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1 Corinthians 16
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By Dan Maines

1 Corinthians 16

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you are to do as well. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save as he may prosper, so that no collections need to be made when I come.

† Paul organized financial support for the needy believers in Jerusalem.

† Giving was systematic, weekly, and proportional to prosperity.

† This reflects the unity of the body across regions.

1 Corinthians 16:3-4

When I arrive, whomever you approve, I will send them with letters to take your gift to Jerusalem, and if it is appropriate for me to go also, they will go with me.

† Paul sought transparency and accountability in handling funds.

† He entrusted the church to appoint men of integrity for this task.

1 Corinthians 16:5-7

But I will come to you after I go through Macedonia, for I am going through Macedonia, and perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way wherever I go. For I do not want to see you now just in passing, for I hope to remain with you for some time, if the Lord permits.

† Paul desired extended fellowship, not a hurried visit.

† His plans were always subject to the Lord's will.

1 Corinthians 16:8-9

But I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

† Ministry opportunities are often accompanied by opposition.

† Paul remained steadfast despite adversaries.

† Acts 19 records Paul's great work in Ephesus and the resistance he faced.

1 Corinthians 16:10-11

Now if Timothy comes, see that he has no reason to be afraid while among you, for he is doing the Lord's work, as I also am. So do not look down on him, but send him on his way in peace,

so that he may come to me, for I expect him with the brothers.

† Timothy needed encouragement and respect in his ministry.

† Paul expected the church to honor him as a true servant of Christ.

1 Corinthians 16:12

Now concerning Apollos our brother, I strongly encouraged him to come to you with the brothers, and it was not at all his desire to come now, but he will come when he has the opportunity.

† Apollos, though a powerful teacher, acted with independence and timing.

† Paul respected his decision while affirming him as a brother.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. All that you do must be done in love.

† A call to spiritual vigilance, courage, and strength.

† Yet love must guide all actions.

1 Corinthians 16:15-16

Now I urge you, brothers and sisters (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to ministry to the saints), that you also be subject to such as these and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.

† Paul commends Stephanas' household as examples of service.

† The church was to respect and follow faithful leaders.

1 Corinthians 16:17-18

I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking on your part. For they have refreshed my spirit and yours.

Therefore, acknowledge such men.

† Faithful servants refresh the church through their presence and encouragement.

† Paul honors them publicly as models of Christian character.

1 Corinthians 16:19-20

The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brothers and sisters greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

† Greetings show the unity of the early church across regions.

† Aquila and Prisca's household was a hub of faithful ministry.

1 Corinthians 16:21-22

The greeting is in my own hand, that of Paul. If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed. Maranatha!

† Paul authenticated the letter with his own hand.

† He solemnly warns against rejecting Christ, invoking the Aramaic cry "Our Lord, come."

1 Corinthians 16:23-24

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

† Paul closes with blessing and love, anchoring everything in Christ's grace.

How it applies to us today

† 1 Corinthians 16 reminds us that Christian faith is lived out in practical service, giving, and encouragement.

† We must respect faithful leaders, support God's work, and remain steadfast in love.

† Ministry is never free of opposition, but God opens doors for

effective service.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Acts 19 - Paul's ministry and opposition in Ephesus

† 1 Clement 42 - apostolic authority and testimony

† Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho 97 - prophecy of resurrection

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies 5.12.3 - Christ as new Adam

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