

PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO CORINTHIANS

From Paul, an apostle of the risen Christ whose original name was Saul from the Province of Tarsus.

To

Corinthians living in the City of Corinth.

Note: Students must labour to read about the nature of the city of Corinth by the time Paul decided to establish Christianity there.

Aims/Concerns/Purpose/Reasons for writing/Corinthians

Paul wanted to

- Teach about divisions among Corinthians & promote unity.
- To handle the problem of Christians dragging fellow Christians to pagan courts.
- To respond to the misuse of spiritual gifts.
- To respond to the problem of disorder during worship.
- To teach about the special gift of love.
- To teach against immorality in Corinth.
- To teach about food offered to idols.
- To teach about human and divine wisdom.
- To teach about rights of an apostle.
- To handle the misuse of the Lord's Supper.
- To address the issue of orderly worship.
- To teach about conduct & dress code of women during public worship.
- To teach about resurrection as a reality.
- To call upon Christians to have self-examination.
- To teach about marriage and celibacy.

Causes of divisions in the Corinthian church.

- Following particular human leaders.
- Multi – racial nature of Corinth.
- Failure to understand the duties & rights of an Apostle.
- Lack of faith.
- Spiritual immaturity.
- Pagan background of Corinth
- Leadership vacuum when Paul left the young church.
- Human wisdom.
- Pride and arrogance.
- Lack of love.

DIVISIONS DUE TO PERSONALITY/PARTY FACTION

1. Why Paul taught on them.
2. Dangers due to divisions based on personality.

Corinthians had concealed information about it.

- Corinthians were following personalities.
- Were becoming proud by judging God's servants
- Corinthians failed to realize that all leaders were working for expansion of the church.
- Divisions made Corinthians spiritually immature.
- Made leaders appear competitors rather than co-workers.
- Showed lack of faith among Corinthians
- Led to back sliding.
- Discouraged pagan from joining Christianity.

- Hindered fellowship among people.
- Substituted Jesus' place with human leaders.
- Corinthians failed to know in whose name they were baptized.
- Some were boasting of the human leaders.

What Paul taught on Personality/Reaction?

1. How did Paul react on the issue of divisions based on personality?
2. Discuss Paul's recommendation/reaction on party factions.
 - To be completely united with one purpose and thought.
 - By dividing themselves, Christ had been divided.
 - To live in harmony with each other.
 - He condemned the quarrels in their midst.
 - He told them that none was baptized in the name of Apostles but Jesus' name.
 - Not to boast of what man can do but what the Lord has done.
 - He had fed them on milk and not solid food because they weren't yet ready for it.
 - To follow Christ because all apostles were preaching a message of Christ.
 - It is Christ who died for them on the cross.
 - It was Christ who was sacrificed for their sins, not any apostle.
 - He warned them against trusting human wisdom rather than spiritual wisdom.
 - Divisions were a sign that believes were still controlled by their sinful nature.
 - By following apostles, believes were acting like people of the world.
 - All apostle does the work the Lord gave ie. Paul sowed the seed, Apollos watered the plant, God made the plant to grow.
 - The one who sows, plants, waters doesn't matter it is God who matters since makes the plant to grow.
 - God will reward each according to what he has done.
 - All apostles were partners working for God, and the people were God's field.
 - Corinthian were God's building where Paul as an expert builder laid the foundation on which all other apostles were building.
 - Each builder has to be careful since Jesus is he only foundation.
 - He warned them against judging the leaders before Christ returns.
 - Paul wasn't happy that despite what they had gone through as apostle eg. Thirsty, hunger, beatings, they were ridiculed and still treated as world garbage.
 - Even if they had 10,000 guardians there was only one father.
 - Promised to send them timothy to remind them of Christian principles.
 - He promised to visit them himself if the Lord is willing to find out the source of their pride.

SEXUAL IMMORALITY IN CORINTHIAN CHURCH/COR 5:1 FF [Incest]

1. Why did Paul teach on sexual immorality?
2. What did Paul teach /recommend/ advise

Reasons for the teaching.

- Had concealed the issue.

- Incest was a sin before God.
- A young man was having sexual intercourse with his step mother.
- Corinthians had failed to condemn the young man.
- Had become proud.
- Paul had learnt of the evil from chleos' family.
- Incest was a shame to the whole church.
- It hindered the spiritual growth of the church
- Blocked the pagan from becoming Christians.
- Made some people to back slide.
- Wanted to create sanity in Corinthian church.
- He had introduced Christianity in Corinth.
- The evil was most likely to spread.

What Paul taught /recommended/ advised?

- Paul said that,
- Its being said that there is sexual immorality among people that even the heathen could not do.
- He wondered why they were proud instead of mourning.
- Told them to be filled with sadness.
- He has already passed judgment on this man in the name of Jesus.
- The man should be excommunicated/expelled from their fellowship.
- The man must be handed over to Satan for his body to be destroyed and the spirit saved on the day of the Lord.
- He compared this sin (incest) to a little yeast that can spoil the whole batch of dough.
- Told them to remove the old yeast of sin so as to be entirely pure.
- Not to sit and eat with such a person.
- Not to associate with immoral people.
- It was not his business to judge outsiders but those inside the church, God will judge outsiders.
- To celebrate the Christian Passover without such wickedness but with sincerity and truth.
- He quoted O.T scriptures that, “you must remove the evil person from among you”.
- A body of a Christian must not be used for sexual immorality but to serve the lord.
- Human body is part of Christ's body and so should not be part of sexual immorality.
- Any other sin a man commits doesn't affect his body but the one guilty of sexual immorality sins against his body.
- He reminded them that God brought them for a price and were to use their body for god's glory.

Task

Qn1. “Hand this man over to Satan for his body to be destroyed and his spirit be saved on the day of the lord (1. Cor 5:5)”

- a) Account for Paul's utterance of the above statement.**
- b) Discuss Paul's teaching on immorality (incest) in his 1st letter to Corinthians.**

2. Relevance/ lessons to Christians

LAWSUITS 1 Cor 6: 1ff

Reasons/ why Paul reacted/ taught on Lawsuits.

Teaching/ Reactions/ Recommendation/ Attitude

Why Paul taught on Lawsuits

- Corinthians had concealed the issue
- The Corinthians had conflicts amongst themselves
- Corinthian Christians were taking cases to pagan judges.
- Had failed to choose a wise person from their fellowship to judge cases
- Corinthian Christians had failed to settle those conflicts
- It was a shame to the church, since pagan judges had no stand in the church.
- Showed lack of love
- Showed no difference between pagans & Christians
- Hindered church expansion, pagans couldn't join
- A sign of spiritual immaturity
- People backslid

Teaching

- Paul wondered how Corinthians could not settle their cases
- He put shame on them
- Advised them to settle their own disputes
- Reminded them that God's people will judge the world.
- That they should be able to judge small matters amongst them.
- Reminded them that they will even judge Angels in heaven
- To choose one wise person in their fellowship to judge their cases.
- Reminded them that they were brothers and sisters who were to express love for one another.
- That having legal disputes showed that they had failed to follow Christian principles.
- Encouraged them to forgive those who wronged them because they were also sinners but were cleansed by Christ.
- Those who do wrong will not inherit the kingdom
- He reminded them that they had been dedicated to God

MARRIAGE (1 COR 7:1ff)

Teaching

Reasons/why Paul taught on marriage

Reasons why Paul taught

- Corinthians had written to him seeking guidance
- The unmarried wanted to know whether to marry or not to marry
- Wanted to know whether marriage was to be monogamous or polygamous
- Whether to divorce or live permanently
- There were sexual temptations
- Some thought marriage was a sin
- The engaged wanted to know whether to marry/ not
- The virgins wanted to know whether to marry/not
- Wanted to know whether celibacy was a gift from God.
- Many lacked self-control especially unmarried people
- Some wanted to stay unmarried & serve God
- To know whether marriage between believers and unbelievers was acceptable
- Wanted to know whether remarrying was acceptable or one was to remain single
- Whether sexual intercourse was allowed in marriage
- To know the stand of children born of a believer and a non-believer.

MARRIAGE

- Due to immorality, every man should have his own wife
- Every woman should have own husband
- Better to marry than burn with passion
- A wife is not the master of her own body but the husband is.
- A man is not the master of his own body but the wife is.
- Married people not to deny themselves unless for moment of prayer when they agree to do so.
- Widows to marry if they cannot control themselves
- A man must not leave his wife, a wife must not leave her husband.
- He allowed marriage between a Christian and a non-Christian.
- A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives
- A woman who loses a husband is free to remarry but to a believer
- Advised them to have self-control, not give in to satanic temptations
- One who marries does well
- Advised them to stay as they were called i.e married, remain like that rather than getting rid of marriage.
- If one has a non- believing partner who is willing to leave, let it be so.
- Children born of a believer and a non-believer are acceptable
- A non-believing partner is made acceptable by being united to a non-believer
- Marriage is a gift from God

CELIBACY

- Celibacy is a gift from God
- One who doesn't marry does much better
- Called them to copy his example, preferred that all were like him
- To remain in fellowship with God as they were called

- Better for a man to stay as he is
- No need to look for a marriage partner if unmarried
- No much time left, the world will soon pass away
- The unmarried man concerns himself with God's work
- Those with self-control to remain single
- Un married widows to stay single
- A woman who has lost a husband will be happier if she remained single
- To the young, not yet married, its better to remain as they are

TASK

1. To what extent is Paul's teaching in 1 Cor.7 pro-celibacy?
2. Relevance/ lessons
3. Significance of Paul's teaching above to Christians today

IDOL FOOD/ MEAT

1 COR 8:1FF

Why Paul taught on food offered to idols

What Paul taught on food offered to idols

Reasons

- Corinthians had written to him seeking advice
- Meat was offered in pagan temples and the balance was sold in market places
- Wanted to know whether to buy & eat such meat
- Strong Christians were buying & eating such meat
- Some Christians were participating in pagan feasts
- Wanted to find out if idols exist
- There was misuse of freedom by the strong in faith
- Pagans saw no difference from Christians
- Christians were being invited by pagan friends for pagan feasts
- Some worshiped idols without knowing the impact
- The strong in faith were sinning against the weak brothers
- Some practiced double standards i.e. ate & drunk from cup of demons and also Lord's Supper.
- Limited the expansion of the church
- Some had started back sliding
- Wanted to know impact of such food on their faith

Teaching

- An idol stands for something which doesn't exist
- Food will not improve ones relationship with God
- God's approval cannot be won by what we eat
- We do not lose or gain if we eat or not eat
- Warned them against misusing their freedom and knowledge to stumble the weak in faith

- Sinning against the weak brother means sinning against Christ
- There is only one God, the creator of all things
- God is the creator, idols are created
- Warned them not to worship idols as their ancestors did and were punished by God
- Warned them not to be partners with demons
- Not to use the cup of the lord's Supper and also the cup of demons
- Are allowed to do anything but not everything is good
- To buy anything in the market without asking for the source
- To eat everything served without asking the source
- Once told the source, do not eat for the sake of the weak brother
- To be mindful in whatever they do and whatever they eat for God's glory

TASK

- ❖ Relevance/ lessons to Christians
- ❖ Significance to Christians today

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF AN APOSTLE 1 COR 9:1 FF

Account for Paul's teaching on rights and duties of an apostle

What did Paul teach on rights and duties of an apostle?

Reasons for the teaching (give at least ten reasons)

Teaching

He said the following;

- He is a free man and an apostle of Christ
- Even if others doubt, at least Corinthian know that he is an apostle
- He had the right like other apostles to have a Christian wife on his travels but he chose not to.
- The Corinthian were a result of his work as an apostle
- That him and Barnabas had the right to be supported by the church but chose not to demand for them
- He used the example of a soldier whose expenses are supposed to be paid for in the army
- He had the right to be called an apostle because he had seen the risen Christ
- Used the example of a farmer who must enjoy the fruit of his vineyard
- He decided to forego all the above not to bother the Christians
- He had a right to get a share of the sacrifice offered at the altar of the temple but he decided to forego it.
- Used the example of a shepherd who has the right to enjoy milk from his sheep and Paul chose to work for himself
- He quoted Mosaic Law, do not muzzle an Ox yet you use it to thresh Corn
- He had given up his rights not to burden Christians and become an obstacle to the good news
- Said he was not writing to claim such rights
- Said he was under instruction of Christ

- Said his first priority / duty was to preach without claiming for his privileges
- It would be terrible for him if he did not preach
- That the pay he gets was the privilege of preaching without charging for it.
- Preaching was a matter of duty & not free choice and therefore expect no pay
- While with Jews, he lived like a Jew in order to win them to God
- While with gentiles, he lived like them to win them to God
- He became all things to all men such that he would save them by whatever means possible
- He used the example of an athlete who must follow instructions to win the prize.
- He also used the example of a boxer who doesn't waste any of his punches

Task

1. Discuss the ways Paul disciplined himself as an Apostle
2. How did Paul surrender his apostolic rights in his 1st letter to the Corinthians?
3. Show the relevance of the above teaching on apostolic rights to Christians.

ORDERLY WORSHIP 1 Cor. 11,12,13,14

1. Women veiling
2. Spiritual gifts
3. Lord's Supper

What caused disorder in Public worship

- Pride due to speaking in tongue
- Many people spoke at same time
- Undermining people with other gifts
- Using all gifts at once
- Women putting aside the veil
- Women speaking during worship
- Women who cut off their hair completely
- Lack of love for one another
- Bringing food offered to idols during lord supper-agape meals
- Over eating and over drinking during lord's super
- Eating without waiting for others during Lord's Supper
- Misuse of Christian freedom
- Pride in human wisdom
- Spiritual immaturity
- Absence of Paul who was their father
- The church was still young

WOMEN VEILING 1 Cor.11:1ff

1. Account for Paul's teaching on women veiling
2. Discuss what Paul taught on women veiling

Reasons for the teaching

- Corinthians had written to him seeking for guidance
- Some women were going for public worship without veiling
- Women were disrespecting the Jewish culture
- Some had misunderstood Paul's teaching on Christian freedom to mean they are now free from veiling
- Some were speaking during worship
- Some women were asking questions during worship
- Some women were a shaming their husbands and yet the man was the head of the family
- The poor dress code was causing disorder during worship by exposing their beauty
- Some women failed to submit to their husbands who were the head of women
- Women were trying to equate themselves to men by not veiling yet they were under men's authority
- Women were praying with uncovered heads which was improper
- A woman who didn't cover herself during worship was seen as a harlot
- Some men were imitating women

Response/ Teaching/ Advice/ Reaction/ Re-communication on women veiling

- He thanked/ praised them for always remembering him and following his teachings
- Christ is supreme over every man
- The husband is supreme over his wife
- God is supreme over Christ
- A man who covers his head during public worship disgraces Christ
- A woman who prays in public worship with her head uncovered disgraces her husband
- It is a disgrace for a man to keep long hair
- There is no difference between a woman who unveils and one whose head has been shaved
- Long hair on a woman is a thing of beauty
- It is a shameful thing for a woman to shave her head, she should cover her head
- Women reflects the glory of man
- Man was not created for man's sake but woman for man's sake
- For the sake of angels, a woman must cover her head to show that she is under husband's authority
- Woman is not independent of man nor is man independent of woman
- Woman was made from man and man is born of woman
- Told them to judge for themselves whether it's okay for a woman to pray with uncovered head

Task:

1. Relevance/ lessons to modern church
2. Significance to modern church

LORD'S SUPPER 1 Cor.11:17ff

1. Why Paul taught on the Lord's Supper
2. His teaching/ instruction/attitude/ recommendation

Why he taught

- Some Corinthians had written to him
- Celebrated the last supper without self-examination
- Had turned the L/S into a mere ritual
- Had divided people between rich and poor
- Celebrated L/S without waiting for one another
- There was greed, some grabbed food, leaving others hungry
- There was selfishness and spirit of sharing had died out
- There was over drinking and over eating
- Celebrated it without sincere repentance
- Some practiced double standard by celebrating the Lord's Supper and also pagan feasts
- The Lord's Supper had lost its actual meaning
- Others wanted to just satisfy their physical hunger
- Did not know the meaning of the Lord's Supper

Teaching

- He condemned their meetings for worship caused more harm than good
- He said that when they meet, its not the Lord's supper that they were eating
- Told them to wait for one another and eat at the same time
- To first examine themselves
- Anyone who eats the Lord's Supper in a way that disgraces God is guilty of sin against the Lord
- He told them to recognize the meaning of the L/S to avoid judgment
- Anytime they celebrate the L/S, they proclaim the Lord's coming
- The hungry were advised to first eat at home
- That many were weak, some had died, some were sick due to misuse of L/S
- They were putting to shame those who were in need
- That he had no doubt there had to be divisions such that the ones who are right can be clearly seen
- Reminded them about the night that Jesus shared the L/S and commanded them to do it in his remembrance
- It was a way of sharing the body & blood of Jesus
- That one cannot eat from the Lord's Table and also cup of demons
- That he passed on the message that he received from the Lord

Task:

What is the meaning of the sacrament of Lord's Supper to Christians today?

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: 1Cor.12-14

1. Account for Paul's teaching on spiritual gifts
2. Analyze Paul's reaction on the abuse of spiritual gifts in the church at Corinth
3. Comment on the use of spiritual gifts in the church today

Why Paul taught/ problems of the misuse of spiritual gifts

- Failed to know that the gift of proclaiming God's word was more important than tongues
- There was misuse of spiritual gifts
- Those who spoke in tongues despised those who could not
- Some Corinthians Christians were forging spiritual gifts
- Those who spoke in tongues monopolized worship through shouting
- They were undermining people with other spiritual gifts
- Those who spoke in tongues could not interpret them
- They lacked love for one another
- Corinthians had limited ideas about the origin and meaning of S/gifts
- There was chaos, disorder, noise during worship
- Caused pride, arrogance, boasting about spiritual gifts especially speaking in tongues
- Used spiritual gifts for personal pride rather than benefiting the whole church
- Could not distinguish b/n gifts that came from the Holy Spirit and those from the devil
- Hindered church expansion since non-believers were discouraged from joining the church
- Some xtians were saying Amen without having understood the meaning of the prayer
- The weak in faith became discouraged & back slid

Paul's advice/ teaching/ reaction/ recommendation/ response/ attitude on spiritual gifts

- All gifts came from the same source i.e. God
- There were different gifts but the same spirit gives them
- There were different ways of serving but the same Lord is served
- All gifts are given for the good of the church
- Said all gifts must operate in relation to each other
- Compared the different spiritual gifts to human body parts
- No spiritual gift can operate independently
- The different gifts are given as the Holy Spirit wishes
- The less appealing gifts should be given special attention just like the weaker parts of the body
- If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts also suffer with it
- If one part of the body rejoice, all the other body parts rejoices too
- Advised those with spiritual gifts to have concern for one another
- Advised them to all spiritual gifts to operate freely in church
- Emphasized love as the greatest spiritual gift
- Advised them to strive for the gift of proclaiming God's word
- One who speaks in tongue does not speak to the church but only speaks to God
- Two/ three people speaking in tongues who speak one after the other and not at the same time
- Said someone else should interpret the spoken word for other xtians to learn & benefit
- Discouraged speaking in tongues because other people may think that xtians are crazy
- Those who speak in tongues to pray to God for the gift of interpreting the tongues

Comment on the use of spiritual gifts in the church today

- Some xtians use the gifts to preach to others

- To compose songs & hymns e.g. Judith Babirye
- To perform miracles e.g. Pr. Kakande
- To give genuine testimonies
- To write xtian literature e.g. Frida Sserwadda
- To pray to God to intervene in their lives
- To establish churches e.g.
- To prophecy/ predict the future
- To share material wealth
- To speak in tongues especially Pentecostals
- To offer charity
- To participate in holy pilgrimages

Task:

1. Show the relevance of Paul's reaction to the church today (12 marks)
2. Show the significance of Paul teaching to Christians today (12 marks)
3. What are the dangers of disorder in church today? (Reference) UCRCTA 2018

LOVE AS THE GREATEST GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: 1 COR. 13:1FF – 14: 1FF

“I may be able to speak in languages of men and even Angels but if I have no love.....” 1 Cor.13:1

a) Explain Paul's teaching on love as the greatest gift

- Being able to speak in languages of men and Angels without Love makes over speech a noisy gong
- Shows supremacy of Agape love over other spiritual gifts
- One may have all faith needed to move mountains but without love, these gifts are nothing
- Love is eternal whereas other gifts are temporary
- Love should be the dominant spiritual gift of all
- Love should accompany other gifts
- Love is patient and kind
- Love is not jealousy or proud of itself
- Love is not ill mannered or selfish
- Love is not irritable
- Love does not keep record of wrong
- Love is not happy with evil but happy with truth
- Love does not insist upon its rights, but thinks of others
- Love does not give up but endures forever
- It is faith, hope and patience never fails
- Love is greater than faith and hope
- Love is the greatest gift of all spiritual gifts
- Love unites all people

- Love controls temper
- Advised Corinthians to strive for the gift of love
- Love is absolutely complete, builds confidence & hope in the life of a xtian

Task:

Discuss the lessons to Christians from Paul's teaching on love as the most important spiritual gift

SUPREMACY OF THE GIFT OF PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD OVER SPEAKING IN TONGUES 1 COR.14:1-25

1. Analyze Paul's response on the contrast between the gift of proclaiming the word of God and speaking in tongues in his letter to the Corinthians
 - Advised them to strive for the gift of proclaiming the word
 - A person who speaks in tongues does not speak to others but speaks to God and no one can understand him
 - One who proclaim God's message speaks to people
 - One who speaks in tongues helps himself but one who preaches God's message helps the whole church
 - One who speaks the message from God is greater value than one who speaks in tongues
 - A person who speaks in tongues can be of greater value if there is another person to interpret
 - Those who speak in tongues to pray for gift of interpreting them
 - Speaking in tongues is a proof for unbelievers while proclaiming the word of God is a proof for believers
 - Compared speaking in tongues to a trumpet blower who is meant to alert soldiers for battle, if the sound of the trumpet is not clear, soldiers will not turn up for war.
 - If a person does not understand a certain language, then he is a foreigner to it
 - He wonders if a worshiper will say Amen to a prayer delivered in tongues
 - He said he had the ability to speak in tongues more than any other but chose to speak a few words that can be understood
 - Better to speak a few words than thousands of words in tongues that cannot be understood
 - If one proclaims the word of God in presence of pagans, they will be convicted
 - of their sins by what they hear

RESURRECTION IN THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH 1 Cor.15:1-58

1. Account for Paul's teaching on resurrection
2. "But if there is no resurrection of the dead not even Christ has been raised" 1 Cor.15:13
GNB
 - a) Examine Paul's teaching on the above subject
 - b) What challenges do preachers face in convincing their audience that there is life after death?
3. Explain the importance of Jesus' resurrection to Christians today

Reasons for the teaching on Resurrection

- Corinthian were being confused by the Greek teaching that it was the soul which resurrected when freed from the body at death
- Corinthians had written to Paul asking him about resurrection
- Some Cor. Doubted Jesus' resurrection
- Some doubted the resurrection of believers
- Wanted to know the nature of the risen body
- Some were confused by Sadducee teaching that there was no resurrection
- Some thought resurrection meant total restoration of the body by God
- Some wanted to know the people who had witnessed the risen Christ
- Some wanted to know how resurrection would take place/ order of resurrection
- Some wondered if the resurrected life would require the daily material things of life
- He wanted to confirm that their faith in the risen Christ is true/ real
- Paul had seen the risen Christ and so had proof
- Paul wanted to emphasize Parousia
- Wanted to know the nature of resurrected life.

Paul's teaching on Resurrection

- Christ died but was raised to life 3 days after
- The resurrection was the basis of Christian faith
- Christ's resurrection was witnessed by Peter, James, Paul, more than 500 followers
- If Christ had not been raised, then our faith and preaching would be useless
- If he did not been raised, we would be guilty of sin
- Christ's resurrection in the source of our hope
- Due to our union with Adam, we die but b'se of our union with Christ we resurrect
- He said there is resurrection of believers since Christ resurrected
- Jesus' resurrection is the basis of Christian baptism
- Used the example of a seed which must die when planted in order to germinate into a new plant
- Believers will get spiritual bodies
- The body will be raised in glory and live forever.
when the last trumpet in blown, those alive will not die but will be transformed to the resurrection of immortal bodies
- He compared the human body with resurrected body
- The body is ugly and weak at burial but the raised body is beautiful and strong
- He compared the first man, Adam with Christ as the second Adam i.e. Adam was made from earth but the second Adam came from heaven
- He said it was b'se of Christ's resurrection that Paul and other Apostles were risking life
- If Christ had not been raised, then apostles would appear as liars

CHALLENGES

- False preachers
- No one has ever come back to life
- Even religious leaders die and fear death

- Some lack faith in resurrection
- No witnesses today (of Jesus' resurrection)
- Delayed Parousia
- Scientific knowledge/ arguments
- Trust in human wisdom/ intellectualism
- Unexamined religious leaders
- Even prominent righteous people have died and no one has ever come back to life
- Both religious and wicked people face similar death

Importance of Jesus' resurrection to Xtians today

- It is the foundation of the church teaching/ preaching
- Proves to Xtians that Jesus is stronger than Satan
- It prepares Xtians for own resurrection
- It gives Christians hope for Parousia
- It guards the gospel against false teachings
- It shows that death has been conquered
- It enables Christians to grow strong in faith
- It encourages Xtians to endure suffering
- It gives foundation of the teaching in church
- It is the basis of other Christian Sacraments like baptism, Lord's Supper
- It encourages Xtians to celebrate Easter season
- It is a basis of God's love for man through Christ

Task:

1. **"Without the resurrection of Jesus, there would be no Christianity" justify**
2. **Why was the subject/ doctrine of resurrection so central in the apostolic teachings?**

NB. Give importance of resurrection/ significance

3. **Justify the view that Jesus' resurrected according to the New Testament**

NB. Look out for the proof in the N.T

4. **Examine the moral evils St. Paul condemned in his first letter to Corinthians**

NB. Look out for all evils of his time

5. **Comment on the personality of Saul of Tarsus before his conversion to Christianity**

- A persecutor of the church
- A Pharisee and advocate of the law
- A teacher of the law (Jewish law)
- A Jew by birth from province of Tarsus
- Took part in stoning of Steven
- Was circumcised
- Not an Apostle

- Not an eye witness
- Expected a political messiah
- Discriminated the gentiles
- Had no contact with Jerusalem Apostles
- He was Saul

6. Comment on Saul's life after his conversion

- He became Paul by name
- Met the risen Christ in a vision on his way to Damascus to persecute the church
- Was baptized by Ananias'
- Became a preacher to the gentiles e.g. in Galatia
- Conducted missionary journeys
- Chose to remain a celibate
- Established churches e.g.....
- Wrote many Christian letters e.g.....
- He defended the gospel of faith against the law

7. Comment on the relevance of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians to modern Christians

NB: Use should and get answers from the chapters

8. To what extent is 1 Corinthians relevant to modern Christians

NB: Great extent.....

However not relevant.....

9. To what extent did Saul's background?

Also Note the following;

- a) Concealed issues among the Corinthians included;
 - i. The divisions in church
 - ii. The practice of incest
 - iii. Law suits
 - iv. Prostitution

The Corinthians had kept quiet about the above issues but Paul heard of them and in his response he began by handling the concealed issues before issues below that they had written to him about

- b) The issues that the Corinthians wrote to Paul seeking his position included;
 - i. The issue of marriage

- ii. The issue of food offered to idols
- iii. The issue of head covering by women
- iv. The issue of the Lord's Supper
- v. The issue of spiritual gifts
- vi. The issue of resurrection
- vii. The issue of offering for fellow believers in Jerusalem church

S.5 P245/2 CRE NEW TESTAMENT HOLIDAY WORK

INSTRUCTIONS: i) Print out the notes on Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

ii) Using a **Bible** and with the help of these notes, **answer all** the following questions:

- 1a) Analyze the circumstances that led to the writing of first Corinthians. (13 mks).
- b) Show the relevance of this letter to Christians today. (12 mks).
- 2a) Discuss the problems that existed in the church of Corinth during Paul's time. (13mks).
- b) What did Paul teach on divisions based on personality among the Corinthians? 1cor 3 & 4 (12 mks).
- 3a) How did Paul react on the problem of Legal disputes/ Law suits among the Corinthian Christens? 1cor 6:1ff (13 mks).
- b) What is the relevance of this teaching on Legal disputes to modern Christians? (12mks).
- 4a) Account for Paul's teaching on spiritual gifts in the Corinthian church. 1cor 12, 13, 14. (13mks).
- b) What did Paul teach on spiritual gifts in the Corinthian church? (12 mks)

Merry X-mass and a prosperous new year.