a Christian?**

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN Help the Poor and Farewell

Christians should always help other Christians in their time of need and giving money is one way to help. In Acts 11:27-30, we read of a real problem that happened in the first century, “And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be **great dearth [or, famine] throughout all the world:** which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea, which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.” This famine is the background for the “collection for the saints” Paul talks about in verse 1. It also gives us some insight as to how we’re to give our money today as part of our worship to God.

It’s an “order” (v 1) for Christians to be generous with our money, “especially unto them who are of the household of faith [the church] (Galatians 6:10). Giving of our money is to be part of our worship on the first day of the week and we are to give as God has given us (v 2). Paul wanted to visit with them (vv 4-7) after going by Ephesus (v 8) because there was a great opportunity to preach in that city (v 9). Paul had many coworkers and he wanted the Corinthians to be good to each of them, especially Timothy (vv 10-12). Then he begins his final farewell to this church:

- † “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit [behave yourselves] like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity” (vv 13,14)
- † Christians who are faithful in their care for other Christians are good examples (vv 15-18).
- † Christians are to be loving toward one another and never be hateful (v 20) and Paul signed this book with his own hand (v 21).
- † “Anathema Maranatha” means “accursed” and Christians who aren’t loving and caring will receive the curse of God (v 22)

**“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus.”**

THIS CONCLUDES THE SECOND STUDY BOOKLET FOR 1 CORINTHIANS. PLEASE ANSWER THE TEST QUESTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES, CUT THEM OUT OF THE BOOKLET AND RETURN THEM TO US FOR GRADING



**TEST QUESTIONS**  
**1 Corinthians**  
**Part 2**

**YOUR NAME:**

**YOUR ADDRESS:**

**CITY/STATE/ZIP**

**WHERE DO YOU GO TO CHURCH?**



**LESSON ONE: Chapters ten and eleven**

**Fill in the blanks**

1. Chapter ten deals with \_\_\_\_\_ to the Corinthian Christians.
2. Chapter eleven deals with men are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are women, plus problems at the \_\_\_\_\_ Supper
3. 1 Corinthians 10:12, "Wherefore, let him that \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_, take heed lest he \_\_\_\_\_."
4. Christians can' have one \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ and one foot in the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the head of \_\_\_\_\_, Christ is the head of \_\_\_\_\_ and man is the head of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. A woman's covering is her \_\_\_\_\_ according to verse 15 of chapter 10.
7. Acts 20:7, "And upon the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the week, \_\_\_\_\_ the disciples came together to \_\_\_\_\_ bread, Paul preached unto them...."
8. The unleavened bread in the Lord' Supper represents Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The fruit of the vine (grape juice) in the Lord's Supper represent's Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.
10. People who eat the Lord's supper on other days is because their \_\_\_\_\_ has decided to do it..."

**Multiple choice (Circle the correct answer)**

1. The church in the New Testament A Ate the Lord's supper once a quarter B Ate the Lord's supper once a year C Ate the Lord's supper every first day of the week D Never did eat the Lord's supper.
2. On the first day of the week, A Jesus arose from the dead B The Lord's supper was eaten by the church on the day of Pentecost C The new Testament church ate the Lord's supper D All of these
3. If a woman shaved her head in the first century, she would look like a A Saint B Man C Harlot
4. The Jews were said to have been "baptized unto Moses" because A They obeyed God when they went into the Red Sea B Moses had authority to baptize C It doesn't mean anything.
5. Idolatry is a sacrifice to A God B Christ C Devils

**True false (Check the correct answer)**

1. Christians today should only be considerate of their preachers T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
2. Christians today should be considerate of every one T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
3. True Christians today remember the death of Jesus with the Lord's Supper T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
4. Christians today can combine the Lord's supper and our fellowship meals T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
5. We ought to be able to look at a human being and tell if it's a man or woman T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
6. The "cup of blessing" refers to the Lord's Supper or Communion T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
7. If a person is not a Christian, he is fair game for the devil T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
8. Men and women are subject to God and Christ T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
9. The Lord's supper feeds our bodies T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
10. The Lord's supper feeds our souls T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

**LESSON TWO: Chapter 12**

**Fill in the blanks about the spiritual gifts in the New Testament**

The \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom  
The word of \_\_\_\_\_  
Immediate \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, so that the truth could be confirmed  
\_\_\_\_\_, so that the truth could be confirmed  
\_\_\_\_\_, the public teaching of the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of spirits, the ability to tell if the truth was being preached  
\_\_\_\_\_, so that the first century church could speak in human languages  
\_\_\_\_\_ of tongues, so that people would know what was being taught  
Casting out \_\_\_\_\_, to show the power of the gospel over hell itself  
Take up \_\_\_\_\_, so they would be protected from harm  
Drink deadly \_\_\_\_\_, so they would be protected from harm  
Lay \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_, which would confirm the truth

**True False (Check the correct answer)**

- |  |   |       |   |       |
|--|---|-------|---|-------|
| 1. Christians cannot let our differences in opinion divide the church  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 2. Speaking in tongues makes a Christian a special person              | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 3. The Holy Spirit worked in miraculous ways during the first century  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 4. People who do <u>not</u> teach the Bible are led by the Holy Spirit | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 5. Handling snakes protected the first century Christians from harm    | T | _____ | F | _____ |

**LESSON THREE: Chapters thirteen and fourteen**

**Fill in the blanks with the descriptions of love**

Love endures the weakness of others and that is called \_\_\_\_\_

Love is \_\_\_\_\_ to all men

Love is not green with \_\_\_\_\_

Love is not \_\_\_\_\_ up or conceited

Love minds its manners and is not a \_\_\_\_\_

Love doesn't fly off the \_\_\_\_\_

Love doesn't love \_\_\_\_\_ things

Love always loves the \_\_\_\_\_

Love is not only patient, but \_\_\_\_\_ all things

Love believes the \_\_\_\_\_ in people

Love is patient beyond \_\_\_\_\_

**True false (Check the correct answer)**

- |  |   |       |   |       |
|--|---|-------|---|-------|
| 1. Love is the "most excellent way"  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 2. If preachers don't love the truth, they're nothing  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 3. If Christians don't love each other, they're nothing  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 4. Another word for "perfect" is "complete"  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 5. Tongue-speakers are more spiritual than prophets  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 6. If there is no interpreter, a tongue speaker can talk anyway                                    | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 7. A prophet spoke to the local church in the first century  | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 8. Tongue speakers in the first century preached in many different places                          | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 9. Everything we do should be done decently and in order   | T | _____ | F | _____ |
| 10. Modern day tongue speaking does not meet the requirements set down by Paul in 1 Corinthians 14 | T | _____ | F | _____ |

## LESSON FOUR: Chapters fifteen and sixteen

### Fill in the blanks

1. Chapter fifteen deals with the \_\_\_\_\_
2. Chapter sixteen deals with helping the \_\_\_\_\_ and Paul's saying \_\_\_\_\_
3. The gospel \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus revolves around the \_\_\_\_\_, burial, \_\_\_\_\_ and witnessed \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.
4. Adam caused \_\_\_\_\_ to come into the world; Christ caused \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Ephesians 2:1, "And you hath he quickened, who were \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."
6. 1 Corinthians 15:39, "All flesh is \_\_\_\_\_ the same flesh; but there is one kind of \_\_\_\_\_, another flesh of \_\_\_\_\_, another of \_\_\_\_\_ and another of \_\_\_\_\_."
7. 1 Corinthians 16:13,14, "\_\_\_\_\_ ye, stand fast in the \_\_\_\_\_, quit ye like men, be \_\_\_\_\_. Let all your things be done with \_\_\_\_\_,"
8. The "circle of life" means that we are \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_, we will be \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Our resurrected bodies will not be \_\_\_\_\_ bodies, but \_\_\_\_\_ bodies.
10. 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my \_\_\_\_\_ brethren, be ye \_\_\_\_\_ unmoveable, always \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your \_\_\_\_\_ is not in vain in the Lord."

### True False (Check the correct answer)

- |   |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|
| 1. The Corinthians did not believe there was a resurrection               | T _____ | F _____ |
| 2. There will be a resurrection of all the dead                           | T _____ | F _____ |
| 3. The death, burial, resurrection of Jesus is the heart of Christianity  | T _____ | F _____ |
| 4. We can be baptized for people who are dead                             | T _____ | F _____ |
| 5. We cannot be baptized for people who are dead                          | T _____ | F _____ |
| 6. When Jesus returns, not every person on earth will be dead             | T _____ | F _____ |
| 7. A "dearth" is another word for a great famine                          | T _____ | F _____ |
| 8. Christians are to help others with money during a crisis               | T _____ | F _____ |
| 9. Christians give their money as part of their worship on the Lord's day | T _____ | F _____ |
| 10. "Anathema Maranatha" means "everything is all right"                  | T _____ | F _____ |
| 11. The famine (dearth) of Acts 11 was throughout all the world           | T _____ | F _____ |
| 12. We will not recognize each other in heaven                            | T _____ | F _____ |
| 13. We will recognize each other in heaven                                | T _____ | F _____ |
| 14. In the resurrection, everyone will be judged                          | T _____ | F _____ |
| 15. In the resurrection, only the bad people will be judged               | T _____ | F _____ |