

1 Corinthians 16: Closing Remarks & Principles.

The Christians at Corinth were spiritually gifted, but they were immature and thus divided, immoral, polluted with Greek philosophies, and thus he writes instructing them on many theological and practical fronts, giving many corrections so they would grow.

1 Corinthians 11:1 - *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*

I. Closing Remarks

- i. (1-4) Receiving and sending the collection.

Now concerning is used again in this letter (1 Corinthians 7:1, 8:1, and 12:1). It means Paul is replying to something the Corinthian Christians asked about.

Paul refers to a collection he gathered for the **saints** in Jerusalem. In several other passages it speaks of this effort among many different churches to help the poor Christians in Jerusalem (Acts 11:27-30, 24:17, Romans 15:26, 2 Corinthians 8:13, 9:9-12).

We know that the church in Jerusalem was the most persecuted, as a result they supported a large number of widows (Acts 6:1-6) and were in the midst of famine (Acts 11:27-30).

“When they came together for worship and the word, they were commanded to receive an offering at the same time.”

“Paul wanted a representative from the Christians in Corinth to help deliver the gift to Jerusalem.”

Three major principles of giving are; willingly, cheerfully and generously.

- ii. (5-12) Paul’s plan to visit the Corinthian Christians.

Paul planned to go through the region of **Macedonia**, to Corinth, but his plans may change as God wills; He had given him opportunity *now* in Ephesus, amidst opposition.

- Paul was sending Timothy to Corinth, asking them to respect **him**.
- Apollos was unwilling to go with Timothy until another possible time.

II. Closing Principles (13-24)

- i. **Watch,**
1 Thessalonians 5:6 - Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.
- ii. **Stand fast in the faith,**
Philippians 4:1 - Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.
- iii. **Be brave,**
Psalms 31:24 - Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the LORD.
- iv. **Be strong**
1 Chronicles 28:10 - "Consider now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it."
- v. **Love,**
1 John 4:11 - Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Christians are to be like strong soldiers, on guard, watching for their Lord's return.

- vi. (15-18) Concerning **Stephanas, Fortunatus and Achaicus.**

These were the three men who brought the questions of the Corinthian Christians to Paul. As Paul sends them back with this letter, Paul asked that they be received as devoted servants of the Lord.

- vii. (19-20) Greetings from afar.