

I Corinthians

(1) Paul, Apostle of Jesus Christ

1 Cor 1:1-9

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours:

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way – in all your speaking and in all your knowledge— 6 because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. NIV

Paul introduces himself...1:1

How does Paul describe himself to this church which he founded? 1:1 Why?

Why is it so critically important that Paul has Apostolic authority? 1:1; 7:12

How many cornerstones does a building have? Eph.2:19-22 How many foundations?

Why is this basic truth so important to understand/defend today? IICor.11:10-15; Rev.2:2

But what Scriptural truth is violated with that (new Apostles) teaching? Rev.22:18-19

How does Rev.21:10-14 also teach that the Apostolic age is complete? See Eph.2:20

But certainly Scripture is not the *total sum* of God's truth. Don't we need more? IITim.3:16-17

When someone claims now to be an Apostle, speaking God's words, what's clearly implied?

Further relevance of Apostleship to us today

What is *one* of the practical questions for those today claiming to be Apostles?

To answer, how did the early church KNOW? Heb.2:1-4; Acts 2:43, 5:12; IICor.12:11-12

How do we evaluate preachers/teachers/prophets/'apostles' today? Acts 17:11; IITim.3:16-17

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Paul introduces himself...1:1

How does Paul describe himself to this church which he founded? 1:1 Why?

He's called, by the will of God, to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus. Establishes his authority!

Why is it so critically important that Paul has Apostolic authority? 1:1; 7:12

He was called, an Apostle of Christ Jesus, by the will of God. His words = Christ's words!

How many cornerstones does a building have? Eph.2:19-22 How many foundations?

Only 1 cornerstone and only 1 foundation. Christ not repeated. Apostles not repeated.

Why is this basic truth so important to understand/defend today? IICor.11:10-15; Rev.2:2

False teachers are claiming to be Apostles, thus making their words equal to Scripture!

But what Scriptural truth is violated with that (new Apostles) teaching? Rev.22:18-19

The written Scripture was completed with the Revelation. No additions, no subtractions!!

How does Rev.21:10-14 also teach that the Apostolic age is complete? See Eph.2:20

There are only 12 foundations in the new Jerusalem. 12 Apostles. Interesting...foundation.

But certainly Scripture is not the *total sum* of God's truth. Don't we need more? IITim.3:16-17

God says they are all we need. By them we're perfectly equipped for every good work.

When someone claims now to be an Apostle, speaking God's words, what's clearly implied?

The Scriptures are not complete! God's withholding something(s). Like in the garden...?

Further relevance of Apostleship to us today

What is *one* of the practical questions for those today claiming to be Apostles?

In the world of false teachers, if new Scripture was being given, how would we know...?

To answer, how did the early church KNOW? Heb.2:1-4; Acts 2:43, 5:12; IICor.12:11-12

They knew because of the signs and wonders and miracles. God authenticated the men.

How do we evaluate preachers/teachers/prophets/'apostles' today? Acts 17:11; IITim.3:16-17

By examining their words/deeds by THE STANDARD, the written Word of God!