THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE   
   
   
 TO THE   
   
   
 CORINTHIANS.   
   
   
   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
   
 I. } PAUL, called to be J. 1Paun \*called [to be] AN a Rom.i.   
 an apostle of Jesus Christ apostle of Christ Jesus through the »2cor,i.1.   
 through the will of God, will of God, and ¢Sosthenes our , Col. 4.1,   
 and Sosthenes our brother, brother, 2 unto “the church of God 44°35, vit   
 2 unto the church of God   
 which is at Corinth, to . . . + 16,   
 which is in Corinth, men sanc- 26   
 1 Thess. 2 Thess.i.4. tii. See Neh. 1.   
 Cuar. I, 1—8.] ADDRESS AND GREET- have been put upon him by the parties at   
 ING. 1.) The words through the will Corinth, and for that reason St. Paul puts   
 of God point probably to the depreciation him forward. our brother as 2 Cor.   
 of Paul’s apostolic authority at Corinth. i. 1, of Timothy. 2.) On the words   
 In Gal. i. 1 we have this much more the church of God which is at Corinth,   
 strongly asserted. But they have a refer- Calvin remarks; “It may perhaps seem   
 ence to Paul himself also: “as they point strange that he should call by the name of   
 in their aspect of authority, towards the the Church of God that assembly of men   
 churches, so, in their aspect of a humble among whom so many corruptions were   
 and earnest mind, they come from Paul rife, that Satan seemed to reign there   
 himself,” says Bengel. Chrysostom, refer- rather than God. And it is certain that   
 ring the words to called, says, “ Because it he had no design of flattering the Corinth-   
 was His will we were called, not because ians; for he speaks by the Spirit of God,   
 we were worthy.” Sosthenes can who does not use flattery. Yet, among so   
 hardly be assumed to be identical with many defilements, what kind of an appear-   
 the ruler of the synagogue in Acts xviii. ance of a Church can any longer be found ?   
 17: sce note there. He must have been I answer, that, however many vices had   
 some Christian well known to the church crept in, however many corruptions of doc-   
 at Corinth. Thus Paul associates with trine and of morals, there were yet some   
 himself Silvanus and Timotheus in the signs of a true Church. This passage is   
 Epistles to the Thessalonians: and Timo- carefully to be noted, to keep us from   
 theus in 2 Cor. Chrysostom attributes it requiring in this world a Church without   
 to modesty, that he associates with himself any spot or wrinkle; or refusing this title   
 one by far his inferior. Some have sup- to any assembly in which all is not accord-   
 posed Sosthenes to be the writer (i.e. the ing to our wish. For this is a dangerous   
 amanuensis) of the Epistle, see Rom. xvi. temptation, to think that there is no   
 22. Possibly he may have been one of the Church, unless where there appears per-   
 household of Chloe (ver. 11) through whom fect purity. For whoever persuades him-   
 the intelligence had been received, and the self of this, at length find it necessary   
 Apostle may have associated him with to separate off from all other men, and   
 himself as approving the appeal to apos- give himself out for the only holy man in   
 tolie authority. Perhaps some slight may the world, or else to found a peculiar sect