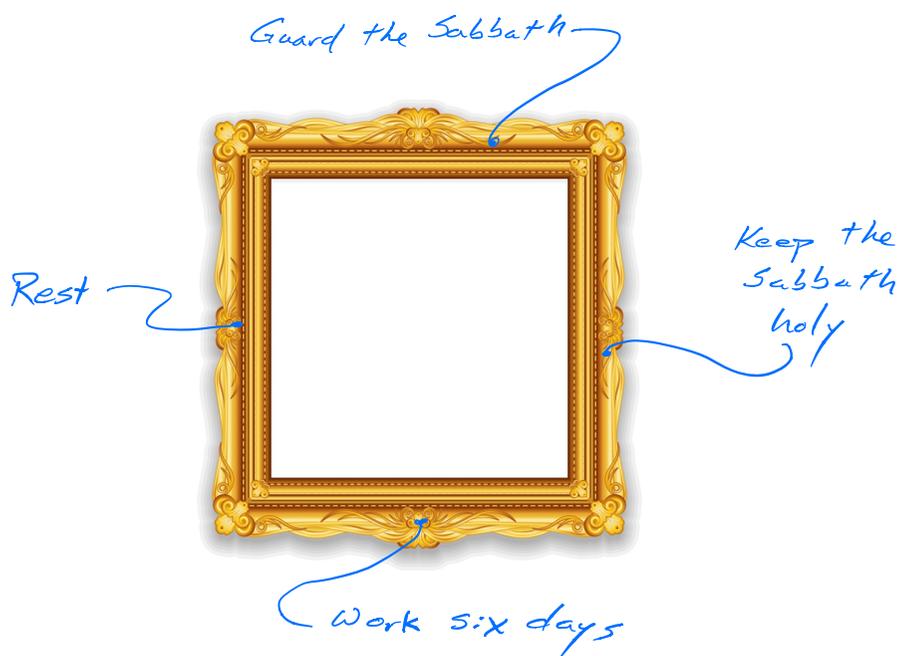


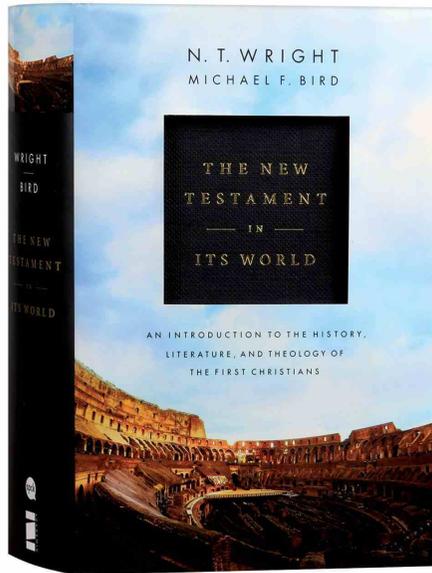
# An Impossible Challenge

1 Corinthians – Intro. & Ch.1a



*There are people who pray for eternal life  
and don't know what to do with themselves  
on a rainy Sunday.*

G. K. Chesterton



## ***The New Testament In Its World***

An Introduction to the History, Literature,  
and Theology of the First Christians

*by N. T. Wright*

## Topics in Corinthians:

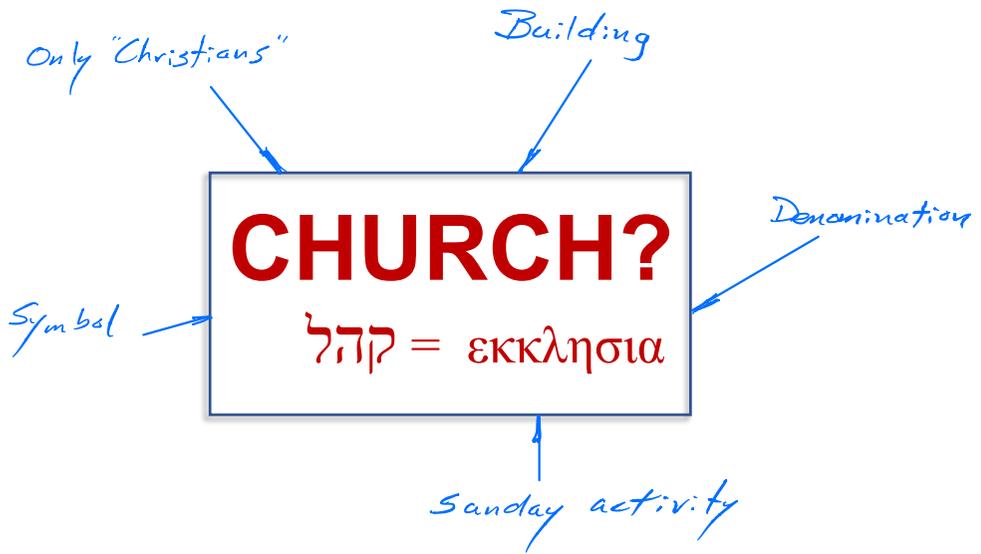
- Importance of rhetorical skills
- Roman legal proceedings
- Prostitution practices
- Ancient views of marriage
- Celibacy
- Meat markets
- Social & ecclesial factions,
- Pagan temples
- Head coverings
- Ecstatic utterances
- Baptisms for the dead
- Greek anthropology
- Visions of a third heaven

## Problem Issues in Corinth:

- Deep divisions
- Sexual immoralities
- Suspicions about Paul & his motives
- Visits by false 'super-apostles'



**Acts 18:1-11**



## Religious Jargon:

- **Apostle** = ambassador/emissary
- **Christ** → "King"
- **Saints** = holy people
- **Sanctified** = set apart
- **Lord** = master
- **Baptize** = wash/immerse
- **Preach** = proclaim (the Good News)
- **Church** = community/assembly

1. λογος = "word"

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2. γνωσις = "knowledge"

3. χαρισμα = "gift" ("grace")

4. κοινωνια = "fellowship" ("Koine" Greek)

5. σχισμα = "schism" / "division"

6. ευαγγελιζω = "Proclaim good news"

ευαγγελιον = "Good News"

αγγελος = "messenger" / "angel"

## Homework:

Continue reading through 1Corinthians 3:4.

### 1 Corinthians 3:4

For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” **are you not being merely human?**

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#### Notes:

**Exodus 20:8-11** (a) Guard the Sabbath day, to (b) keep it holy. (c) Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but (d) the seventh day is a Sabbath of Adonai your God. In it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. For in six days Adonai made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore Adonai blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

**Acts 18:1-11** After these things he [Paul] left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them, and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working, for by trade they were tentmakers. And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Yeshua was the Messiah. But when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” Then he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house was next to the synagogue. Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being immersed. And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, “Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.” And he settled there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

**Genesis 28:3** “May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a **company** (לְקָהָל) of peoples.”

**Acts 7:38** This is the one who was in the **congregation** (ἐκκλησία) in the wilderness together with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and *who was* with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.

**Acts 19:32** So then, some were shouting one thing and some another, for the **assembly** (ἐκκλησία) was in confusion and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together.

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**Matthew 18:20** "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

**1 Corinthians 16:19** The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily in the Lord, with **the church that is in their house**.

**Romans 16:3-5** Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Messiah Yeshua, who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the communities of the Gentiles. Also greet **the church that is in their house**. Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who is the first convert to Messiah from Asia.

**Philemon 1:1-2** Paul, a prisoner of Messiah Yeshua, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our beloved *brother* and fellow worker, and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to **the church in your house**:

**Colossians 4:15** Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea and also Nympha and **the church that is in her house**.

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**John 7:43** So a division (σχίσμα) occurred in the crowd because of Him.

**John 9:16** Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division (σχίσμα) among them.

**John 10:17-19** "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father." A division (σχίσμα) occurred again among the Jews because of these words.

**1 Corinthians 11:18** For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions (σχίσμα) exist among you; and in part I believe it.