

2NT612
I Corinthians
Syllabus, Fall 08

Dr. Simon J. Kistemaker

Of all Paul's epistles, his First Epistle to the Corinthians discusses the largest number of subjects relating to the life of the church. These are topics of lawsuits, marriage and divorce, meats offered to idols, pastor's salary, proper worship, celebration of the Lord's Supper, tongue speaking, prophesying, women in the church, the doctrine of the resurrection, and the support of the poor. Paul wrote this epistle for the needs in the church of today.

As you study this epistle, you will increase your knowledge of Scripture, enrich others whom you instruct, and be able to defend the truth of God's Word. As Paul puts it, "be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:17).

Assignments

The textbook for the course is Gordon D. Fee, *First Epistle to the Corinthians*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987. The assignments are from this book as noted in the weekly schedule.

Three short tests are scheduled throughout the semester. In addition you are asked to write a paper of some 15 pages (plus bibliography and appendices) on a I Corinthian-related topic. The due date for the paper is Tuesday November 11, 2008. You are advised to consult me on a topic as well as the scope, structure, and progress of your paper. I have placed some books on the reserve shelf. Consult the library computer for additional references. Please, keep me informed about your bibliography and the progress you are making in your writing. I advise you to consult Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* on writing an acceptable term paper.

Schedule

Aug 26	Introduction (pp. 1-20). Place, time, recipients, theology, authenticity, characteristics, text, and purpose
Sept 2	Chapter 1 (pp. 27-88) Divisions in the church, factions, folly of the cross
Sept 9	Chapter 3-4 (pp. 121-94) Workmen for God, servants of Christ, faithfulness and admonition
Sept 16	Chapter 5-6 Test (pp. 194-266) Immorality, incest, excommunication, litigations

Sept 23	Chapter 7 (pp. 267-357) Marriage problems, proper conduct, faithfulness, widows, divorce, singles
Sept 30	Chapter 11 (pp. 491-569) Worship for both men and women in the church, the Lord's Supper
Oct 7	Chapter 12 (pp. 569-625). Spiritual gifts and the body of Christ
Oct 21	Chapter 13 <i>Test</i> (pp. 625-52) Paul's letter of love place between chapters 12 and 14
Oct 28	Chapter 14 (pp. 653-88) Prophecy and tongues, praying and praising, Scripture
Nov 4	Chapter 14 (689-713) Orderly conduct in the worship service, edification and revelation
Nov 11	Chapter 15 (pp. 713-45) <i>Paper Due Date</i> . Resurrection of Christ, apostolicity of Paul, the dead are raised
Nov 18	Chapter 15 (pp. 745-809) Physical and spiritual bodies, immortality and victory
Nov 25	Chapter 16 (pp. 809-40) Collection for Jerusalem.
Dec 2	<i>Test</i>

Topics

The schism in the Corinthian church
 Signs for the Jews; wisdom for the Greeks
 Incest in the church
 Paul's correspondence with the Corinthians
 Personal visits of Paul to Corinth
 Lawsuits in the Christian community
 God's design for marriage
 Separation and divorce
 Widows and singles
 Praying and prophesying in the church
 Celebrating the Lord's Supper
 The gifts of the Spirit
 Speaking in tongues

Prophecy in the worship service
The resurrection of the dead
The kingdom of Christ and God

Reserve Books

Blomberg, Craig. *I Corinthians*
Fee, Gordon D. *First Epistle to the Corinthians*
Harrisville, Roy A. *I Corinthians*
Hayes, R. B. *First Corinthians*
Hodge, Charles. *First Epistle to the Corinthians*
Horsley, R. A. *I Corinthians*
Kistemaker, Simon J. *Exposition of I Corinthians*
Lenski, R. C. H. *First and Second Epistle to the Corinthians*
MacArthur, John, Jr. *I Corinthians*
Morris, Leon. *I Corinthians*
Robertson, A. and A. Plummer. *First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians*
Thiselton, Anthony. *First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians*
Thrall, Margaret E. *First and Second Letters of Paul to the Corinthians*

Grading

Three tests 20 % each	60
Paper 40%	<u>40</u>
Total	100

Attendance

Classroom attendance is for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry. Students therefore are expected to attend class sessions. No student should absent himself/herself from classes in order to fulfill requirements or responsibilities of other classes. Those with absences may be penalized at the discretion of the professor.

If students miss class persistently throughout the regular semester, they may be dismissed for academic reasons. In certain exceptional cases, such as extended illness or family crisis, in which it is impossible for students to complete a semester's work, they may present a written request for permission to withdraw from all courses.

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