

Apostolic Prayers – 1 Corinthians 1:5-8

(NASB), “5 that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge, 6 even as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you, 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I. Book of 1 Corinthians Context

- a. The Book of 1 Corinthians is a letter written by Paul to the Church in Corinth in 55 A.D.
- b. Corinth was a thriving city; it was at the time the chief city of Greece both commercially and politically. The culture of Corinth was heavily influenced by typical Greek culture and philosophy.
- c. There were 12 temples in Corinth the most infamous was the temple dedicated to Aphrodite, the goddess of love and whose worshipers practiced religious prostitution, There was a temple dedicated to Asclepius, the god of healing, and temple to Apollo in the middles of the city. The Jews also had established a synagogue there.
- d. Paul’s purpose for writing the letter was to instruct and restore the church in its areas of weakness, to correct false teaching concerning the resurrection, and to answer questions addressed to Paul in the letter that had been brought to Him.

II. Chapter 1 Verse 5 & 6

(NASB), “5 that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge, 6 just as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you,”

(NIV), “5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you.”

(AMP), “5 so that in everything you were [exceedingly] enriched in Him, in all speech [empowered by the spiritual gifts] and in all knowledge [with insight into the faith]. 6 In this way our testimony about Christ was confirmed and established in you,”

(TPT), “⁵ In him you have been made extravagantly rich in every way. You have been endowed with a wealth of inspired utterance and the riches that come from your intimate knowledge of him. ⁶ For the reality of the truth of Christ is seen among you and strengthened through your experience of him.”

- a. Key words
 - i. **Enriched** – *ploutizo* – to make rich, to be richly furnished
 - ii. **Speech** – *logos* – a word, a thing uttered, saying, used (7X) as Word (Christ). Used specifically here as a type or style of speaking.

- iii. **Knowledge** – *gnosis* – knowledge of an especial kind, is used once in scripture for opposing “knowledge” arguments (science). A deeper, more perfected intelligent knowledge.
 - iv. **Testimony** – *Marturion* – something evidential, evidence given or (specifically), the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) in the sacred Tabernacle.
 - v. **(Was) Confirmed** – *Bebaioo* - To make firm, make sure, establish, to prove its truth and divinity
- b. In everything you were enriched in Him – You abound in these things they have been given abundantly to you. Through union with Jesus the church in Corinth had been blessed abundantly and it was evident. Despite some of the imperfection among the Church in Corinth, by grace God enriched them.
 - c. In all speech – in all eloquence of speech they were rich in preaching the Gospel. God gave them ability to communicate well. If the word is translated as “utterance” it signifies an ability to utter that knowledge of which God hath given either in prayer or spiritual discourses.
 - i. Some commentators would say the church being enriched in all speech included the power of speaking various languages.
 - d. In all knowledge – This knowledge is different than the knowledge discussed in other apostolic prayers. This knowledge is the analytical type of knowledge. It’s the ability God had given them to comprehend in their understanding the mysteries of the gospel. It can also be understood as having the gift of prophecy.
 - e. Just as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you – The testimony of Christ was being confirmed while the full bestowal of gifts was being expressed in their ministry. The divine nature of Christ in their preaching was confirmed by the miraculous evidences of the Holy Spirit working through them.

III. Chapter 1:7-8

(NASB), “7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you eagerly await the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(NIV), “7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(AMP), “7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift [which comes from the Holy Spirit], as you eagerly wait [with confident trust] for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ [when He returns]. 8 And He will also confirm you to the end [keeping you strong and free of any accusation, so that you will be] blameless and beyond reproach in the day [of the return] of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(TPT), “7 So now you aren’t lacking any spiritual gift as you eagerly await the unveiling of the Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. 8 He will keep you steady and strong to the very end, making your character mature so that you will be found innocent on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- a. Key words
 - i. **Gift** - *Charisma* – a free gift, a free favor, religious qualification
 - ii. **Wait** – *Apekdechomai* - To expect fully look (wait) for. In this passage specifically to wait expectantly for Christ’s return from heaven.
 - iii. **Sustain (Confirm)** – *Bebaioo* - To make firm, make sure, establish, to prove its truth and divinity
 - iv. **Blameless** – *Angkletos* – unproveable, unaccused. That which can not be called to account.
- b. So that you are not lacking in any gift – You are not missing, or deficient, not in poverty. You have been given gracious endowment. Not just in in ministry gifts but in peace of mind, constancy, humility, etc.
- c. As you eagerly await the revelation of Jesus – This is undoubtedly the second coming. God has ensured that the saints are not lacking in any gift until He returns. He’s given us access to the kingdom and permission to extend the works of the kingdom on earth.
- d. Who will also confirm you to the end that you may be blameless until the day of Christ – He will make you firm amidst all your trials until His return. You will be unaccused in your character found sincere and blameless. The abundance of God and gifts of God help to establish us blameless until the end.