### 1 Corinthians

## Chapter 1

1Paul, who by the Will of God is a called Apostle of the Anointed Jesus, and [your] brother Sosthenes, 2to the congregation of God in to the congregation of God in <span class="placename">Corinthto the congregation of God in <span class="placename">Corinth</span>; to you who’ve been made holy in the Anointed Jesus and who are called to be Holy Ones along with all those who call on the name of our Lord Jesus the Anointed everywhere (their Lord and ours):  
  
3May you receive loving care and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus the Anointed.  
  
  
4I always thank God for you, because in His loving care (through the Anointed Jesus), God has given you 5everything that you need to make you rich in Him. [He’s given you] all the words and a complete knowledge, 6while the testimony about the Anointed One is being made firm in you.  
  
7Therefore, you haven’t lagged behind in any gift as you eagerly await the revelation of our Lord Jesus the Anointed, 8who’ll make you strong to the end and keep you free from any accusations to the Day of our Lord Jesus the Anointed. 9For God, who called you to have a share with His Son (our Lord Jesus the Anointed), is faithful.  
  
10Now, through the name of our Lord Jesus the Anointed, I want to encourage you brothers to all be united in purpose. There shouldn’t be any divisions among you. Rather, you must all be completely united in mind and will.  
  
11For those of the house of Chloe have told me that you do a lot of arguing, my brothers. 12What I mean is, some of you are saying, ‘I follow Paul,’ or ‘I follow Apollos,’ or ‘I follow Cephas,’ or ‘I follow the Anointed One.’ 13And by this, the Anointed One is being divided. Paul wasn’t hung on a pole for you, was he? Or were you immersed in the name of Paul?  
  
14I’m thankful that I didn’t immerse any of you (other than Crispus and GaiUs), 15so that no one can say that they were immersed in my name. 16Oh yes, I also immersed the household of Stephanas... But as for the rest, I don’t think that I immersed anyone else, 17because the Anointed One didn’t send me to immerse [people], but to preach the good news.  
  
[And I wasn’t sent] with many wise words, because that would make the Anointed One’s impaling pole less important. 18For the message about the impaling pole is just foolishness to those who are dying… But to those of us that are being saved, it’s the power of God.  
  
19As it’s written:  
  
 ‘I’ll destroy the wisdom of their wise,  
 And the understanding of their discerning, I’ll hide.’  
 [Isaiah 29:14]  
  
20So, where are all the wise men? Where are all the writers? Where are all the great debaters of this age?  
  
Didn’t God make the world’s wisdom foolish?  
  
21And since the world doesn’t understand the wisdom of God, He saw that it was good for us to preach foolishness in order to save those who would believe! 22So while the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks search for wisdom, 23we preach the Anointed One as having been hung on a pole.  
  
[Of course], this is a trap to the Jews and a lot of foolishness to the gentiles. 24But to those who are called (both Jews and Greeks), the Anointed One is the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25Because [even] a foolish thing from God is wiser than men, and [even] a weak thing from God is mightier than men.  
  
  
26Now, notice this about your calling, my brothers:  
  
 Not many were called who were wise in a fleshly way,  
 Not many were called who had power,  
 And not many were called from important families.  
  
 27Rather, God chose the foolish things of the world to put its wise men to shame;  
 He chose the weak things of the world to put the mighty to shame;  
 28And He chose the common things of the world and the things that are looked down on;  
 The things that aren’t [prominent] – in order to make the things that are [prominent], worthless.  
  
29The reason why He did this was so that no flesh can boast before God. 30And, since you’re in the Anointed Jesus, he’s become God’s wisdom to us, as well as His righteousness, His holiness, and our ransom.  
  
31As it’s written:  
  
 ‘Whoever boasts; let him boast about Jehovah!’ [paraphrase of Jeremiah 9:23]