

9. Part 9. Study of 1 & 2 Corinthians

1. Purpose of the Lecture

- 1) To understand Paul's apostolic authority and love toward the Corinthian church.
 - 2) To learn Paul's teachings regarding real issues such as division, ethics, worship, and spiritual gifts.
 - 3) To deepen understanding of the cross-centered gospel, the heart of Pauline theology.
 - 4) To analyze Paul's philosophy of ministry and theology of suffering presented in 2 Corinthians.
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2. Overview of 1 Corinthians

1) Background and Purpose

- (1) Corinth: A commercial hub, multicultural, full of idolatry and immorality
- (2) Corinthian Church: Established by Paul during his second missionary journey
- (3) Purpose: To correct church issues like division, immorality, and chaotic worship practices

2) Key Themes

- 1) Church Divisions(Ch.1–4): “I follow Paul,” “I follow Apollos” –party spirit
 - 2) Wisdom of the Cross: God’s wisdom vs. worldly wisdom (1:18–31)
 - 3) Call to Holiness: Dealing with immorality and church discipline (Ch. 5–6)
 - 4) Marriage and Singleness(Ch. 7)
 - 5) Freedom and Responsibility(Ch. 8–10): Food sacrificed to idols, limiting personal freedom
 - 6) Worship Order(Ch. 11–14): Head coverings, misuse of the Lord’s Supper, spiritual gifts
 - 7) Resurrection Doctrine(Ch. 15): The reality and meaning of resurrection
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3. Overview of 2 Corinthians

1) Background and Purpose

- (1) Defense of Paul’s apostleship
- (2) Emphasis on suffering and sincerity in ministry
- (3) Reconciliation with the Corinthian church and fundraising for the

Jerusalem church

2) Key Themes

- (1) God of Comfort(1:3–11): Comfort in the midst of suffering
 - (2) Identity of the Minister(Ch. 4): Treasure in jars of clay, the way of the cross
 - (3) Ministry of Reconciliation(Ch. 5): New creation, ambassadors for Christ
 - (4) Encouragement to Give(Ch. 8–9): Voluntary, joyful giving
 - (5) Defense of Apostleship(Ch. 10–13): Paul’s “foolish boasting”
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4. Pauline Theological Themes

- 1) Cross-Centered Gospel– 1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5
 - 2) Community and the Holy Spirit– Diversity of gifts and primacy of love (1 Cor 12–13)
 - 3) Ministry Identity through Suffering– 2 Cor 4:7–18; Ch. 11
 - 4) God of Comfort and Reconciliation– 2 Cor 1, 5
 - 5) Stewardship and Generosity– 2 Cor 8–9
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5. Contemporary Applications

- 1) Resolving church divisions through gospel-centered unity
 - 2) Taking a firm yet restorative stance on moral failure
 - 3) Proper use of spiritual gifts with love as the foundation
 - 4) Understanding suffering and humility in pastoral identity
 - 5) Biblical stewardship and communal responsibility in church finances
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Appendix: Assignments & Discussion Questions

- 1) How can 1 Corinthians 13’s teaching on love be applied to today’s church conflicts?
 - 2) What does “treasure in jars of clay” (2 Cor 4) reveal about authentic ministry today?
 - 3) What lessons can modern church leaders learn from Paul’s defense of apostleship?
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PowerPoint slide deck

PDF / Word formatted lecture notes

Sermon manuscript and video script

