

- I. Background Information.**
 - A. The human author of the book (letter) is Paul.**
 - B. Paul wrote this letter to address problems in the church.**
 - C. The people in the church at Corinth were gifted, but they were also corrupt (see 1 Cor. 1:7 and 3:1,3).**
 - D. Corinth was one of the greatest commercial and trading centers of the ancient world.**
 - E. Corinth was also known for its sin (see 1 Cor. 6:9,10).**
 - F. The church at Corinth was the result of the supernatural work of God and the persistent effort of the Apostle Paul.**
- II. Paul's Work at Corinth.**
 - A. When Paul arrived at Corinth he met and worked with a couple named Aquila and Priscilla (see Acts 18:1-3).**
 - B. Paul's goal was to start a church in Corinth and serve as the full-time pastor; because he didn't have enough support to do this initially, he worked as a tent maker.**
 - C. In time, a number of people accepted Christ and supported Paul's ministry to the point where he was able to quit his tent making job and devote himself exclusively to preaching and teaching (see Acts 18:5).**
 - D. Not everyone in Corinth was happy about Paul's success.**
 - E. The Jews opposed Paul and became abusive (see Acts 18:6), so Paul went to the Gentiles (non-Jews).**
 - F. Paul shared the gospel but didn't get discouraged when people didn't respond favorably; he simply moved on (see Acts 18:6 and 13:51).**
 - G. Eventually, the Jewish synagogue ruler and a host of others came to know Christ (see Acts 18:7,8).**
- III. Additional Information.**
 - A. Paul served as the pastor of the church at Corinth for about a year and a half (see Acts 18:11).**
 - B. About three years later (55 A.D.), while Paul was at Ephesus (see 1 Cor. 16:8), he wrote 1 Corinthians.**
 - C. He wrote this letter because the church was in trouble; it went from one of the best churches on the planet to one of the most corrupt.**
 - D. The church became worldly and corrupt because the people who made up the church took their eyes off Jesus.**