

THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

NEILL GIBSON

11A

1 CORINTHIANS (FROM EPHESUS)

SESSION 11A

TO CORINTH, FROM EPHESUS

- Why do we think this was written from Ephesus?
 - 1 Cor. 16:19 – Asia; Aquila and Prisca, v. 12 – Apollos (note their travels, cf. 1:12)
 - 16:1 (not Galatia); 16:5 (not Macedonia)
 - 16:8 – Much more clear :-)
- Who is this Sosthenes?

CORINTHIAN CORRESPONDENCE: AT LEAST FOUR LETTERS

- A – Lost letter unknown to us (1 Cor. 5:9)
- B – 1 Corinthians
- C – Lost “severe” letter unknown to us (2 Cor. 2:4; 7:8, unless *B* or *E*) – Titus was the messenger, who then also brought word to Paul, whose response was *D*
- D – 2 Corinthians
- (E) – Some take 2 Cor. 10-13 as a fifth letter (either before or after *D*)

VISITS AND MISSIONS TO CORINTH BY PAUL, TIMOTHY, AND TITUS

- Paul – three visits (2 Cor. 12:14; 13:1ff.)
 - Did he go along on the painful visit, too?
- Timothy – three visits
 - Once at the beginning
 - Once with or just after 1 Cor.
 - Once with Paul on his third visit
- Titus – two visits
 - Once with the severe letter, bringing news back to Paul
 - Once with 2 Cor.

THEMES FROM 1 CORINTHIANS

LET NO ONE BOAST IN MEN – ALL THINGS BELONG TO YOU (1 COR. 3:1-4:13)

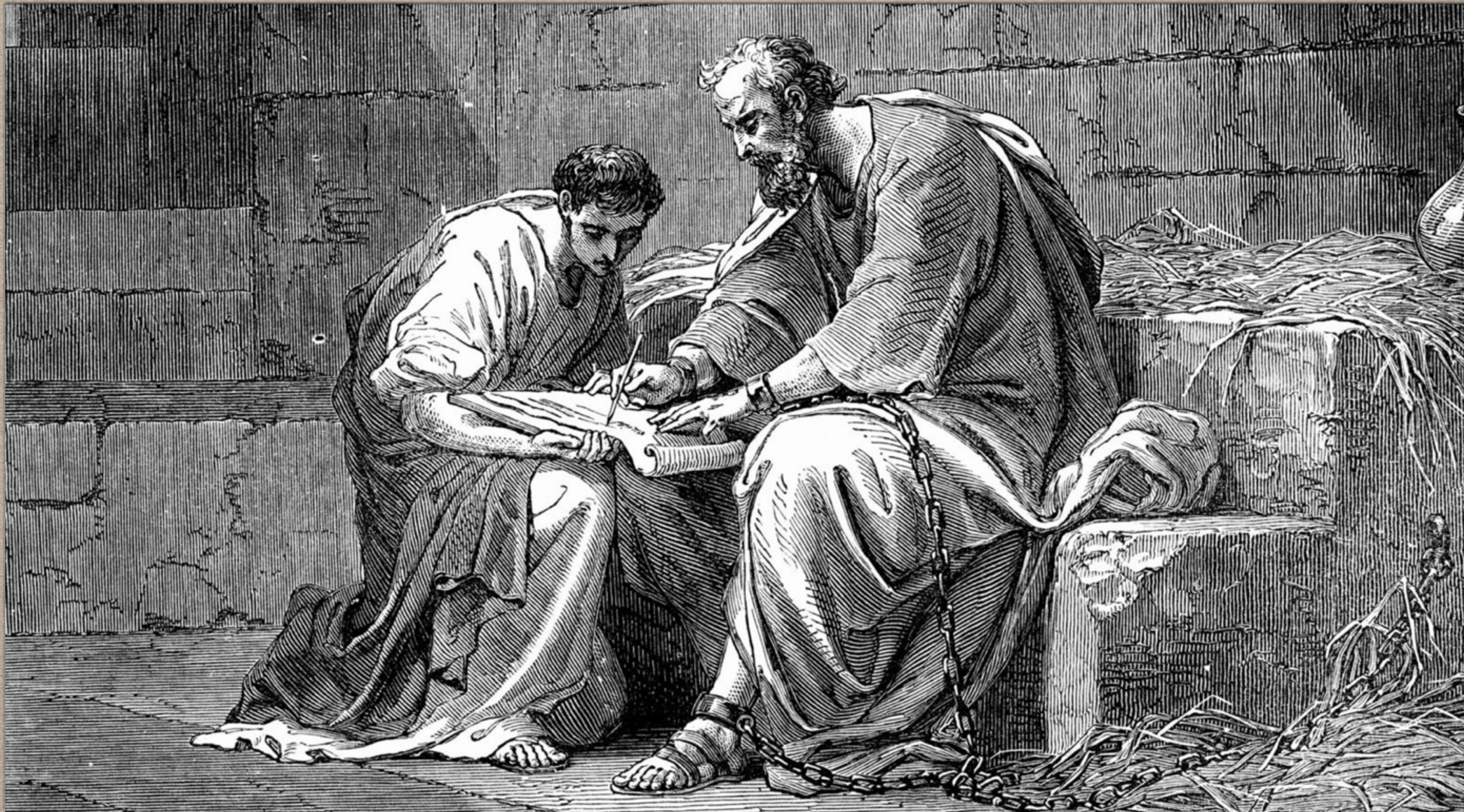
- Worldly valuation is contrary to the ways of the Kingdom of God
- Building wisely, building what will remain
- You (plural) are a temple of God
 - A high view of the saints (cf. 1:2 and Dan. 7)
 - Servants and stewards contrasted to the “superior” (4:1-13)

TIMOTHY'S MISSION (1 COR. 4:14-21)

- Model of sonship and imitation of his father
- Beloved and faithful
- Preparatory visit before Paul's coming

HOW DO WE "CELEBRATE THE FEAST"? + APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY (1 COR. 4:18-5:13)

- Power and a rod
- Spiritual authority is real, and can be exercised through prayer, letters, emissaries, and personal visits
- Celebrate the feast – but how?
- The Corinthians themselves need to see their high position, the purity God desires, and take some courageous action



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