

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

10-22-2023 // WEEK 42 NOTES

1 Corinthians 12 - 16, 2 Corinthians, and Romans 1 - 7

1 Corinthians 12 - 16

The journey continues!

You have now finished **1 Corinthians**. If there was a city that most resembles American large cities today, it's Corinth. Paul's letter, as an apostle, addresses many issues we deal with today. It was a church that had much financial prosperity. It also fell prey to a lot of **spiritual craziness**, as you saw this week in **chapters 12 - 14**.

2 Corinthians 1 - 13

2 Corinthians is a book where Paul is defending his **apostolic authority** against the false teachers following him around. Like with the Galatian letter, most of these false teachers were demanding Jewish circumcision for new Gentile believers. They questioned Paul's speaking ability, public appearance, size (he evidently was small statured), and other things.

I love **2 Corinthians 5!** There are so many rich teachings: From how we are presently living in tents (temporary, aging) but will one day have a permanent building for our home (eternal resurrection bodies). To be absent from the body is to be with Jesus! Immediately! Such good news.

Chapters 8 and 9 are about **generosity**. Paul was taking up an offering for the poor in Jerusalem who were clobbered by a drought. The poor Macedonian church gave a huge gift proportionately. Paul was adjuring the wealthy Corinthian church to give in a similar way. There are some very rich verses in these two chapters. Don't miss them!

Chapter 11 is about all the hardships Paul experienced for serving Jesus. Then compare them to your bad days!

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Chapter 12 is one of the most beautiful in the Bible. It's **Paul's response to all his hardships**. Pay special attention to **verse 9**. *It's a wow!*

Romans 1 - 7

Romans is the classic **doctrinal statement**. Its entire thesis is encapsulated in **verse 3:23**. If you don't have this, you don't have the gospel.

A brief overview of Romans, Paul's majestic theological treatise (and remember that Galatians is simply Romans in miniature):

Romans 1 - 3: The depravity of the human heart, both Jew and Greek alike, culminated in Romans **3:23** (*All have sinned and fall short of God's glory*).

Romans 4 - 7: The majesty of grace through Jesus and justification before God by faith alone, not works. **Chapter 7** shows the frustration of trying to live under the law.

Next week you will read **Romans 8** (one of my favorite chapters in all the Bible).

Keep reading! Growing. Learning. I hope you are enjoying the journey! To God belongs the glory.

David