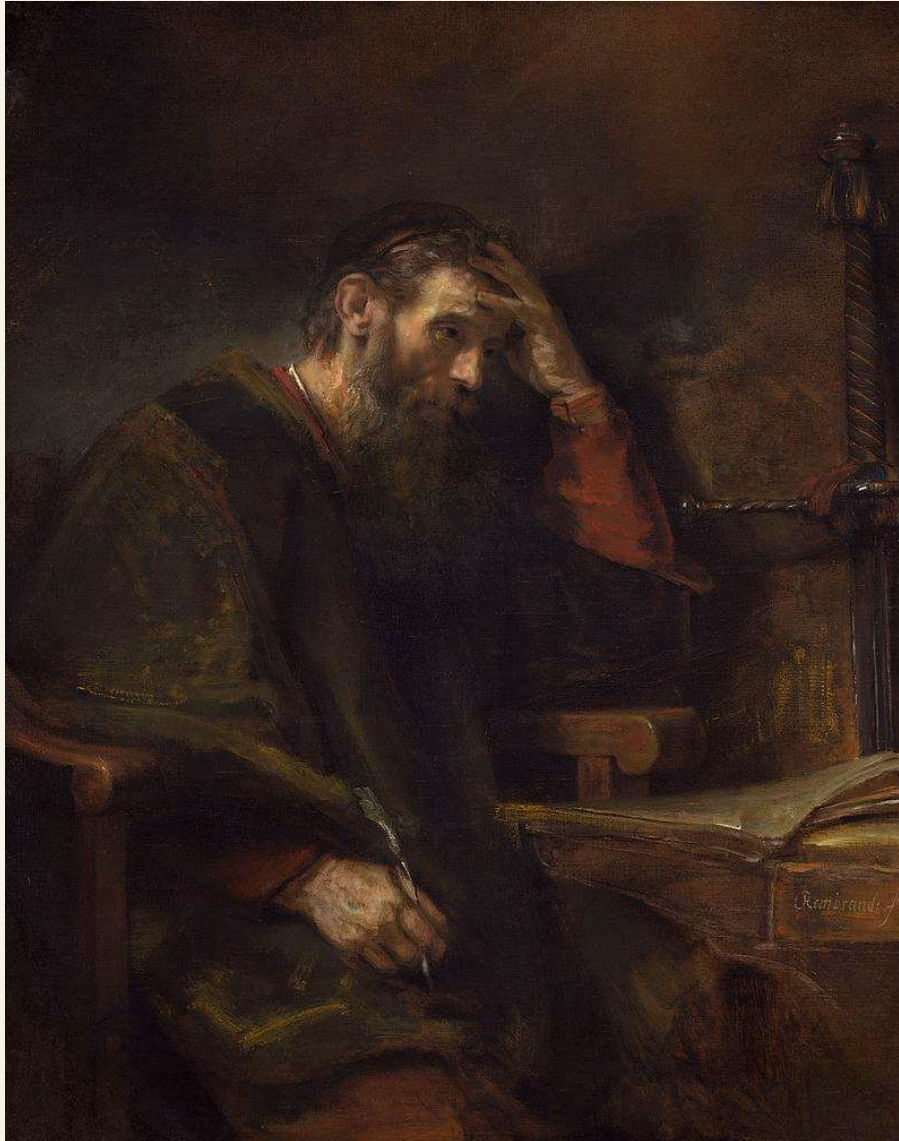


*Where do we go when the going gets gruelling?*



*Ch.1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God in Corinth,...*

# Who wrote the letter?

## Authorship evidence

### Internal

**Ch.1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God in Corinth,...**

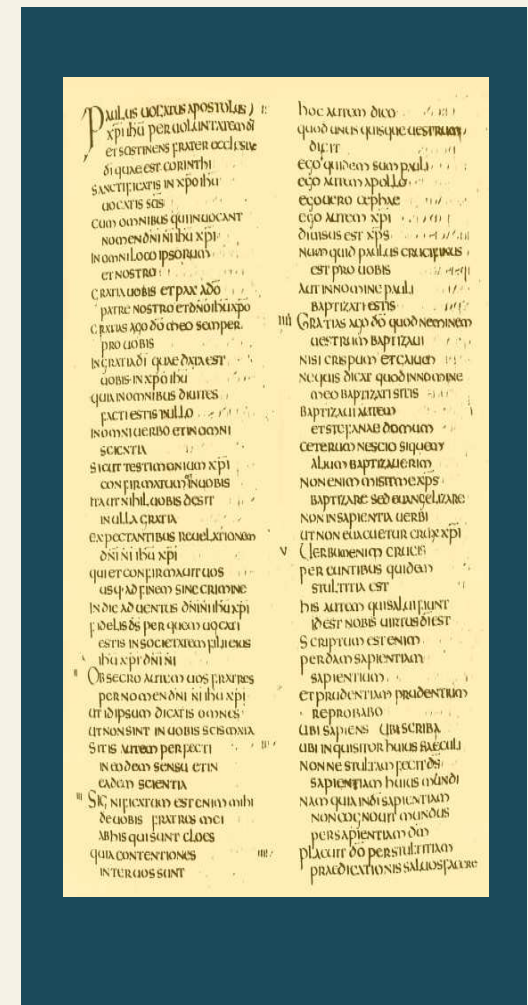
### Early external

**Clement of Rome, Circa 95 AD**

**"Take up the epistle of the blessed Paul the Apostle"  
(xlvii. 1)**

**Irenaeus, Circa 180 AD**

**And others**

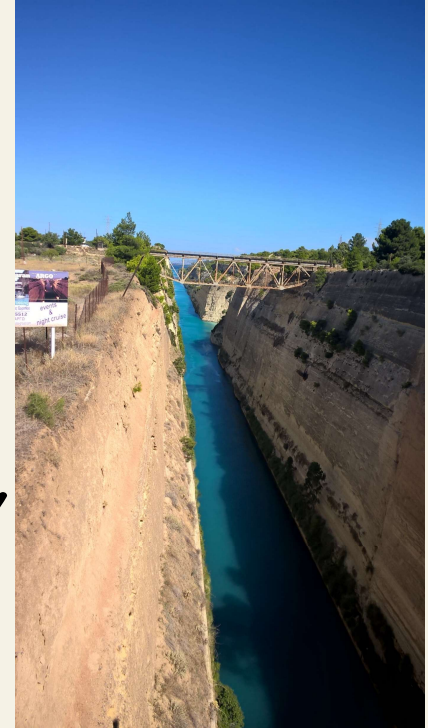


## *The City of Corinth*



## *The City of Corinth*

- ***Strategic Location***
  - ***Control of access between 2 seas***
  - ***Romans destroyed city in 146 BC***
  - ***Rebuilt by Julius Caesar in 46 BC***
  - ***Populated with Roman war veterans, slaves, Greek, Jewish exiles from Rome***
  - ***Trade, arts, Isthmian games***
  - ***Temple of Poseidon***
  - ***Culture of prostitutes***





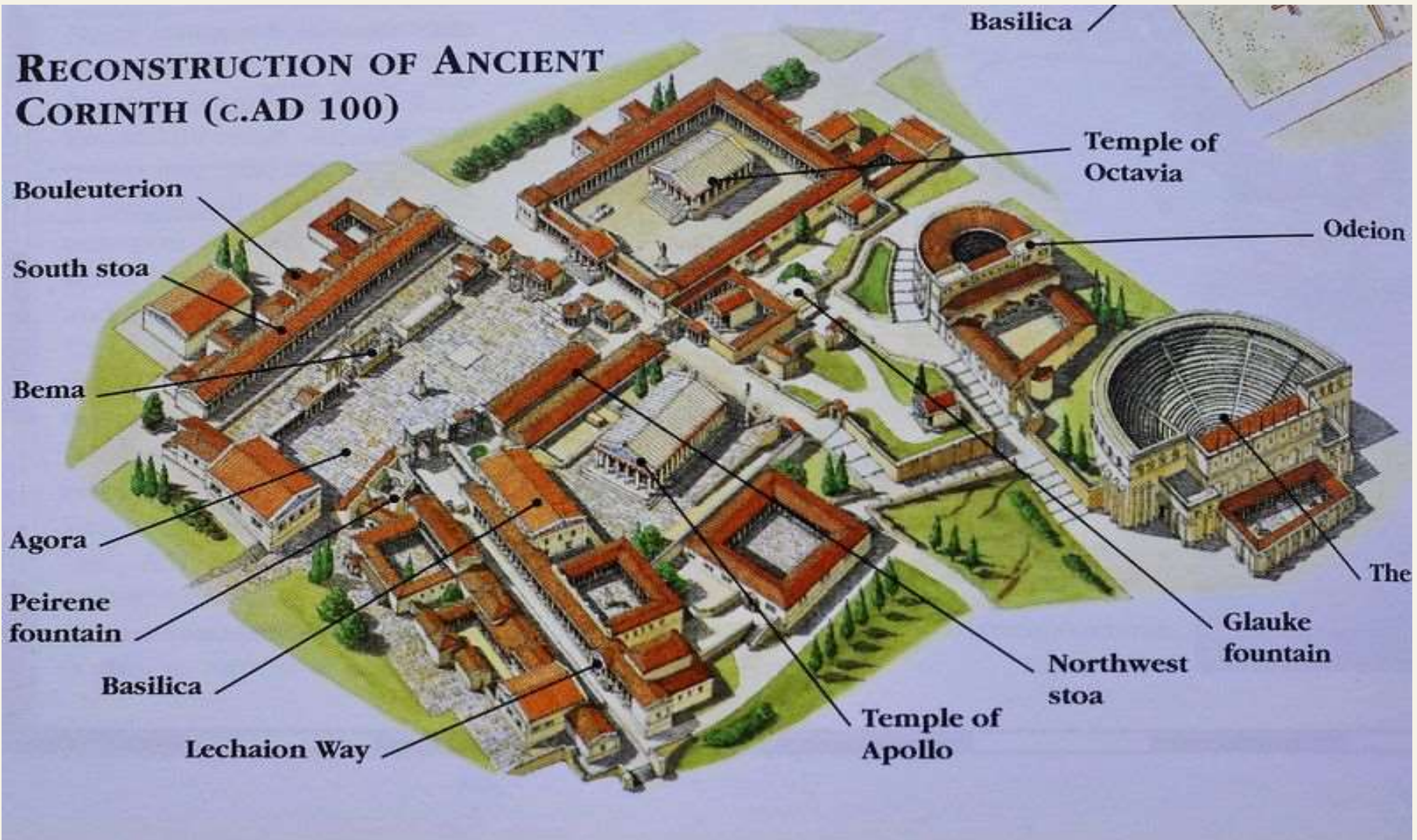
# *The City of Corinth*





# The City of Corinth

## RECONSTRUCTION OF ANCIENT CORINTH (c.AD 100)



# The City of Corinth





## The Church at Corinth Its Founding Acts 18:1-17

Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshipper of God.

Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptised.

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision:  
"Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent.

For I am with you, and no-one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city."

"Then they all turned on **Sosthenes the synagogue ruler** and beat him in front of the court. But Gallio showed no concern whatever. Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time.

1 After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

18 Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time.



## *The Church at Corinth Paul's Apostolic Followup*

### **1. The lost letter**

*Previously written*

*But now clarifying*

*Not extant*

*Ch 5:9 I have  
written to you  
in my letter..*

*11 but now I  
am writing to  
you..*

# *The Church at Corinth Paul's Apostolic Followup*

## **2. 1 Corinthians**

***Delegation sent to Ephesus***

***Written from Ephesus***

***Paul plans another visit, also to  
send Timothy, Apollos***

***16:17 I was  
glad because  
they have  
supplied what  
was lacking  
from you***

***5:11 But now  
I am writing  
to you that...***

***16:2-12 But I  
will stay on..***

## *The Church at Corinth Paul's Apostolic Followup*

### *3. 2 Corinthians*

*Pauls' second visit (painful)*

*I wrote to you in tears  
(another letter?)*

*Paul plans third visit*

*The 3rd letter (at least)*

*2 Cor 2:1*

*2 Cor 2:3*

*2 Cor 12:14,  
13:1*



## *When and from where?*

- *Paul leaves Corinth for Ephesus (Acts 18:18)*
- *Paul writes letter (lost) (1 Cor. 5:9)*
- *Delegation sent to Ephesus (1 Cor 16:17)*
- *Paul writes 1 Corinthians from Ephesus*
- *Paul's hasty visit (2 Cor 2:1)*
- *Paul's sorrowful letter (lost) (2 Cor 2:4)*
- *Paul writes 2 Corinthians from Macedonia*

*AD 53*

*AD 54*

*AD 54*

*AD 55*

*AD 56*

*AD 56*

*AD 56*

*AD 57*

# Audience

## Jews

### **Direct references**

*Priscilla and Aquila, Jews who were expelled from Rome (Acts ch 18:2)*

*Crispus and his entire household, synagogue leader (Acts ch 18:8)*

*Sosthenes the synagogue ruler (Acts ch 18:13)*

*Sosthenes co-author (1 Cor 1:1)*

*Circumcised (1 Cor 7:18-19)*

**References: Law, Scriptures (1 Cor 9,14,15)**

**Gentiles (Roman, Greek,..)**

**To the church at large (1 Cor 1:2)**



## *Occasion*

### *Major threads*

*Divisions reported by Chloe*

*Sexual immorality reported to me*

*Previous letter clarification*

*Delegation from Corinth*

*That which was lacking from you*

*Brought letter, also add'l concerns?*

*1 Cor 1:11*

*1 Cor 5:1*

*1 Cor 5:11*

*1 Cor 16:17*



## *Now Concerning*

<b>Chapter 1:11</b>	<b>I have heard from some in Chloe's household about quarrels and division</b>
<b>Chapter 5:1</b>	<b>It is actually reported to me there is sexual immorality and other issues</b>
<b>Chapter 7:1</b>	<b>Now concerning the unmarried and married</b>
<b>Chapter 7:25</b>	<b>Now concerning virgins</b>
<b>Chapter 8:1</b>	<b>Now concerning meat offered to idols, and following</b>
<b>Chapter 12:1</b>	<b>Now concerning spiritual gifts</b>
<b>Chapter 15</b>	<b>Now concerning the resurrection (implied)</b>
<b>Chapter 16:1</b>	<b>Now concerning the collection for God's people</b>
<b>Chapter 16:2</b>	<b>Now concerning Apollos coming</b>

### *Chapter 16: 17*

*I was glad when  
Stephanas,  
Fortunatus and  
Achaicus arrived,  
because they have  
supplied what was  
lacking from you.*



# *The gruelling*

<b>1 Corinthians 1:1-9</b>	<b>Church at Corinth, Introduction</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 1:10-2:5</b>	<b>God's Wisdom the Resolution of Division</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 2:6-16</b>	<b>Nature of Spiritual Life</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 3:1-23</b>	<b>Nature of Christian Ministry</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 4:1-21</b>	<b>The Stewardship of the Gospel</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 5:1-6:11</b>	<b>The Protection of Holiness</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 6:12-20</b>	<b>God's Dwelling Place</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 7</b>	<b>Christian Marriage 1</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 7</b>	<b>Christian Marriage 2</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 8:1-13</b>	<b>Responsibility of Christian Liberty</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 9:1-14</b>	<b>Supporting God's Work</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 9:15-27</b>	<b>Running the Race</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</b>	<b>The Danger of Disqualification</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 10:41-32</b>	<b>Idols and the Lord's Supper</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 11:1-16</b>	<b>Principles for the Church Meeting</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 11:17-34</b>	<b>The Lord's Supper</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 12:1-31</b>	<b>The Body of Christ at Work</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 13:1-13</b>	<b>God's Greatest Gift</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 14:1-25</b>	<b>The Priority of Prophecy</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 14:26-41</b>	<b>The Practice of Prophecy</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 15</b>	<b>Because Jesus Lives</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 16</b>	<b>Paul's Principles in Practice</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 16</b>	<b>Paul's Principles in Practice</b>



## PURPOSES

- *To set right the disorders*
- *Correct some misunderstandings*
- *Answer the items raised*
- *Teach the resurrection doctrine*
- *Encourage, teach, and exhort*

- *Division*
- *From the lost letter*
- *From the delegation concerns*

*Where do we go when  
the going gets gruelling for us?*

- *And we forget how we started*
- *With serious divisions setting in*
- *When we forget the Spirit's  
presence and power*
- *When holy living is falling apart*
- *When we let others judge  
in our place*
- *When the sanctity of being single  
or married needs God's teaching*

*1 Cor 1:1-9*

*Chloe v 11*

*Ch 2:5*

*Ch 3:16; 5:1*

*Ch 6:5*

*Ch 7*

*Where do we go when  
the going gets gruelling for us?*

- *When we don't know how to live  
in worlds of unbelief*
- *When we don't know how to keep  
ourselves and each other holy*
- *When bringing glory to God in  
church gathering needs correction*
- *Understanding the role of God's  
empowerment is lacking*
- *The certain hope of the  
resurrection is not believed*

*Ch 8*

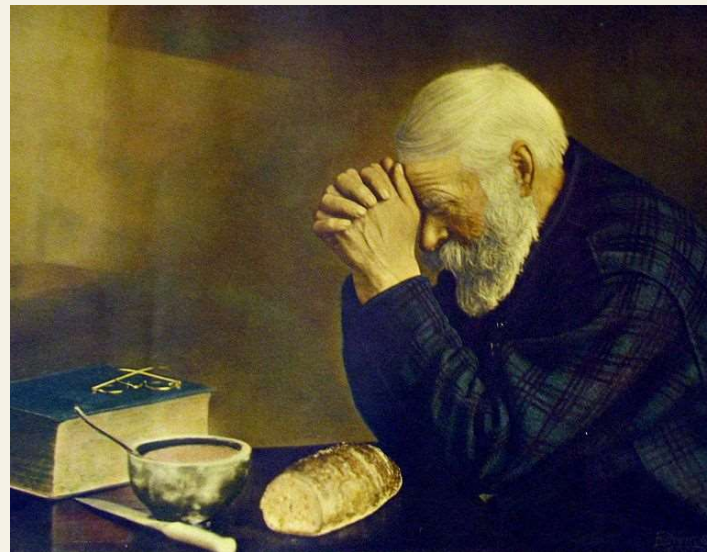
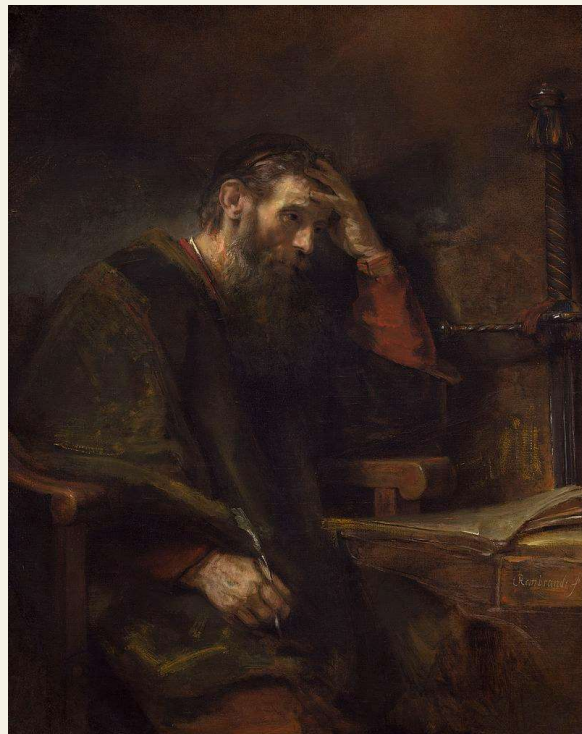
*Ch 10*

*Ch 11*

*Ch 12-14*

*Ch 15*

Where do we go when the going gets gruelling? (1:1-9)



We call on the name of our Lord Jesus

We revel in our enrichment & calling in Him

We remain thankful in hope

We rest in His faithfulness