**I Corinthians 1:1-9**

***How To Live In A Dump and Not Smell Like Garbage***

Introduction

1. Corinth was a moral dump. How do we live in a dump and not smell like garbage? We

 need a fresh encounter with Jesus Christ.

2. I Cor. 1:1-9 The church at Corinth was surrounded by a polluted, idolatrous environment.

 The environment was making its way into the church. Paul is going to attack getting the

 world out to the church. There must be a fresh view of Jesus Christ.

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**I. JESUS STARTS IT 1:1-3**

 ***A. He Calls 1***

**1. The Person** *Paul and Sosthenes (Acts 18:17* he was the synagogue ruler beaten by

 the Jews) Each person is unique. There are no two who are alike. He is making us

 now for something in the future.

 **2. The Placement** *An apostle of Jesus Christ* What is your placement?

 **3. The Possession** *Of Jesus Christ* He belongs to Another.

 **4. The Providence** *through the will of God* This designation was not by a committee

 or council. Our placement is by His design, not ours. He places. He promotes.

 ***B. He Consecrates 2*** *Sanctified “set apart” in Jesus Christ*

**1. The Owner** *the church of God The Church* is a called out body of believers. The

 Church is His and we are mere stewards. We can’t do what we want. We must

 discern what He wants.

 **2. The Organization** *which is at Corinth* That which is at Corinth or Pennsville is

 there by His design, for His purpose. No one can ever say, *This is my church.*

 **3. The Origin** *sanctified* *Sanctified* Is to take that which is ordinary and consecrate it

 for religious service. A good example were the implements used in the temple in the

 Old Testament. We were taken out of the ordinary to serve Him.

 **4. The Order** *called saints Saint* is never singular (Saint Peter, Paul, etc.), but always

 plural. The Greek *hagios* means: holy, set apart ones.

 **5. The Outreach** *with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus* This is for

 everyone who  *are sanctified and called upon the name of Jesus Christ. Our Lord*

Possession is once again emphasized. We don’t do what we want. We do what He

 wants.

 ***C. He Continues 3***

**1. The Supplies** *Grace (He does it!)* This is the **triumph** in the dump! *Peace* there is

 the *peace* with God that comes at salvation. There is the *peace* of God that is ours to

 face each day and each new situation. This is the **tranquility** in the dump!

 **2. The Source** the is one person (God), but two essences or expressions of that one

 person *God* with the emphasis on *Father,* He does what is best and what is right.

 *Jesus Christ* with the emphasis on *our Lord*, we are to live for Him. He calls the

 shots!

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**II. JESUS STABALIZES IT 6:4-9**

He reminds the Corinthians of their past, present and future as it relates to Jesus Christ.

1. ***Christ’s Communication 4-7a*** *which is given to you by Jesus Christ*
2. **Grace** is **enablement.** His Praise: *I thank God* We need to see that hand of God at work in the dump. His Provisions: *grace…salvation* (I am saved!)…*sanctification* (I am set apart to Jesus Christ and for Jesus Christ!).
3. **Gift** is **enrichment.** *In everything you are enriched…in utterance (speaking)…knowledge (God has opened your eyes of understanding)…the testimony of Christ confirmed in you.* The witness is settled and confirmed when we place our faith in Jesus Christ. The testimony about Christ is ***confirmed in you.*** *So you come behind in no gift..so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift…*We all have been given a spiritual gift. Whatever we have He gave to us, not to abuse it, but use it to bless the church that belongs to Him.
4. ***Christ’s Completion 7b*** *Waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*

Let’s get a handle on this...this isn’t all there is! One day we will see Jesus! The Corinthians were living like they would never give an account. They were living as though this life is all there is.

1. *Waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ* This is the revelation, the unveiling of Jesus Christ, the visibility of our Lord’s return. The One who went away will come back.
2. Once again the *Lord* surfaces. He is Lord! Is He the Lord of your life? We must give an account to Him. Today, we must surrender absolutely to Him in the midst of the dump.
3. ***Christ’s Confirmation 8***

Because it is Christ’s work, there is no question about the outcome…*blameless in the day of our* ***Lord*** *Jesus Christ.* Christ will confirm them to the end!

1. Confirmation is not an act, but an effect. It is not a rite performed by man, but a result proceeding from our faith in Christ.
2. To *confirm* means, ‘to make sure’. This is our security. He who began the work will complete the work. *He who hath begun a good work in you will continue to perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:6)*
3. *Blameless in the day of our* ***Lord*** *Jesus Christ* This was an ornery bunch of people. Paul wants their state to match their standing. We should live in the dump what we are: *sanctified…saints.*
4. ***Christ’s Communion 9***
5. **His Character** *God is faithful.* You may not be, but He is!
6. **His Call** *By Whom you are called unto the fellowship of His Son*

*Into fellowship with His Son…*Revelation 3:20: *Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in and sup with him and He with Me.* A big problem in a life that smells is we’ve stopped fellowshipping with Jesus Christ. We go through the motions, but there is no fellowship!

1. **His Control** *His Son, our Lord*

**\***Do you get the Lordship message? (vss. 2, 3, 7, 8, 9)

**\***If you don’t, you will live like the Corinthians, and you will think you can live the way you want. Soon you will begin to smell like garbage.

**\*** *“It’s my life, and I can do as I please.”* You can, the Corinthians were, and their life had an unpleasant odor!

How do we live in a dump and not smell like garbage?

1. **Get a fresh view of Jesus Christ:** *The will of God 1 The church of God 2 Grace and peace from God 3**Thank God 4 Grace of God 4 God is faithful 9*
2. **Give the final verdict to Jesus Christ:** The Lordship of Christ (2, 3, 7, 8, 9) Allow Him to be Lord of your life! Let Him take control!
3. **Get a full vision of Jesus Christ:** Jesus Christ is the theme and heart of every verse!