

LETTERS OF 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS



AUTHOR:
THE APOSTLE PAUL

DATE:
55 OR 56 AD

ORIGINAL AUDIENCE:
CHURCH IN CORINTH, GREECE

WHAT ARE THE BOOKS' THEMES?

1 Corinthians: Christian conduct in the church, the home, and the world

2 Corinthians: Paul's ministry motives, sacrifices, responsibilities, and effectiveness

WHY WERE THEY WRITTEN?

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians presented clear theological teaching to correct a number of problems that had arisen, including disunity, disorder in worship, and sexual sin. In his second letter, Paul defended his ministry against false apostles and described the process for restoring a repentant believer and collecting a benevolence offering.

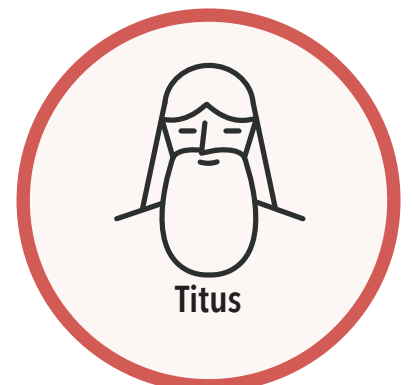
WHO ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERS?



Paul



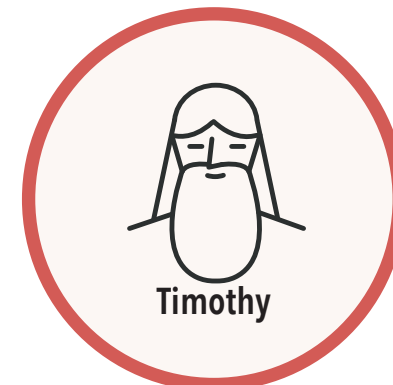
Apollos



Titus



False Apostles



Timothy



Household of Stephanas

1 CORINTHIANS

DIVISIONS IN THE CHURCH (CHAPTERS 1-4)

I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. (1:10)

MORAL PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH (CHAPTERS 5-6)

It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning. (5:12)

MARRIAGE (CHAPTER 7)

I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible. (7:35)

CHRISTIAN FREEDOM (CHAPTERS 8-10)

Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (10:31)

WORSHIP (CHAPTERS 11-14)

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (13:1)

THE RESURRECTION (CHAPTER 15)

Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. (15:25-26)

FINAL INSTRUCTIONS (CHAPTER 16)

Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love. (16:13-14)

2 CORINTHIANS

PAUL DEFENDS HIS APOSTLESHIP (CHAPTERS 1-7)

The only letter of recommendation we need is you yourselves. Your lives are a letter written in our hearts; everyone can read it and recognize our good work among you. (3:2)

JERUSALEM CHURCH COLLECTION (CHAPTERS 8-9)

Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. (8:7)

PAUL CONFRONTS FALSE APOSTLES (CHAPTERS 10-13)

Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve. (11:14-15)

