

1 CORINTHIANS 12

NLET

PAUL REMINDS THE DISCIPLES IN CORINTH HOW
SPIRITUALLY DIFFERENT THEY ARE NOW
FROM THEIR FORMER STATE OF BEING

1 Now, concerning the Spiritual *Things*, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.

2 You know that, when you were an ethnicity *facing* toward the idols – *namely*, the dumb *ones*, *you were* ones who were being lead astray, however you were led.

3 Therefore, I keep on making known to you that no one who is speaking in connection with a spirit from God says, “Accursed *be* Jesus!” And, no one is able to say, “YaHWeH¹ *is* Jesus” except in connection with a spirit – *that is*, a holy *one*.

PAUL EMPHASIZES THAT ALL THE GRACIOUS SPIRITUAL
GIFTS ARE FROM THE TRIUNE GOD

4 Now, *there* are distributions of gracious gifts; nonetheless, the same Spirit.

5 And, *there* are distributions of services; and, the same Lord.

6 And, *there* are distributions of inner workings. Nonetheless, the same One is² God, the One Who works all the things in all *people*.

7 Now, to each one is given the Manifestation of the Spirit for the sake of the useful *thing*.

PAUL TEACHES A VARIETY OF GRACIOUS GIFTS
BUT ALL GIVEN BY THE SAME SPIRIT AS HE WILLS

8 For,

- to one, on the one hand, by agency of the Spirit a word of wisdom is given.
- To another, on the other hand, a word of knowledge according to the same Spirit.

¹ ‘YaHWeH’ – a transliteration of the Hebrew word יהוה. The New Testament writers often use the unarticulated Greek word for ‘Lord’ to translate this divine name, especially when quoting Old Testament passages. It means ‘the One Who is’ or ‘He exists’. It seems likely that Paul was referring to a confession that the Jesus is YaHWeH here.

² 79.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include verb ‘is’ here.

³ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction translated as ‘Now’ here.

⁴ 94% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘same’ here instead of ‘one’.

⁵ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction translated as ‘Now’

- 9 Now,³ to another faith in connection with the same Spirit.
- Now, to another gracious gifts of healings in connection with the same⁴ Spirit.
- 10 Now, to another inworkings of power.
- Now,⁵ to another prophecy.
- Now,⁶ to another discerning of spirits.
- Now,⁷ to another kinds of languages.
- Now,⁸ to another interpretation of languages.

11 Now, the one and the same Spirit inworks all these things, distributing to each individually just as He wills.

PAUL TEACHES THAT THE ONE BODY OF THE ANOINTED
ONE HAS MANY MEMBERS

12 For, just as the body is one and has members – *that is*, many of *them*, all the members of the body – *namely*, the one⁹ *body* – although being many, are ONE body; thus also *is* the Anointed One.

PAUL REMINDS THE CORINTHIAN DISCIPLES
THAT ALL DISCIPLES ARE BAPTIZED WITH WATER
AND WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT BY THE SAME SPIRIT

13 For, also by one Spirit we, *for our part*, were all baptized into one body, whether Jew or Greek, whether slave or free man.

And, all were being given a drink by¹⁰ one Spirit.

14 For, also the body is not one member; rather, *the body is* many *members*.

PAUL TEACHES THAT THE BODY OF THE ANOINTED ONE
NEEDS ALL OF THE MEMBERS
WITH THEIR VARIOUS FUNCTIONS

15 If ever the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not from out of the Body”, it is not on this account from out of the Body, *is it?*

16 And, if ever the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not from out of the Body”, it is not on this account from out of the Body, *is it?*

here.

⁶ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction translated as ‘Now’ here.

⁷ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction translated as ‘Now’ here.

⁸ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction translated as ‘Now’ here.

⁹ 93% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include ‘the one’ here.

¹⁰ 91% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the preposition translated as ‘by’ here.

17 If the whole Body were an eye, where *would be* the sense of hearing? If the whole Body were the sense of hearing, where *would be* the sense of smell?

18 Now, presently the God has placed the members – each one of them – in the Body just as He desired.

19 Now, if they all were one member, how *would* the Body be?

20 So now, on the one hand, *there are* many members. On the other hand, *there is* one body.

PAUL EMPHASIZES THE NEED AND CARE

THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF THE ANOINTED ONE SHOULD HAVE FOR EACH OTHER.

21 Now, the eye is not able to say to the hand, “I have no need of you.” Or, again, the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

22 Rather, much more are the *members* which are deemed to be weaker necessary!

23 And, those of the body we deem to be less valuable, these we surround with extraordinary value. And, the unseemly *members* get extraordinarily proper treatment.

24 Now, the seemly *members that are* our have no *such* need. Rather, the God has mixed *the members* of the body together, having given extraordinary value to the *member* which is lacking¹¹ *it*, 25 in order that *there* might not be division in the Body – rather, *in order that* the members might have the same care for one another.

26 And, whether one member suffers, all the members should suffer together with¹² *him*. Whether one member is highly esteemed, all the members should rejoice together with¹³ *him*.

PAUL ENUMERATES AND RANKS

SOME OF THE GRACIOUS GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

27 Now you, *for your parts*, are a body of an anointed One and members in a part of *it* 28 and whom God has certainly set in the Ekklesia –

➤ first, apostles,

➤ second, prophets,

➤ third, teachers.

then,

➤ *ones manifesting* divine power;

next,¹⁴

➤ *ones giving* gracious gifts of healing,

➤ *ones who are* able to succor others,

➤ *ones who are* able to pilot *the Ekklesia*,

➤ *ones who speak in various* kinds of languages.

PAUL EMPHASIZES THAT NOT ALL DISCIPLES

HAVE THE SAME GRACIOUS GIFT OF THE SPIRIT

29 Not all *are* apostles, *are they?*

Not all *are* prophets, *are they?*

Not all *are* teachers, *are they?*

Not all *are ones who are manifesting* divine power, *are they?*

30 Not all have gracious gifts of healing to give, *have they?*

Not all *are speaking in various kinds of* languages, *are they?*

Not all *are interpreting*, *are they?*

PAUL ENCOURAGES THE DISCIPLES IN CORINTH

TO STRIVE FOR THE MORE POWERFUL GIFTS

31 Now, keep on striving for the gracious gifts – especially, the more powerful¹⁵ *ones*.

PAUL NOW SHOWS THE DISCIPLES IN CORINTH

A GREATER CONCERN

And, yet I am showing to you a surpassing way.

¹¹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘to the member which is lacking’ (a present active participle) here instead of ‘to the member which itself is lacking’ (a present middle participle).

¹² 40% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘should suffer together with’ (a present subjunctive verb) here instead of ‘suffers together’ (a present active verb).

¹³ 40% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

transmission (f35), have ‘should rejoice together with’ (a present subjunctive verb) here instead of ‘rejoices together with’ (a present active verb).

¹⁴ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘next’ here instead of ‘then’.

¹⁵ 94.2% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘more powerful’ here instead of ‘greater’ (which may refer to power).