

Studies In First Corinthians

(I Corinthians 1:1-9)

1. By whose will was Paul chosen to be an Apostle?

The will of God: *"Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother"* (I Corinthians 1:1).

- **Acts 9:1-22, II Corinthians 1:1, Galatians 1:1, Galatians 1:12-16, Ephesians 1:1, Colossians 1:1, I Timothy 1:1, and II Timothy 1:1.**
- We should not think that Paul is not the lone person who sent this epistle. Sosthenes is with Paul at the time of the writing of this epistle. For information on this man see: **Acts 18:7-17.**

2. Who is a saint?

Members of the church, those who are sanctified in Christ, those who call on the name of Christ: *"Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours"* (I Corinthians 1:2).

- Consider the following concerning "saints" which proves this is just another term used to describe those following the will of the Lord: **Psalms 97:10, Psalms 116:15, Psalms 149:1, Ephesians 2:19-21, Colossians 1:9-14, and Hebrews 6:10.**
- To be a member of the Lord's church, you must obey the Gospel (**Acts 2:37-41; 47**).
- Those calling on the name of the Lord are those obeying Him (**Acts 22:16**).
- Those sanctified are those who've been washed and justified by the authority of Christ (**I Corinthians 6:11**).
- We are called by the Gospel of Christ (**II Thessalonians 2:14**).

3. Do epistles from Paul often use the greeting of peace from God?

Yes: *"Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ"* (I Corinthians 1:3).

- Every one of them do: **Romans 1:7, II Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2, I Thessalonians 1:1, II Thessalonians 1:2, I Timothy 1:2, II Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4, and Philemon 3.**
- Peter uses a greeting of peace in his second epistle (**II Peter 1:2**).
- John does in II John (**II John 3**).
- Our Lord certainly is the source of true peace (**Isaiah 9:6, Acts 10:36, Romans 15:33, and I Corinthians 14:33**) which is beyond carnal understanding (**Philippians 4:7; cf. Romans 5:1**).

4. Through whom is the grace of God given to men?

Through Christ: *"I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ"* (**I Corinthians 1:4**).

- **Acts 15:11, Romans 3:24, II Timothy 1:9, and Hebrews 2:8-9.**

5. Were the Christians in Corinth lacking in any gift?

No, they were enriched [made rich] and lacking in no gift: *"(5) That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; (6) Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: (7) So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (**I Corinthians 1:5-7**).

- The brethren in Corinth were really zealous of spiritual gifts (**I Corinthians 14:12**). So much so, that they abused them and we'll find that three chapters are written to them about these abuses (**I Corinthians 12-14**).
- They are going to be taught that there is a more excellent way (**I Corinthians 12:28-31; 13:8-13**).
- They are going to have to understand that they are not the source of truth or the only one's receiving it either (**I Corinthians 14:36**). Big heads prevailed in Corinth (**I Corinthians 4:18-19** and **I Corinthians 5:2**).

6. At the return of Christ, should Christians be without blame?

Yes: *"Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (**I Corinthians 1:8**).

- **Ephesians 1:3-4, Philippians 2:14-16, and II Peter 3:9-14.**

7. As Christians, are we in fellowship with Christ?

Yes, we'd better be or we're not Christians: *"God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord"* (**I Corinthians 1:9**).

- The faithful are in fellowship with the Father and the Son (**I John 1:3, I John 1:6-7, and II John 9**).