

# PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

## 1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 1:4-9

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX716

JUNE 27, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### **“OUR ROYAL ROUTE TO HEAVEN”**

*HOW TO BE A CHURCH THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Salvation, Righteousness, Walk, Encouragement**

#### **1 Corinthians 1:4-9**

**I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, :5 that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, :6 even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, :7 so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, :8 who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. :9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

If you had to break this down into “bullet-points”  
It would look like this

The Lord's people needed:

***“encouragement that they could live their lives in righteousness”***

What did the Church at Corinth Learn?

***“that practical, factual, living hope applied to daily life***

What is the Corinthian Church to Do Now?

***“from the vantage point of being a Christian – Life is rising.***

#### **Colossians 3:1-3**

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, **where Christ is**, sitting at the right hand of God. **:2** Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. **:3** For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.



the power to resist temptation and sin – grace takes away our license to sin

**Romans 6:17-18**

But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. :18 And having been **set free** from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

**Never Make Light of His Grace**

Did you know that there will come a day when God will no longer put up with your unbelief or temper and lust or lies or selfishness.

**2 Peter 3:9**

The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. - **true**

**Genesis 6:3**

And the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, - **equally true**

**ALLOWANCE: WE HAVE BEEN GRACED BY GOD**

**1c.) God’s grace will never fail the child of God**

And here’s why:

(it’s) by Christ Jesus,

This is a legal term from the court of law in those days:  
(Jesus Christ is the Guarantee)

**>>>>>>>>> His Grace Will Never Fail Us <<<<<<<<<<**

**2 Corinthians 8:9**

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, (*stooped into humanity*) that you through His poverty might become rich. (*elevated by his divinity*)

a word about God’s grace.

(the doctrine of the grace of God is purely academic until you need it – then it becomes the most useful, practical resource available to the Christian “Warrior” and his “Witness”)

Paul is Saying - Because This is True –  
Live Like Him

**2 Corinthians 8:7**

But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us - - see to it that you **abound** in this grace also.

**OUR ROYAL ROUTE TO HEAVEN**

*THE CHRISTIAN'S ROAD MAP TO ETERNITY*

**2.) Enablement: we have been given all**

**v.5-7**

**2a.) We've been given enough to succeed**

**By Succeed I mean – in the things of our new life. The world we live in and the new desires we have and the new reasons and purposes for living.**

**:5 that you were enriched in everything by Him  
in all utterance and all knowledge,**

**enriched plouti÷zw ploutizo, ploo-tid'-zo;**

to make wealthy by adding to or giving to. To overflow or provide in abundance.

This **enrichment** is referring to our salvation, which took place in one split second of time at that moment when your mind changed about **who** and **why** Jesus Christ is **AND** what and how we are now because of the **ENRICHMENT**

**2 Corinthians 1:20**

For **all the promises** of God in Christ *are* Yes, and in Him Amen,  
to the glory of God through us.

**in *all* utterance**

The word is “**Logos**” in Greek - meaning **the Word**. Jesus is the LOGOS of God, the Word of God –  
The Corinthians had Something to **Say!**

## and in *all* knowledge,

The word is “**Gnosis**” in Greek - meaning **the Knowledge**. Knowing Who Jesus Christ is - the summation of all knowledge. – The Corinthians **Knew** Who Jesus Christ was!

### 2 Corinthians 4:6-7

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of **the knowledge** of the glory of God **in the face of Jesus Christ**. :7 But we have **this treasure in earthen vessels**, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

### G. Campbell-Morgan

“Paul is talking about a Christian man or woman that is possessed by the Holy Spirit of God in this World. A Holy Spirit-possessed Christian is God’s greatest “argument” against man’s lost condition and the path that he is on.”

The Christian **speaks** by the Holy Spirit, The Christian **knows** by the Holy Spirit

### John 16:13

However, when He, the Holy Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

**With Each Passing Day – Today! - the Lord is Presenting His Closing Arguments.**  
God’s **utterance** and **knowledge** is being revealed to the world through the life of each and every true believer

### 1 John 4:17

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness **in the day of judgment**; because as He is, **so are we in this world**.

### 1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be **steadfast, immovable**, always **abounding** in the work of the Lord,

## ENABLEMENT: WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL

**2b.) We’ve been shown enough to understand**

even as **the testimony** of Christ **was confirmed** in you,

The “Witness” of Jesus Christ was Present – They were for Real.  
(they were messed up – but true believers that needed a push)

**confirmed – made firm. To have a strong footing on a strong spot.**

## **ENABLEMENT: WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL**

### **2c.) We’ve been equipped enough to be useful**

so that you come short in no **gift**,  
**eagerly waiting for the revelation** of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Paul is calling their attention to the fact that;**

Because they’ve been **gifted** by God and not human talent – it proves that they belong to God. (*In ministry, make sure you’re not using a talent to prove yourself rather than a gift. One exalts the man, the other exalts the Lord*) so that you come short in no **gift**,  
(you guys at Corinth are gifted by God, willed to serve, you’re really “practical” –  
you’re even excited to have Jesus return....

**eagerly waiting for the revelation** of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**BUT YOU’RE NOT READY**

The context of these verses promotes an amazing truth.  
Those who are called, gifted, graced are those eager for His return...

#### **1 Corinthians 12:4-18**

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **:5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **:6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.... **:12** For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. **:14** For in fact the body is not one member but many. **:15** If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? **:16** And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? **:17** If the whole body *were* an eye, where *would be* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *would be* the smelling? **:18** But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

**The Reality of Christ’s Return Acts as a Purifying Agent**

**1 John 2:28, 3:3**

And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.... **3:3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

**The Reality of Christ's Return Acts as a Purifying Agent**

**Titus 2:11-13**

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **:12** teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **:13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Paul is Saying - Because This is True – Live Like him

**OUR ROYAL ROUTE TO HEAVEN**

*THE CHRISTIAN'S ROAD MAP TO ETERNITY*

**3.) Faithfulness: we're being kept by His power**

**v.8-9**

**3a.) His faithfulness will not take us half way**

who (He, verse 7, Jesus Christ) will also confirm you to the end,

**confirm** be÷baioß bebaios, beb´-ah-yos;

a legal term of the time: to make one stable, firm, steadfast, and certain. Against any and all attacks.

It's a Contract Between the Father and The Son On The Behalf of Another.  
*(intercession by the one who makes the atonement)*

Remarkably - not based on their merits for sure -  
Paul **confirms** and **reaffirms** the Corinthians salvation in Christ Jesus.

**UNUSUAL ENCOURAGEMENT**

**1 John 3:19**

And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.  
**:20** For if our heart condemns us, God is **greater than our** heart, and knows all things.  
**:21** Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

## UNUSUAL ENCOURAGEMENT

### **Philippians 1:6**

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

## UNUSUAL ENCOURAGEMENT

### **Psalms 138:8**

The LORD will perfect *that which* concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, *endures* forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

### **Hebrews 12:2**

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith,

### **Jeremiah 29:13**

And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart. :14 I will be found by you, says the LORD,

### **Matthew 6:33**

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

## THIS UNUSUAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Generates a Natural/supernatural Response,  
We're to present ourselves, give ourselves **fully to Him**.

## **FAITHFULNESS: WE'RE BEING KEPT BY HIS POWER**

### **3b.) His faithfulness cannot leave us alone**

that you may be **blameless** in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### HOW CAN THIS BE?

Because we are fully trusting Him to keep His word.  
Therein lies our Confidence!

### **Hebrews 9:28**

so Christ was offered **once** to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

The Christian has been given a promise, by Jesus Christ Himself, that will guarantee the safe arrival of every true believer.

**Colossians 2:13-14**

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, :14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having **nailed it** to the cross.

**Jude 24**

Now to Him **who is able to keep you from stumbling,**  
And **to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory** with exceeding joy,  
(This is peace and power and confidence against that day –  
when we all must stand before God...)

**Hebrews 13:5**

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

**FAITHFULNESS: WE'RE BEING KEPT BY HIS POWER**

**3c.) His faithfulness must honor His word**

God is **faithful,**  
**by whom you were called** into the **fellowship**  
of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**fellowship** *koinwni÷a koinonia, koy-nohn-ee'-ah;*

The social intercourse, The partnership, the participation, The communion,

I THINK WE NEED ASK THE LORD TO FORGIVE US.  
TO FORGIVE US FOR NOT EXPECTING VERY MUCH FROM HIM. FOR NOT EXPECTING HIM  
TO DO GREAT AND AWESOME THINGS –  
WE'VE SETTLED FOR A PAUPERS LIFE, WHILE CHRIST HAS DEPOSITED  
ETERNITY IN OUR HEARTS!

**Hanging Out With Jesus Had to be Nerve-Racking**

**Deuteronomy 7:9**

"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

**1 Thessalonians 5:24**

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

**1 John 5:18-20**

We know that whoever is born of God does not practice sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. **:19** We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked one*. **:20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

**Paul is Saying - Because This is True – Live Like Him**

**There's a Path That You're On In Life Right Now.**

*(everyone's on a path, if you know where you're going or not. We're all following an "eternal road map" if you will... and there is a destination - the map runs out)*

**Matthew 7:13-14**

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **:14** Because **narrow *is*** the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

**Joshua 24:15**

And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

**Hey Wayward Dad – Single Mom**

(Wild American teenager – what are you going to do about all this?)

It's His Faithfulness – but it demands our obedience.

**Give The Invitation & Challenge**

**What We Need To Do, Church, is To - Get Out!**

*End of Study*