

JULY 29, 2019

## I Corinthians, Part II

### Chapter 1

#### Greeting (verses 1-3)

- Greek: ekklesia or ecclesia
- 'Called out' ones; 'gathering' or 'assembly of the faithful'.

#### Thanksgiving (verses 4-9)

- Their "POSITION" has not changed just because they had made mistakes.
- GOD has not changed!

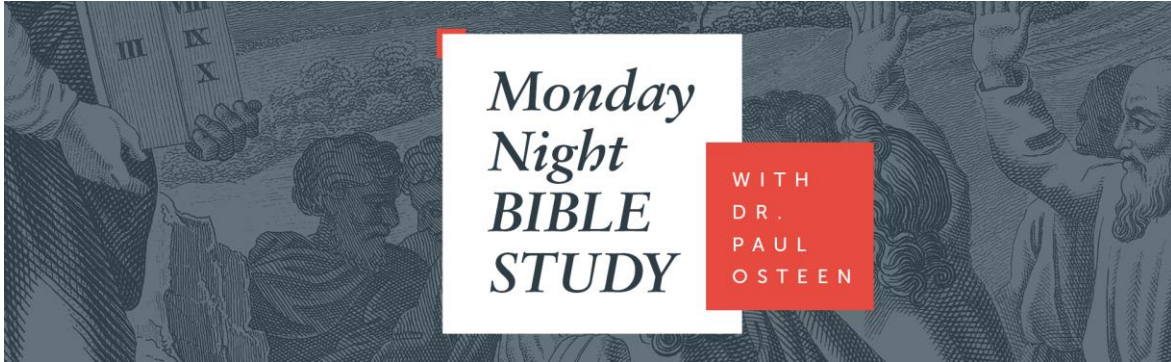
*Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* Philippians 1:6

Koinonia: 'fellowship', 'sharing'

- Ongoing, dynamic connection that we as believers have WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS.
- Ongoing, deep connection that we as believers have WITH EACH OTHER.

#### A Church Divided Over Leaders (verse 10-17), (chapter 3:1-9, 21-22)

1. There is power in unity. Deuteronomy 32:30, Matthew 18:19, Psalm 133, John 17:20-21, 23
2. One of the primary tactics the devil uses against believers is to 'divide and conquer'.  
Matthew 12:25
3. Giving into strife and quarrels and jealousy and divisions is a sign of spiritual immaturity.  
Galatians 5:19-21
4. We have to fight for unity. Unity doesn't just happen!
  - How can we fight for unity?
    1. Keep the main thing the main thing! So often we argue and get into conflict over issues that are not essential and often not even important.
    2. Choose not to get offended! Overlook an insult.
    3. Don't engage in controversial discussions that will only polarize and divide!



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4. Show grace and humility to those who view things differently.
5. Keep your mouth shut!
6. Model for those who are spiritually immature the godly way (mature way) to respond to strife and division.

A foolish message (verses 18-25)

- Greeks – were looking for enlightenment through philosophy, logic, human **WISDOM**.
- Jews – valued **POWER**, they were looking for a powerful messiah who would free Israel from the Roman Empire and restore their homeland. They wanted to see powerful signs to prove who the messiah was.
- The Jews and Greeks and Romans were well acquainted with the cross and crucifixion. For them the cross represented punishment for the worst of criminals, it represented death and suffering and pain and agony and rejection.
- To those who are being saved, the cross is **power** and **wisdom** and **salvation**.

A foolish people (verses 26-31)

- Jesus—our **wisdom, righteousness, holiness** and **redemption**.

A foolish messenger (2:1-5)

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