

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

In John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia.

REVELATION 1: 9-11

John on Patmos
Velasquez (1590-1660)
National Gallery, London

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

After his salutation and thanksgiving,

PAUL, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, 2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's:

3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;

6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:

7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the *(coming)* of our Lord Jesus Christ:

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *(that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Paul exhorts the Corinthians to unity

10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.

and reproves their dissensions

12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.

13 Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

14 I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;

15 Lest any should say that *(I had baptized in mine own)* name.

16 And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.

17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

18 God has made the world's wisdom foolish

19 For the *(preaching)* of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

20 For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the *(cleverness)* of the prudent.

21 Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

22 For after that in the wisdom of God the world *(by)* wisdom knew not God, it pleased God *(through)* the foolishness of *(preaching)* *(what we preach)* to save them that believe.

23 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

24 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto *(the Greeks)* foolishness; and unto *(Gentiles)* the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The foolishness of God is superior to men's wisdom and His weakness is beyond their strength

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

God has called but few who are wise, powerful, or of noble birth

26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to *(confound)* the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to *(confound)* the things which are *(mighty;)* strong;

28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

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23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto *(the Greeks)* foolishness; and unto *(Gentiles)*

24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

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