



# 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

ST. PAUL'S BIBLE COLLEGE – ONLINE LECTURE – LESSON 22

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# PAUL'S SEVEN CHURCH LETTERS

1 Rome

5 Philippi

3 Galatia

7 Thessalonica

4 Ephesus

2 Corinth

6 Colossae



# LESSON OUTLINE

- I. First Letter to the Corinthians
- II. Second Letter to the Corinthians

# HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

- Corinth – business capital in Greece.
- ‘To corinthianize’
- Educated People
- A pebble in Paul’s shoes
- Vibrant community
- Paul’s response to issues, and self-explanation

# THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- Factions in the ecclesial community.
- Misunderstanding about charisms.
- Theological issues concerning idols, Last Supper, love, reconciliation, and vocation (treasure in earthen pot).
- The opponents of Paul.
- Lost letters of Paul.

## LITERARY STYLE

- Response to the problems reported.
- Exhortations.
- Theological treatise on love, reconciliation, suffering, and giving.



## II. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LETTERS



# LIFE LESSONS FROM 1 CORINTHIANS

1. There should be no divisions in the church.
2. God has given us principles to follow for marriage, divorce, and singleness.
3. We must not be a stumbling block to the weak.
4. The Lord's supper to be taken with reverence.
5. Love is the goal of spiritual gifts.
6. Christ's resurrection gives hope for our resurrection. Foundation of faith.



# LIFE LESSONS FROM 2 CORINTHIANS

1. The God of All Comfort (1:1-11)
2. The Fragrance of Christ's Ministering People (2:12-3:6)
3. Being Changed by God's Glory (3:7-18)
4. Treasures in Clay Pots (4:1-18)
5. Walking by Faith, Not by Sight (5:1-16)
6. The Ministry of Reconciliation (5:17-6:2)
7. Hardships, Holiness, and Joy (6:3-7:16)
8. Sowing Generously (9:6-15)
9. Paul's Vision, Thorn, and Final Words (12-13)



# ASSESSMENT



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1. What does “to corinthianize” mean? **A. To practise fornication.** B. To love Corinth. C. To hate Corinth.
  2. How was the Corinthian church divided? **A. Paul, Apollos, and Cephas factions.** B. James, John, and Peter factions. C. God, Jesus and Holy Spirit factions.
  3. What is the greatest charism? A. Hope. B. Faith. **C. love.**
  4. How many letters did Paul write to the Corinthians and how many visits did he make? A. Three letters and three visits. **B. Four letters and four visits.** C. Two letters and two visits.
  5. Who consoles Paul in adverse circumstances? A. Corinthians. **B. God Himself.** C. Apostles.

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6. What is the most personal letter of Paul? **A. 2 Corinthians.** B. 1 Corinthians. C. Letter of Tears.
7. What is Paul's attitude towards women? A. Anti-feminist. **B. Respects women.** C. Indifferent to them.
8. What is the temple of the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians? **A. Body.** B. The church. C. The message of the cross.
9. Who diverted the Corinthian community from Paul? **A. Unnamed opponents.** B. Cephas' faction. C. Apollo's faction.
10. Are we allowed to eat the food offered to the idols? **A. Yes.** B. No. C. Sometimes yes and sometimes no.



## Paragraph Questions

1. A note on the cultural ambience of Corinth.
2. How does Paul claim his right as an Apostle?
3. Write about the problem in the last super.
4. Write the Pauline teaching on the resurrection.
5. Write about the important themes of the first defense speech in 2 Cor.
6. Write something about the foolish boasting in the second defence speech of 2 Corinthians.



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27 February 2022, at Google Meet