

1 Corinthians 16  
"It's Time to be Holy"

***"We must stand fixed to heaven's principles and so prove our citizenship in heaven by our faithfulness to the truth..." (William Gurnall, "The Christian in Complete Armor")***

Introduction:

The Request:

***1 Corinthians 16:1-2, "Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. <sup>2</sup> On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come."***

1. Paul does not ask of this church anything that he has not asked of the other churches:

2. Paul helps them establish an intentional, strategic way of giving by:

3. Paul wants them to give out of what they have been given by the Lord:

4. Paul did not their giving to be a last-minute arrangement:

***1 Corinthians 16:3-4, "And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me."***

1. Paul encourages them to send the gift with trusted believers:

2. Paul is willing to take these couriers with him if it will help:

The Review

***1 Corinthians 16:5-9, "I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia, <sup>6</sup> and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go. <sup>7</sup> For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. <sup>8</sup> But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, <sup>9</sup> for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries."***

1. Paul lets these believers know that they are so important to him that:

2. Paul understood that we cannot move on to something new until:

3. Leaving before a work is finished gives the:

**1 Corinthians 16:10-11, "When Timothy comes, see that you put him at ease among you, for he is doing the work of the Lord, as I am. <sup>11</sup> So let no one despise him. Help him on his way in peace, that he may return to me, for I am expecting him with the brothers.**

1. Paul instructs them to make sure that Timothy feels welcome:

2. Believers should be very careful to not hold the Lord's servants in contempt:

3. Paul is letting them know that Timothy will be returning to him and he expects a good report:

**1 Corinthians 16:12, "Now concerning our brother Apollos, I strongly urged him to visit you with the other brothers, but it was not at all his will to come now. He will come when he has opportunity."**

1. There is a liberty that prevailed among these servants of the Lord:

2. Being an apostle did not give Paul the right to tell Apollos what to do:

The Reminder

**1 Corinthians 16:13-14, "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. <sup>14</sup> Let all that you do be done in love."**

1. The saints are to be on guard at all times:

2. The saints are not to give up:

3. They are to have the:

4. They are to live lives of:

**1 Corinthians 16:15-18, "Now I urge you, brothers—you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints— <sup>16</sup> be subject to such as these, and to every fellow worker and laborer. <sup>17</sup> I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence, <sup>18</sup> for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such people."**

1. These people were among the very first to believe the gospel and be converted:

2. As believers, we are to submit to one another out of a desire:

3. Paul was just as much in need of encouragement as anyone else:

***1 Corinthians 16:19-24, "The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord.<sup>20</sup> All the brothers send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.***

***<sup>21</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. <sup>22</sup> If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! <sup>23</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. <sup>24</sup> My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.***

1. Christians should look for every opportunity to:

2. Those who do not love the Lord Jesus are condemned already:

3. A Christian is one who loves the Savior:

4. A Christian is also one who loves others because:

Conclusion: