

The City of Corinth was very large city of ancient Greece in the province of Achaia; it was, at this time the capitol of Greece.

In the time of the epistle, it was under Roman occupation after the Romans had conquered Greece. Gallio was the Deputy or Governor of Achaia, he was installed by the Romans. Paul came to Corinth on his 2nd missionary journey. The church at Corinth was born from his 18 month stay there, and although there were Jews that were saved and added to the church, it was primarily a Gentile church; the Biblical history of the Corinthian church is recorded in Acts 18.

Acts 18:1-18

Paul came to Corinth it seems alone at first, and then afterward, Silas and Timotheus joined him; they preached to both Jews/Greeks in the synagogue; and they testified specifically to the Jews the Jesus was Christ.

Paul met Aquila and Priscilla, tentmakers in Corinth, as was Paul; and also, Justus (who was a worshiper of God with all his house)

After Paul preached in the synagogue, Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue believed on the Lord Jesus with all his house, (mentioned in 1 Corinthians 1:14); and also, many of the Corinthians that heard the Word of the Lord (gospel of Christ) believed and were baptized.

As Paul continued to preach in the synagogue, many of the Jews began to oppose Paul the gospel of Christ. This is when we read of Paul that he shook his raiment/clothing, and said, your blood is on your own heads.

The Lord told Paul, don't be afraid, don't stop preaching my Word, I am with you, I will protect you, for I have much people in this city. (9-11):

And Paul continued there for 18 months.

At some point during this time. Gallio was installed as the governor or deputy of Achaia.

After Paul preached in the synagogue, and many believed, there was an uprising in the city against Paul by (it seems) both Jews and Greeks:

They forcefully brought him to the judgment seat of the governor and accused him of persuading the people to worship God contrary to the law of God. But before Paul could defend himself, Gallio said, I am not going to hear your arguments and be a judge on questions about your law; and he drove them from his judgment seat.

Displeased with Gallio's decision to NOT judge Paul, an angry mob of Greeks took matters into their own hands right there in the courtroom and beat Sosthenes right in front of Gallio, the judge.

This is the VERY THING that Solomon beheld and lamented:

And moreover, I saw under the sun, the place of judgment, that wickedness was there -Ecclesiastes 3:16:

Here was Gallio the judge and protector of the law and lawful order, allowing the unlawful assault and beating of a man

right there in his courtroom. He just turned his head while Sosthenes was unlawfully beaten. Very similar to what is going on in our nation at this very moment in what has become a lawless uprising of a mob.

It appears from the text that there were no consequences or punishment against these men for doing this; they were not detained or restrained in any way. Ecclesiastes 8:10

Note: Sosthenes was said to be the chief ruler of the synagogue as was Crispus (V8); they were either rulers of 2 different synagogues in the city, or 2 chief rulers of the same synagogue.

Apollos is another familiar name in the Corinthian church; when Aquila and Priscilla heard him speak boldly in the synagogue in Ephesus, they took him and expounded to him the way of God more perfectly. This is instructional to every Christian husband and wife! THEY were both well learned and conversant in the gospel. Acts 18:24-28

1 Corinthians 1:1-3: Opening and Greeting: Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through (or by) the will of God

(V1): Paul was challenged by many in regard to his apostleship, which we will see when we get to chapter 9. Needless to say, he was consistently defending his call. And now, when you read, and Sosthenes our brother you know that he is the chief ruler of the synagogue who was unlawfully assaulted before Gallio's judgment seat. No doubt a faithful brother and fellow laborer with the Apostle Paul.

Unto the church of God which is at Corinth (V2):

Paul defines what or who the church is:

To them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call on the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours

The church is the community of saints in the world who have been called out of the world and out of darkness; saved from their sins by the gospel of Jesus Christ; who not gather and assemble to worship on the first day of every week.

Sanctified in Christ Jesus: Purified/saved from our sins and set apart for God, called to be saints: Called to be consecrated/devoted to God

With all that in every place call upon the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours

Christ does not belong to one church of believers, but He is the same Lord over all of God's churches. Therefore, what the Word of God says here to the Corinthian church, is also commanded to the church here in Springfield, Louisiana, and in every other place where believers call on the Name of the Lord.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; many of the NT epistles open with this greeting. (V3):

To say GRACE to someone is to wish the favor of God to be upon or toward them. What greater blessing could be conferred and communicated to someone, but that God would be GRACIOUS to them?

And PEACE; or may you be at peace with God. In Christ, we are

at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ! Grace and Peace come from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ!

Numbers 6:24-26

Shalom: If you go to Israel, or meeting a Jewish person, this is generally how you will be greeted.