

Insights From 1 Corinthians

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Insights From 1 Corinthians

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Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

The purpose of this book is to extract the most interesting insights from that massive list. This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to list the major points of each book because you're probably already familiar with them. Finally, it's not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper
4/29/2024

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1 Corinthians

- This letter was written by Paul and Sosthenes (1 Corinthians 1:1).
- Christians are sanctified in Christ (1 Corinthians 1:2). This means we've already been sanctified.
- Churches need knowledge, which comes from Christ (1 Corinthians 1:5).
- Churches must be unified in doctrine (1 Corinthians 1:10, 13). Since Christ isn't divided, His church must not be divided either.
- Paul told the Corinthians the name of the person who reported that there were divisions among them. He didn't hide his source (1 Corinthians 1:11).
- Paul didn't ignore the divisions that were in the church. Instead he addressed them (1 Corinthians 1:11).
- Paul didn't rebuke the house of Chloe for reporting that there were divisions in the church. Instead he rebuked the church for having divisions (1 Corinthians 1:11).
- It's not good for us to say that we follow certain people. Instead we must follow Christ (1 Corinthians 1:12-13). Paul didn't want people to say that they were his followers.
- Apostles could perform baptisms (1 Corinthians 1:16).
- Paul was grateful that he hadn't baptized very many people in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 1:14). This is evidence that he didn't believe baptism saved people (because he was passionate about saving people).
- Paul's primary role was preaching the gospel, not

performing baptisms (1 Corinthians 1:17). This is more evidence that baptism doesn't save us, because this verse specifically says that Christ didn't send Paul into the world to baptize people.

- Although baptism is important, it's less important than preaching the gospel (1 Corinthians 1:16). This is because God uses the preaching of the gospel to save souls, whereas baptism is performed after salvation.
- The reason Paul didn't preach Christ with clever speech was because that would render the gospel powerless. If he used clever speech, the power of his message would be resting on his own cleverness instead of on the infinite power of Christ (1 Corinthians 1:17).
- Even though Paul knew that the cross was foolishness to those who are perishing, he refused to look for a way to present the gospel that would be more acceptable by the world. Instead he preached the gospel with simplicity, knowing that it would be seen as foolish by those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18).
- Although the cross of Christ is a stumblingblock to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks, that's exactly what Paul preached. He didn't change the gospel to make it more appealing (1 Corinthians 1:23).
- Some things can only be understood by those who are saved (1 Corinthians 1:24).
- We must not exchange the power of God (preaching the cross of Christ) for the wisdom of men (1 Corinthians 1:25). We must remain rooted in the cross of Christ, even though the world sees it as foolishness and weakness.
- God chooses to glorify Himself by working through

people who are low and despised. That way His power can clearly be seen (1 Corinthians 1:27-29).

- Jesus is our wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:30).
- There were times when Paul was afraid (1 Corinthians 2:3).
- Preaching the gospel with the wisdom of this world is the opposite of preaching the gospel with power (1 Corinthians 2:4).
- The basis of our faith matters. It makes a big difference if it's built upon the wisdom of this world, or the power of God (1 Corinthians 2:5). If we're building upon the wisdom of this world then we've chosen the wrong foundation and are doing something seriously wrong.
- The gospel was something God kept hidden (1 Corinthians 2:7-8). It was only revealed after Christ's resurrection. If the princes of this world had known the gospel, they would never have crucified the Lord Jesus Christ. (This may be a reference to demonic entities, not just the kings of the world.)
- God ordained the gospel before He created the world (1 Corinthians 2:7).
- The gospel is a source of glory for us (1 Corinthians 2:7).
- The great gift that God has prepared for those who love Him is the gospel (1 Corinthians 2:7-10). It's the sacrifice of Christ, who saves us from our sins and gives us everlasting life.
- No one can know the things of God unless He reveals them to us (1 Corinthians 2:10-11). We can't guess them or figure them out.

- The things of God can't be understood apart from the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:11-12).
- We must not use the wisdom of men to teach the divine revelation of God (1 Corinthians 2:13).
- It's wise to discern what material a church is able to handle, and preach to them on that level instead of preaching material that's beyond them (1 Corinthians 3:1-2). However, that's completely different from hiding doctrines that churches disagree with in order to be more appealing (which the apostles never did).
- If there's sin or division in a church then it's a carnal church and can't handle weighty spiritual matters (1 Corinthians 3:3). That sin must be dealt with before anything else can be done.
- Paul and Apollos both played a role in the birth of the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 3:6).
- Even though God is the one who works through us and gives the increase, He promised to reward us according to the labor that we've done (1 Corinthians 3:8).
- The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ (not Peter) (1 Corinthians 3:11).
- Some people add things of great value to the church, while others add worthless garbage (1 Corinthians 3:12-13).
- The quality of everyone's work will be revealed when the Lord Jesus Christ returns (1 Corinthians 3:13). God is going to use fire to test it.
- The quality of our work directly impacts whether we'll receive a reward for it. Worthless work won't be

rewarded (1 Corinthians 3:14-15).

- Although Christians will be judged, it's only for the purpose of rewards. Our judgment isn't related to our salvation. Those who fail this judgment won't be cast to Hell. The worst possible outcome is that people will go away without any rewards (1 Corinthians 3:15).
- Since the Holy Spirit dwells within us, that makes us temples of God (1 Corinthians 3:16).
- Since we're temples of God, that means we're holy (1 Corinthians 3:17).
- Since we're holy, we must be careful to not defile ourselves. It's a serious sin to defile a holy thing (1 Corinthians 3:17).
- It's possible for us to deceive ourselves (1 Corinthians 3:18).
- We can either be wise in the sight of the world, or wise in the sight of God. We can't be both because they're at odds with one another (1 Corinthians 3:18).
- Christians are stewards of the mysteries of God (1 Corinthians 4:1).
- When it comes to being judged, what matters is the judgment that God will one day pass on us, not the judgment of other people. Even our own opinion is of little value (1 Corinthians 4:3).
- The day when the Lord Jesus Christ returns is a day of judgment (1 Corinthians 4:5).
- When Jesus returns, He will reveal everything. This includes the hidden things of darkness and the counsels

of people's hearts (1 Corinthians 4:5).

- Paul didn't want people to think more highly of him than he deserved (1 Corinthians 4:6).
- Since everything that we have comes from God, it's foolish to boast that we're better than other people (1 Corinthians 4:7). Everything that we have was given to us by God, so we have nothing to boast about.
- God appointed the apostles to death (1 Corinthians 4:9).
- God made the apostles a spectacle to the world and to angels (1 Corinthians 4:9).
- Doing God's will doesn't mean you'll have a good reputation in the sight of the world (1 Corinthians 4:10).
- There were times when the apostles lacked the basic necessities of life (1 Corinthians 4:11).
- The apostles had jobs outside of the church, which they worked to pay their bills (1 Corinthians 4:12). They worked with their hands to earn a very meager living.
- The apostles blessed those who reviled them (1 Corinthians 4:12).
- Although there are many people who teach Christians, there are few who bring new churches into the world through the gospel (1 Corinthians 4:15).
- Paul didn't tolerate sin in the church. Sin had to be dealt with (1 Corinthians 4:21). The apostle said that he could visit the Corinthians with a rod, or in love and meekness, depending on how they responded to his rebuke.
- It's bad for a church to be proud of flagrant sin in its midst (1 Corinthians 5:1-2).

- It's possible for a church to be more wicked than the community around it (1 Corinthians 5:1).
- Churches must remove those who are living a life of open sin. They must not tolerate sin, and must not allow such people to continue to be part of the church (1 Corinthians 5:1-2).
- Paul didn't tell the church to kill the person who was sexually immoral. Instead Paul removed him from the church and gave him over to the devil (1 Corinthians 5:3-5) God didn't give churches the right to imprison people or put them to death.
- The reason Paul turned this sinner over to the devil was so his spirit could be saved. Paul wanted to save his spirit by allowing the devil to destroy his body (1 Corinthians 5:3-5). It's better for our bodies to be destroyed but our spirit to be saved, than for our bodies to be well but our spirit to be lost.
- The church isn't doing people favors by allowing them to remain in the church while they're living lives of unrepentant sin. It would be better if the church removed them from the congregation, because that might motivate them to repent (1 Corinthians 5:5).
- Church services aren't places for people who are living sinful lives. Instead they're only supposed to include Christians, and aren't intended to be a means of evangelism (1 Corinthians 5:6). If services were open to everyone then Paul would have encouraged the Corinthians to bring in as many unrepentant sinners as possible – but instead he did the opposite.
- It's extremely bad for churches to allow sinful people to be in their midst (1 Corinthians 5:6). This is because sin is

contagious. It only takes a small amount of sin to poison the entire church.

- This isn't the first letter Paul wrote to the Corinthian church. He wrote another letter before this one, in which he told the Corinthians to distance themselves from Christians who were living a life of unrepentant sin (1 Corinthians 5:9-11).
- We're not allowed to share a meal with Christians who are living a life of unrepentant sin (1 Corinthians 5:11). Sin is that serious.
- The church has no business judging those who are outside the church. That's beyond its jurisdiction (1 Corinthians 5:12-13). God will judge them Himself, in due time.
- Christians must not take their disputes before this world's court system. Instead we must settle our disputes within the church (1 Corinthians 6:1-5). It's wrong for Christians to go to an unjust and wicked person and ask them to settle a dispute between the saints. That makes no sense.
- One day the saints will judge the world (1 Corinthians 6:2).
- One day the saints will judge angels (1 Corinthians 6:3).
- It's better for a Christian to be defrauded, and suffer with no recourse, than for him to take another Christian to the court before unbelievers and pagans (1 Corinthians 6:7). When one Christian sues another it presents a terrible testimony to the world.
- Those who are unrighteous won't inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9).

- Those who are sexually immoral won't inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9).
- Those who are saved must not continue their old life and their old sins. Being a Christian is incompatible with a sinful lifestyle (1 Corinthians 6:11).
- Our standard must be higher than just asking whether a certain action is sinful. The question is whether it's a good thing to do (1 Corinthians 6:12).
- We must not allow our desires to rule over us (1 Corinthians 6:12-13). Instead we must control them.
- Although Jesus will come and get us at the rapture, it seems that God the Father is the one who will resurrect us from the dead (just as He resurrected Jesus) (1 Corinthians 6:14).
- Sexual immorality is different from other sins because it joins the holy body of Christ with something that's vile and wicked and unclean (1 Corinthians 6:15-18). Non-sexual sins are done outside the body, but sexual sins are against our own body (which is the holy temple of the Lord).
- All sins aren't the same. There's only one way to sin against our own body, and that's through sexual immorality (1 Corinthians 6:18).
- The Corinthian church had written Paul a letter and asked him questions (1 Corinthians 7:1).
- The only reason Paul said that people should get married was to fight sexual temptation. Even though remaining single was a good thing, sexual temptation is very dangerous. It therefore makes sense for people to get

married so that they can satisfy their sexual desires within marriage and not be tempted to sin (1 Corinthians 7:1-2).

- Paul taught that couples should limit the time they spend in fasting and prayer so it doesn't interfere too much with having sex. That's how serious sexual sin is, and how important it is to avoid sexual temptations by having frequent sex with your spouse (1 Corinthians 7:5).
- Paul didn't think Christians had a duty to get married and have children. Instead he wished that no one would get married because that was a better life. However, he knew that wasn't practical for everyone (1 Corinthians 7:7). Some people are able to remain single without struggling with temptation, but others don't have that gift from God.
- Christians who have unbelieving spouses shouldn't divorce them if those spouses are willing to live with them (1 Corinthians 7:12-16). This is because God may use that relationship to save them.
- Within marriage, the unbeliever is sanctified to some degree by the believing spouse (1 Corinthians 7:14). That's why the believer can have sex with their unbelieving spouse without bringing something unclean into the body of Christ (which is what happens when a Christian has sex with a prostitute).
- There is such a thing as children who aren't holy, and who are unclean in the sight of God (1 Corinthians 7:14).
- Christians aren't bound to unbelieving spouses who leave them (1 Corinthians 7:15).
- Those who are uncircumcised shouldn't seek to be

circumcised (1 Corinthians 7:18-19). Being circumcised doesn't help us.

- God didn't give Paul a commandment for every possible situation in life. There are some situations where we're expected to use our own judgment and make a wise decision (1 Corinthians 7:25).
- Christians who are living in a time of persecution shouldn't get married or divorced (1 Corinthians 7:27).
- Marriage doesn't make life better. Instead it makes it worse, because it adds problems to your life that you otherwise wouldn't have had (1 Corinthians 7:28).
- Husbands and wives have a responsibility to try to please one another (1 Corinthians 7:32-34).
- Marriage doesn't continue after death (1 Corinthians 7:39).
- Knowledge puffs up (makes us proud) (1 Corinthians 8:1).
- Those who offer food to idols are offering food to nothing, because idols aren't gods at all (1 Corinthians 8:4).
- All things are "of" the Father and are "by" Jesus (1 Corinthians 8:6). Both the Son and the Father played a role in creation.
- Those who have insufficient knowledge have a weak conscience (1 Corinthians 8:7).
- Food has nothing to do with our relationship with God (1 Corinthians 8:8). Eating certain foods doesn't make us more holy or less holy.
- We must be careful about how we exercise our liberty in

Christ, so we don't cause other people to sin (1 Corinthians 8:9).

- Having less knowledge puts people at a disadvantage because it impairs their ability to discern good from evil (1 Corinthians 8:9-11).
- Christ died to save them which were lost (1 Corinthians 8:11).
- The Corinthian church was the seal of Paul's apostleship (1 Corinthians 9:2).
- Peter was married (1 Corinthians 9:5).
- Barnabas was an apostle (1 Corinthians 9:6).
- Those who plant a vineyard have the right to enjoy its harvest (1 Corinthians 9:7).
- The Mosaic Law taught that those who work have a right to partake in the fruits of their labor (1 Corinthians 9:9-10). This included animals.
- Paul would rather financially support himself than risk hindering the gospel of Christ (1 Corinthians 9:12).
- We must put the gospel first, even if that means setting aside things that we deserve (1 Corinthians 9:12)
- Churches have an obligation to financially support those who preach the gospel to them (1 Corinthians 9:14).
- Paul didn't write this letter to persuade the Corinthian church to send him money. He intended on continuing to financially support himself (1 Corinthians 9:15).
- Paul believed that preaching the gospel at his own expense was a reward (and one he was unwilling to give

up) (1 Corinthians 9:18).

- Those who receive funding from churches may fall into temptation (1 Corinthians 9:18). Those temptations can be entirely avoided by not accepting money from churches.
- The rewards that God will one day give us are much greater than the rewards this world has to offer (1 Corinthians 9:24-25).
- We're striving to win an incorruptible crown (1 Corinthians 9:25).
- It's possible for people to preach the gospel and yet not receive a reward. If they don't apply the gospel to themselves but instead live according to their own desires, they'll become a wreck (1 Corinthians 9:27).
- Churches must not neglect the historical portions of the Old Testament (1 Corinthians 10:1). That material is still relevant for us today. It's not good to be ignorant of what the Old Testament teaches.
- When the Hebrews were saved from Egypt and walked on dry land through the parted sea, that was a type of baptism (1 Corinthians 10:2). Although it was a historical event, there was a spiritual meaning behind it.
- There's only one way to be saved. In the Old Testament the Jews partook of Christ, even though His coming was still in the future and the gospel hadn't been revealed (1 Corinthians 10:4). Salvation has *always* been through Christ. There's never been another way.
- The Rock upon which the church is built is Christ, not Peter (1 Corinthians 10:4). It's always been Christ and it will never be anything else.

- The desire for evil things is a sin (1 Corinthians 10:6). This means desires can be a sin in and of themselves.
- There are times when God kills people for engaging in sexual sin (1 Corinthians 10:8).
- Murmuring against God is a sin (1 Corinthians 10:10).
- The temptations that we face today are the same sort of temptations that people have always faced (1 Corinthians 10:13). There aren't any new temptations.
- God controls to what extent we're tempted. He will always provide a way for us to escape whatever temptation we face (1 Corinthians 10:13). This means sinning is a choice, because Christians *always* have the power to say no to sin.
- Although there are many local churches, there's only one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17).
- When people sacrifice to idols they're actually sacrificing to devils. That means they're having fellowship with demons, which is a very wicked thing (1 Corinthians 10:20).
- Idolatry is demonic (1 Corinthians 10:20).
- It's impossible to have fellowship with both God and devils. It's one or the other (1 Corinthians 10:21).
- When we go to the store and buy something that we know nothing about, God doesn't require us to question where that item came from. God allows us to accept it without asking any questions, because everything in this world belongs to Him (1 Corinthians 10:25-26). We don't have to research every raw material that went into the creation of that item, to make sure that none of them

were obtained through acts of evil. (However, if the person who's selling us that item tells us that it comes from evil, we must not accept it – not for the sake of our conscience, but for theirs.) If this weren't the case it would be far too dangerous to ever buy anything, because at that point any purchase might be a sin – and the wages of sin is death.

- It's not a sin to attend feasts that are thrown by pagans, or to eat with them (1 Corinthians 10:27).
- It's good to give God thanks for the food that we eat (1 Corinthians 10:30).
- We must seek to glorify God in all things, including what we eat and drink (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- The discussion about head coverings dealt with a custom in one of the local churches. This custom was only followed by one church, and not the rest. In this case Paul defended the custom and said it made sense, but he also said that the rest of the churches didn't have to follow that custom (1 Corinthians 11:1-16). This means it's not wrong for one church to have a custom that's not shared by other churches, provided that the custom is based on the Bible and doesn't come from the world.
- It's possible for a church to be so bad that their services are actually sinful, and make things worse (1 Corinthians 11:17).
- God uses heresies to reveal which people in the church are approved by Him, and which people aren't (1 Corinthians 11:19). That's how the church can recognize them.
- One of the purposes of gathering together as a church is

to partake of communion (1 Corinthians 11:20). Communion is meant to be taken as a group.

- The Corinthian church thought that Paul was going to praise them for getting drunk at church. He refused to praise them, and instead rebuked them for what they were doing (1 Corinthians 11:22).
- We must not shame those who are poor (1 Corinthians 11:22).
- Although Paul wasn't there the night Jesus instituted communion, the Lord did personally instruct Paul about the subject (1 Corinthians 11:23).
- Communion is intended to remember the sacrifice of Christ and the blood that He shed for us (1 Corinthians 11:25).
- Churches are at liberty to decide how often they celebrate communion (1 Corinthians 11:25).
- It's a terrible sin to partake of communion in an unworthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27). Communion isn't for everyone.
- There are times when God kills people for abusing communion (1 Corinthians 11:30).
- If you want to avoid being judged by God then learn to judge yourself and hold yourself accountable (1 Corinthians 11:31).
- One day God is going to condemn the world (1 Corinthians 11:32).
- Those who are hungry should eat at home. Communion isn't intended to be a meal (1 Corinthians 11:22, 34).

- Churches must not be ignorant about spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1).
- No one who speaks by the Holy Spirit can call Jesus accursed (1 Corinthians 12:3).
- No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3).
- There's a prerequisite for having spiritual gifts, and that's to be saved and have the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3).
- The Spirit gives some people wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8).
- The Spirit gives some people knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8).
- There's a difference between the gift of wisdom and the gift of knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8).
- The Spirit gives some people the gift of discernment (1 Corinthians 12:10).
- The reason people have different spiritual gifts is because that's the will of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:11).
- Although there are many Christians in the world and many local churches, they're all part of the same body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).
- It's good that churches aren't filled with identical people who have identical gifts, who perform identical services and do identical things. Churches need a variety of parts (including ones that seem feeble) in order to function properly and not be missing anything (1 Corinthians 12:12-18).
- God has created the church in such a way that honor is given to the parts which lack honor, so that there's a

balance within the body (1 Corinthians 12:24).

- We have a responsibility to care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25).
- The highest rank that God has established in the church are the apostles (1 Corinthians 12:28). Below the apostles are prophets and then teachers.
- Teachers outrank those who perform miracles, those who have the gift of healing, and those who speak in tongues (1 Corinthians 12:28). That means it's better to be a teacher than have any of those other gifts.
- The gift of miracles and the gift of healing are two different things (1 Corinthians 12:28).
- Those who govern the church (which the Bible says are the church elders) are at the bottom of the list of spiritual gifts, not the top (1 Corinthians 12:28). The only gift that's lower is tongues.
- It's not wrong to desire the best spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:31). However, the best gift (aside from apostle and prophet) is *teacher*, not miracle worker.
- Being able to speak in other languages is useless if what we say isn't said in love (1 Corinthians 13:1)
- The way that we convey our wisdom and knowledge matters. If we don't speak with love then we're nothing (1 Corinthians 13:2).
- Even if we have the greatest possible example of a spiritual gift, if we lack love then we're nothing (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). That's how important love is.
- It's not enough to give generously. We must give out of

love (1 Corinthians 13:3).

- Those who are willing to die for the cause of Christ, but lack love, are nothing. Their martyrdom is empty because they're not doing it out of love (1 Corinthians 13:3).
- Love doesn't seek its own will (1 Corinthians 13:5).
- Love isn't easily provoked (1 Corinthians 13:5).
- Love doesn't rejoice in sin (1 Corinthians 13:6). Instead it rejoices in the truth. If we rejoice in sin then we lack love.
- Love is going to endure forever, even after the establishing gifts of the church (which existed in the apostolic era) are gone (1 Corinthians 13:8-10).
- Paul compares gifts of tongues, prophecy, and knowledge to childish things that are put away once we have something better (the completed Word of God) (1 Corinthians 13:8-11).
- Faith will abide forever (1 Corinthians 13:13).
- Hope will abide forever (1 Corinthians 13:13).
- Love will abide forever (1 Corinthians 13:13).
- Love is greater than faith (1 Corinthians 13:13).
- Not all spiritual gifts are equally beneficial to the church (1 Corinthians 14:1-5)
- Those who speak in an unknown language are only speaking to God, because He is the only one who understands what is being said. In that situation the church isn't edified (1 Corinthians 14:2).
- We need to make sure that our words are understood by the church, and that what we say is edifying. If that's not

the case then our words aren't beneficial (1 Corinthians 14:4).

- If a person is going to speak in tongues, someone must interpret what's being said so that the church can be edified (1 Corinthians 14:5, 27-28). If no interpreter is available then the person speaking in tongues must remain silent.
- Doctrine isn't a distraction. Instead it edifies the church, and must be proclaimed (1 Corinthians 14:6).
- The gift of tongues was meant for the Jews. That sign was aimed at them, and was the fulfillment of an Old Testament prophecy (1 Corinthians 14:21).
- When the Corinthians gathered together, everyone wanted to participate in the service by saying something, singing something, teaching something, or interpreting something. Paul didn't forbid this. Instead of saying that only the preacher should be allowed to speak, he encouraged everyone to participate (1 Corinthians 14:26-33).
- There's nothing wrong with people judging the message that's given to them in church. In fact, we're commanded to do exactly that (1 Corinthians 14:29).
- Paul didn't say that only the pastor was allowed to speak in church. Instead he said that if something was revealed to someone, he should be allowed to speak while the first remained silent and gave him a turn (1 Corinthians 14:30).
- Those who reject any of Paul's writings aren't spiritual at all, because they're rejecting God's commandments (1 Corinthians 14:37).

- A group of five hundred people saw the resurrected Christ at the same time (1 Corinthians 15:6). That means Jesus wasn't just seen by one or two people after He rose from the dead. Instead He was seen by hundreds of people.
- All of the apostles saw the resurrected Christ, including Paul (1 Corinthians 15:7-8). They knew the gospel was true because they were eyewitnesses.
- There aren't going to be any more eyewitnesses to the resurrected Christ in the church era. Paul was the last one (1 Corinthians 15:8). That's why there can't be any more apostles.
- Paul said that he was the least of the apostles (1 Corinthians 15:9). This is because he once persecuted the church of God.
- Paul said that he worked harder than all of the other apostles (1 Corinthians 15:10).
- God is responsible for any good things that we do. The only reason we do them is because He worked in us and through us (1 Corinthians 15:10).
- Paul believed that the doctrine of the rapture was immensely important, and was central to the gospel. He didn't believe that the coming resurrection of believers was unimportant or a side issue (1 Corinthians 15:12-13). Those who deny that the dead will be raised are denying the gospel itself, because that means Christ wasn't raised from the dead either.
- The resurrection of Christ is absolutely central to the gospel. If Christ hasn't been raised from the dead then the gospel is a lie that can save no one (1 Corinthians

15:14). In that case Christianity is a fraud and our sins aren't forgiven.

- In order for our sins to be forgiven, Christ had to both die *and* be resurrected (1 Corinthians 15:17).
- If there's no resurrection then being a Christian is foolish (1 Corinthians 15:19). In that case we're being persecuted for nothing, because our sins aren't forgiven and everyone who dies actually perishes.
- The reason a single person (Jesus) can fix death is because a single person (Adam) caused death in the first place (1 Corinthians 15:21). That means the gospel, and the resurrection of the dead, depends on the story of Adam and Eve being literally true.
- Those who belong to Christ are the only people who will be resurrected when He returns (1 Corinthians 15:23).
- The end will come when Christ has delivered the kingdom to God the Father. He will accomplish this by defeating every enemy and putting down all rebellion against Him (1 Corinthians 15:24). Those are things that *He* will accomplish (not the church).
- Christ must reign until He has defeated all of His enemies (1 Corinthians 15:25). This is because *He* is the one who will defeat His enemies (not the church).
- The last enemy that will be destroyed is death (1 Corinthians 15:26).
- Death needs to be destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:26). Jesus is the one who will destroy it.
- Death won't always exist. One day death will end (v26)

- God the Father has put all things under the authority of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:28).
- Jesus is under the authority of God the Father (1 Corinthians 15:28).
- When all things are under the authority of Jesus, and the last enemy is destroyed, then God will be all in all. That will be a turning point (1 Corinthians 15:28).
- The doctrine of the rapture (the return of Jesus and the resurrection) should motivate us to stop sinning and pursue righteousness (1 Corinthians 15:34).
- Paul compared a seed being sown underground, and then transforming into a plant, to the coming resurrection. People are buried underground, and then at the resurrection they're transformed into their resurrected bodies (1 Corinthians 15:37).
- After the resurrection we will be incorruptible (1 Corinthians 15:42).
- Those who are natural, and have natural bodies, are of the earth and are earthy (1 Corinthians 15:48). This is who we are now.
- Those who are spiritual, and have spiritual bodies, are of Heaven and are heavenly (1 Corinthians 15:48). This is who we will be after the resurrection.
- In order to inherit the kingdom of God, we can't be creatures of flesh and blood. Instead we must be transformed into something else before we can receive that inheritance (1 Corinthians 15:50). That will happen at the resurrection.
- As long as we have a corruptible body, we can't inherit

the kingdom of God and we can't be made incorruptible (1 Corinthians 15:50). We will be given a new body at the resurrection.

- There were times when Paul revealed mysteries that had previously been hidden (1 Corinthians 15:51).
- There will still be Christians in this world when Jesus returns (1 Corinthians 15:51).
- All Christians will be changed in a single moment (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- When Christ returns, a trumpet will sound (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- When the trumpet sounds, the dead in Christ will be raised (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- When the dead in Christ are raised, they will be raised in incorruptible bodies (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- After the dead in Christ are raised, we will be changed (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- When we become incorruptible and immortal, death will be defeated. Christ will have won a victory over death because we will no longer be subject to death (1 Corinthians 15:54).
- Death comes from the law, because sin is a violation of the law and sin leads to death. That means death gets its power from the law (1 Corinthians 15:56).
- Churches have a responsibility to financially support other Christians who are in trouble and need help (1 Corinthians 16:1).
- Paul wanted money to be collected before he arrived, so

that no collection would have to be done while he was there (1 Corinthians 16:2).

- Not only should the church help the saints, but it should also help those who are helping the saints (1 Corinthians 16:16).
- Churches should acknowledge those who minister to the saints (1 Corinthians 16:18).
- There was a church located in the house of Aquila and Priscilla (1 Corinthians 16:19).
- Paul pronounced a curse upon all those who don't love Jesus (1 Corinthians 16:22).