Paul's Four Letters to the Church at Corinth

1. Written from Ephesus concerning problems in the church (cf. I Corinthians 5:9)

   (NOT Scripture)

2. I CORINTHIANS A.D. 55

3. Paul's painful (“sorrowful”) letter, written from Macedonia (cf. II Corinthians 2:3-4, 7:8)

   (NOT Scripture)

4. II CORINTHIANS A.D. 56 or 57
OUTLINE OF I CORINTHIANS

I. Introductory Remarks 1:1-9

II. Reply to a report from Chloe's household 1:10—6:20
   A. Divisions in the Church 1—4
   B. Immorality in the Church 5
   C. Christians going to court against other Christians 6

III. Reply to questions from the Corinthians 7—16:9
   A. Marriage and Related Issues 7
   B. Meat offered to idols 8-10
   C. Public Worship 11-14
   D. Resurrection of the body 15
   E. Collection for Jerusalem saints 16:1-9

IV. Concluding Remarks 16:10-24
I Corinthians 4

--Rightly viewing Christian ministers 4:1-5

--The purpose of the instruction 4:6-13

--Paul's care for the Corinthians 4:14-21
Rightly Viewing Christian Ministers---I Cor. 4:1-5

:1-2 Servants

of Christ

Stewards

of the mysteries of God

:3-4 Judging Self

“It is a very small thing . . .”

:5 The Righteous Judge and Righteous Judgment
The Purpose of Paul's Instruction---I Cor. 4:6-13

---Accurate thinking :6

---Avoiding arrogant comparisons :6

---The Great Equalizer :7

---A fuller explanation of Christian ministry :8-13
Paul's Care for the Corinthians---I Cor. 4:14-21

--Instruction for admonition, not shame :14

--Paul's beloved children :15

--Imitation required :16

--Sending Timothy :17

--Ready? Set? HERE I COME!! :18-21
Portrait of a Christian Minister—I Corinthians 4

Servants Stewards

Those who have received all they have

Last ones Men condemned to death

Spectacle to the world

FOOLS FOR CHRIST

Weak Dishonored

Hungry Thirsty Badly clothed

Beaten Homeless

Laborers

Reviled Persecuted Defamed

Filth of the world

Offscouring of all things
Most people have no idea what Christianity truly is; and if they found out, they wouldn't like it.

Samuel Rutherford