

Empowered to Live: Why Life is Better When Jesus is Lord
January 14, 2024

An introduction to the New Testament book of 1 Corinthians

The City of Corinth:

The Apostle Paul:

Acts 18:1,4 NIV – After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ...Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

Acts 18:8, NIV – Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

1 Corinthians 1:11, CEV – Several people from Chloe's family have already reported to me that you keep arguing with each other.

2 Corinthians 5:17, NLT – Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, NIV

1. _____

1 Corinthians 4:20, NIV – For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

John 14:27, NLT – [Jesus said,] “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”

1 Corinthians 1:5-7a, NIV – For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge—God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift...

2. _____

Philosophy means...

Cynicism:

Stoicism:

1 Corinthians 1:23-25, NIV – But we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:9, NIV – God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Personal Reflection:

In what area of my life do I not have God’s peace? Ask for God to use his power to bring you peace in that very place. Anything that we allow equal standing with Jesus steals away our peace. So, as you ask for God’s power, commit to letting him be Lord alone of your life.

Where does your wisdom for living come from? Christ is the power and wisdom of God. Remember, God is faithful. His grace and your relationship with him don’t depend on you or your good works. They depend on God’s steadfast love for you. Jesus is Lord of wisdom. Ask him for the wisdom and power you need for living today.