

LESSON 1
A LETTER TO CORINTH
1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-3; ACTS 18:1-18

I. The Author (1 Corinthians 1:1)

A. Paul

- The author was the _____, who founded the church in Corinth.
- Paul identifies himself as one who was called to _____.

B. Sosthenes

- Sosthenes was a companion of Paul and was not a _____.
- He may have been the _____ publicly beaten by the Gentiles. (Acts 18:17)

II. The Church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 1:2)

A. The description of the church

1. The church of God

- This description reflects that the church belonged to _____.

2. Sanctified in Christ Jesus

- Sanctified means to be _____ and _____ from the world.
- They were _____ for Jesus.

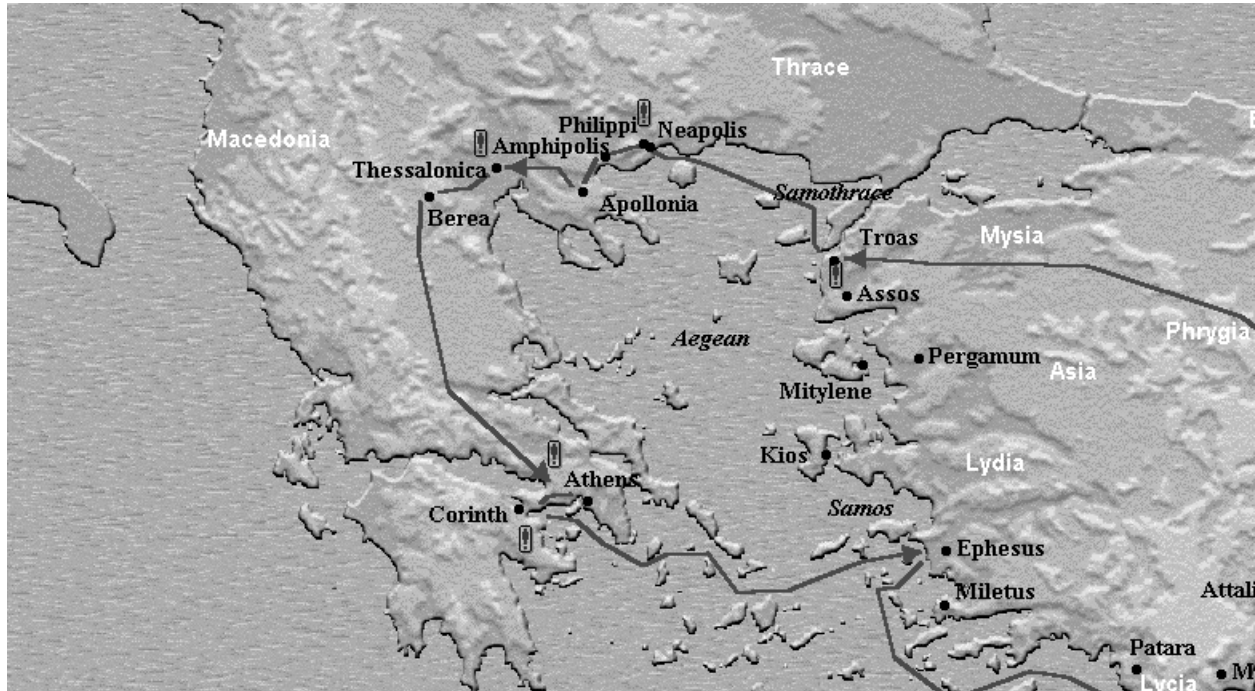
3. Called to be saints

- They were designated as _____.

B. Addressed to Others

- Paul also addressed the letter to all believers so they can _____.

C. The Location of the Church



1. The City

The ancient city had a reputation for vulgar materialism. In the earliest Greek literature it was linked with wealth and immorality. When Plato referred to a prostitute, he used the expression “Corinthian girl.” Much of the wealth and vice in Corinth centered around the temple of Aphrodite and its thousand temple prostitutes. For this reason a proverb warned, “Not for every man is the voyage to Corinth.”

The city became the governmental seat for Achaia, from which seat Gallio as proconsul would allow Paul’s proclamation of the gospel. It was onto this new stage, which nonetheless preserved the vices of the old, that Paul stepped in A.D. 51.

Question: List some similarities and differences between your town and Corinth.

2. The Planting of the Church (Acts 18:1-18)

Question: What was the response (positive and negative) to Paul’s ministry in Corinth?

Question: What was the result of the bringing Paul to the Proconsul?

Question:

How would this end up helping the young church?

III. Paul's Greeting to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 1:3)