

# **P.T. BIBLE SURVEY**

## **The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

- ⦿ In Paul's time, Corinth was an ancient and famous seaport city in Greece. Corinth was known for its immorality. A well known phrase "to live as a Corinthian" denoted a sexually immoral lifestyle.
- ⦿ Who wrote it?
  - Paul is the writer of this epistle (1:1; 16:21). Paul wrote this letter to specifically address issues and conflicts that had arisen in the Corinthian church.

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◉ Date of writing:

- Around A.D. 57

## ◉ Timing of Events:

- Paul founded the church in Corinth in A.D. 50-52 during his second missionary journey (Acts 18). Five years later Paul heard of the church's many issues. He then wrote this first letter to the Corinthian church during his third missionary journey.

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◉ Key Term: Love

- Although this letter reflects a church facing many difficult issues, the solution always involves love (“charity” in the KJV; agapē in Greek). The “Love Chapter” (13) is the best known and most beloved part of the letter.

## ◉ Location of Events:

- Paul wrote 1 Corinthians while in Ephesus.

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



# THE OUTLINE OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## I. In Answer to Chloe's Report of Divisions (1-4:21)

- Greeting and Report of Divisions (1:1-17)
- Reason for Divisions (1:18-4:21)

## II. In Answer to Reports of Fornication (5:1-6:20)

- Concerning Incest (5:1-13)
- Concerning Litigation between believers (6:1-11)
- Warning Against Sexual Immorality (6:12-20)

# THE OUTLINE OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## III. In Answer to the Letter of Questions (7:1-16:24)

- Counsel Concerning Marriage (7:1-40)
- Counsel Concerning Things Offered to Idols (8:1-11:1)
- Counsel Concerning Public Worship (11:2-14:40)
- Counsel Concerning the Resurrection (15:1-58)
- Counsel Concerning the Collection for Jerusalem (16:1-4)
- Conclusion (16:5-24)



# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◎ Summary in one sentence:

- The many problems a congregation may have, whether doctrinal or practical, will be resolved as that church submits properly to the lordship of Christ and learns to love one another genuinely.

## ◎ Summary in 10 words or less:

- The apostle tackles sin problems in the church at Corinth.



# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◎ Cast of Characters:

- Paul: an apostle of Christ by the will of God
- Crispus, Gaius, Stephanas' household: Corinthians baptized by Paul
- Apollos: a preacher of the Word
- The first Adam: God's first human
- The second Adam: Jesus; a quickening spirit
- Stephanus, Fortunatus, Achaicus: bring Paul supplies from Corinth
- Aquila, Priscilla: church workers Paul stayed with; send greetings to the Corinthian church

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## Verse to Remember

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.”

(1 Corinthians 13:13)

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◉ Interesting Facts:

- Paul worked with the church in Corinth for 18 months in A.D. 51 - 52.
- After Corinth was destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C., the city was rebuilt by Julius Caesar in 46 B.C.
- Corinth was filled with shrines and temples. One such temple was the Temple of Aphrodite, which had some 1,000 temple prostitutes.
- First Corinthians is apparently not the first letter Paul wrote to the Corinthians. (5:9)

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

- ◉ What is my take away?
  - Paul did not hesitate to deal with various issues in the church that threatened to diminish the purity and unity of the body.

# THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

## ◉ Home Study

- Read a couple chapters daily in 2 Corinthians this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.