

# 1 CORINTHIANS

*Living Wisely*

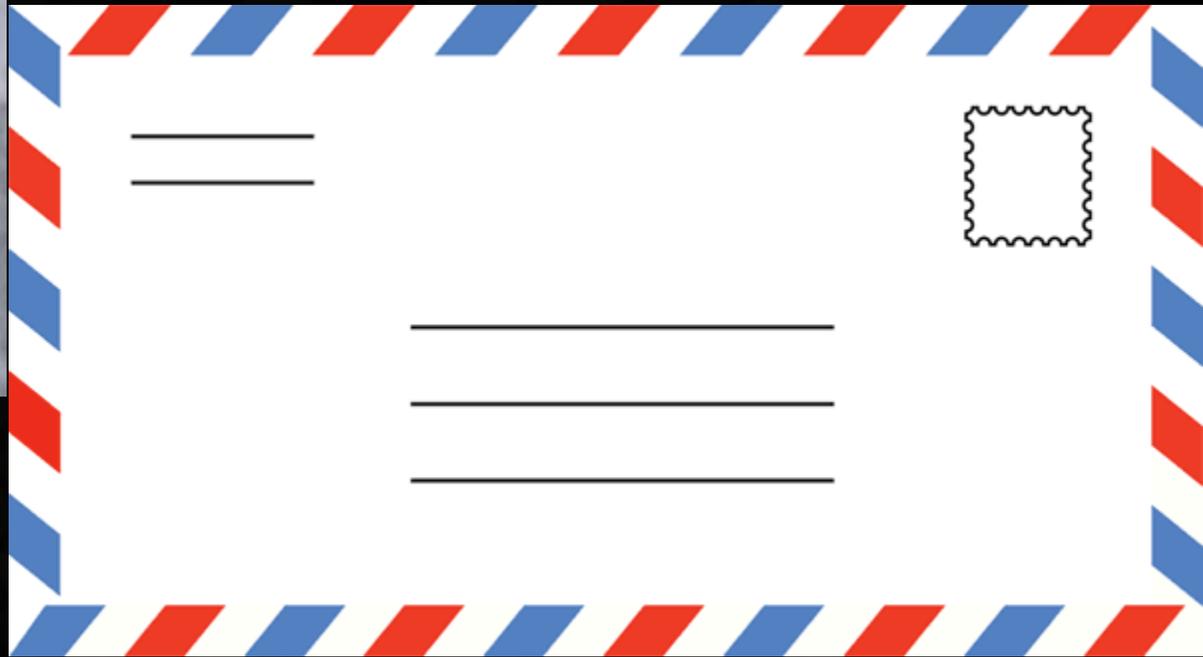
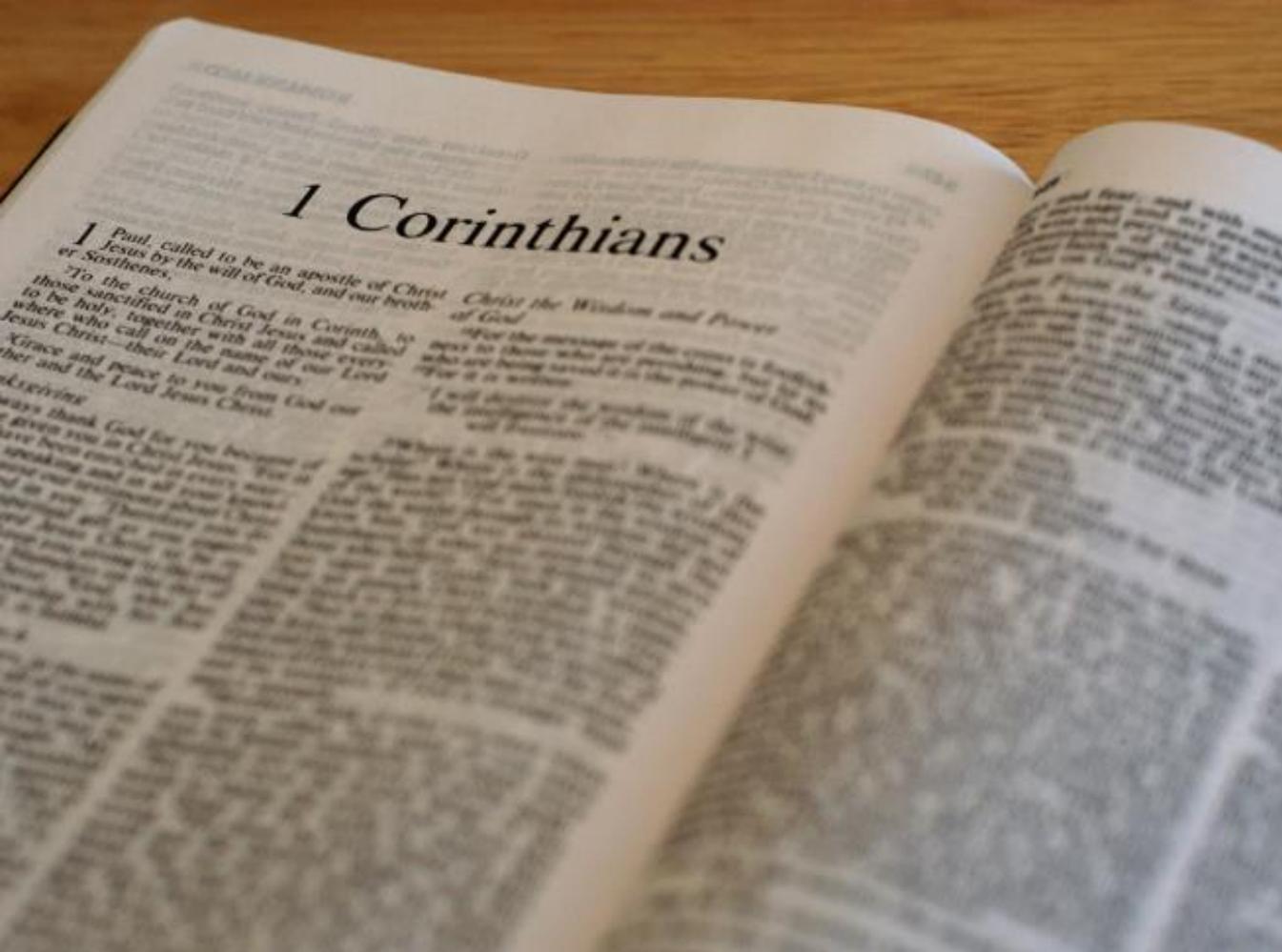
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# 1 CORINTHIANS

*The scene & wisdom of the cross*

*1 Corinthians 1:1 - 2:5*

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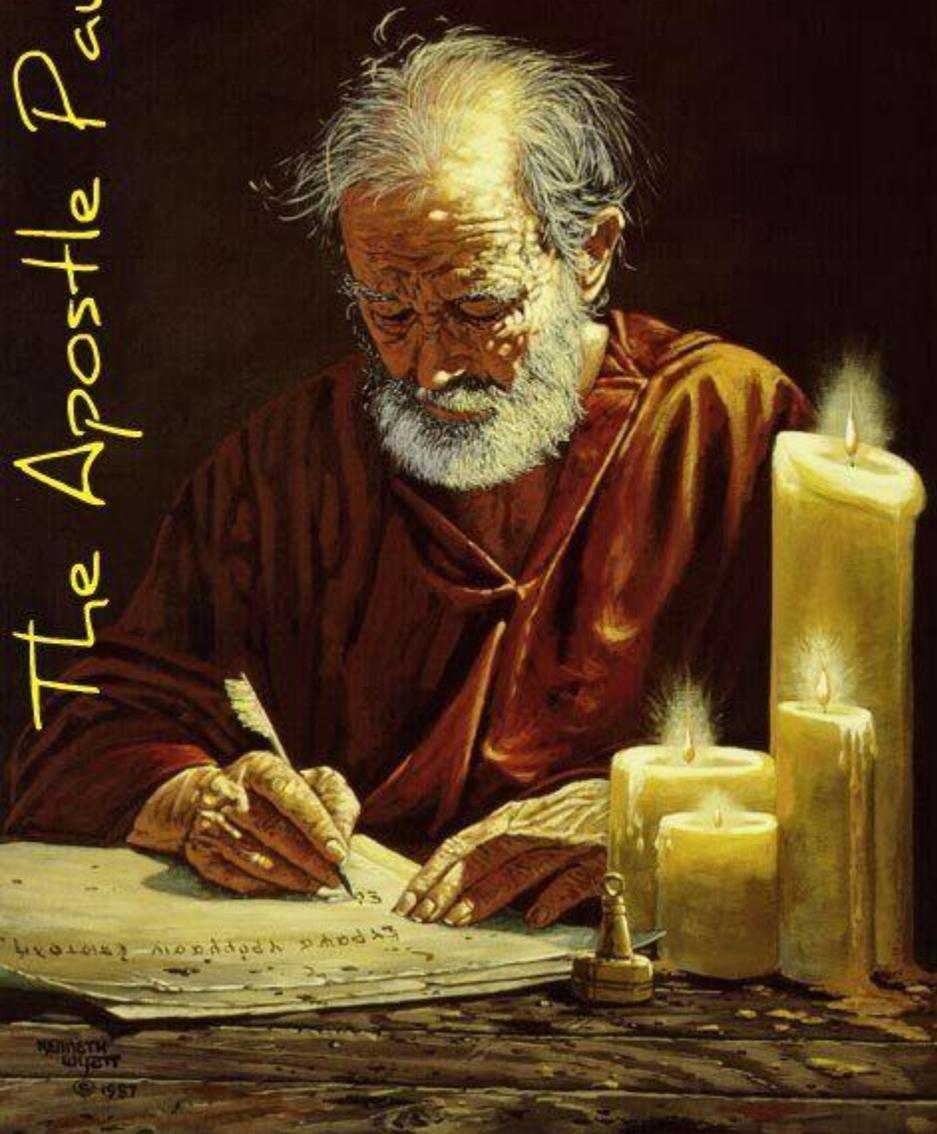


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A

A letter is a communication from Writer to Reader in specific time/context with specific message.

The Apostle Paul

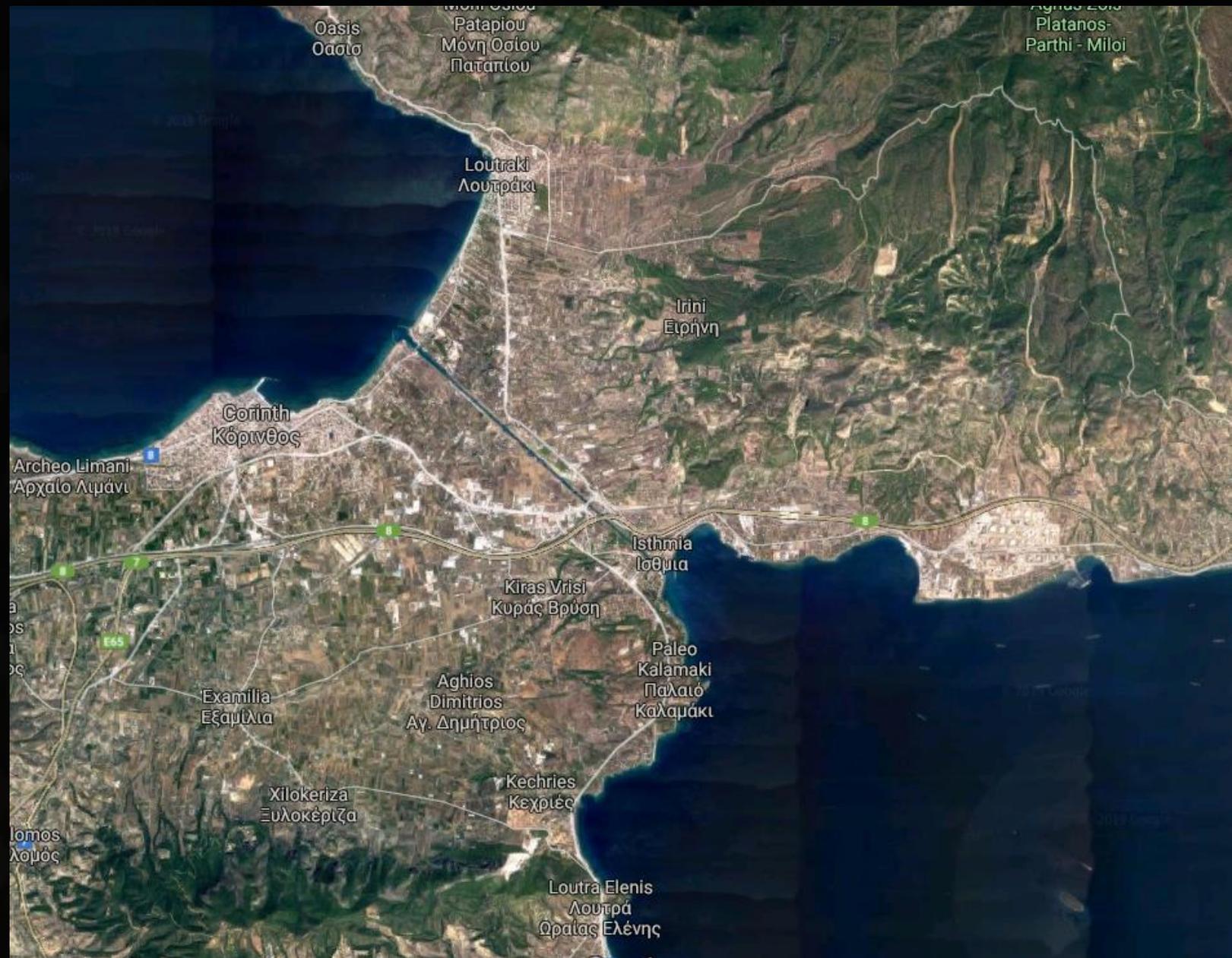


The writer – the apostle Paul

# The receiver – the church @ Corinth



# The receiver – the church @ Corinth



# The message/context

**1** Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

**2** To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

**3** Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**4** I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— <sup>6</sup> God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. <sup>7</sup> Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup> He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ Jesus  
Anointed One  
Saviour Jesus  
King Jesus

# 1 CORINTHIANS

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The big picture - choice between:

a. Gospel of Jesus

b. Power of human wisdom

# Choosing favourites:

I am of: (pick one)

Paul, Apollos, Cephas, Messiah!

Today's Progressive Christians are the Best Christians in History. Just Ask Them!

## These Are the 12 Pastors Who Are 'Most Effective' Preachers

Adelle M. Banks  
Religion News Service



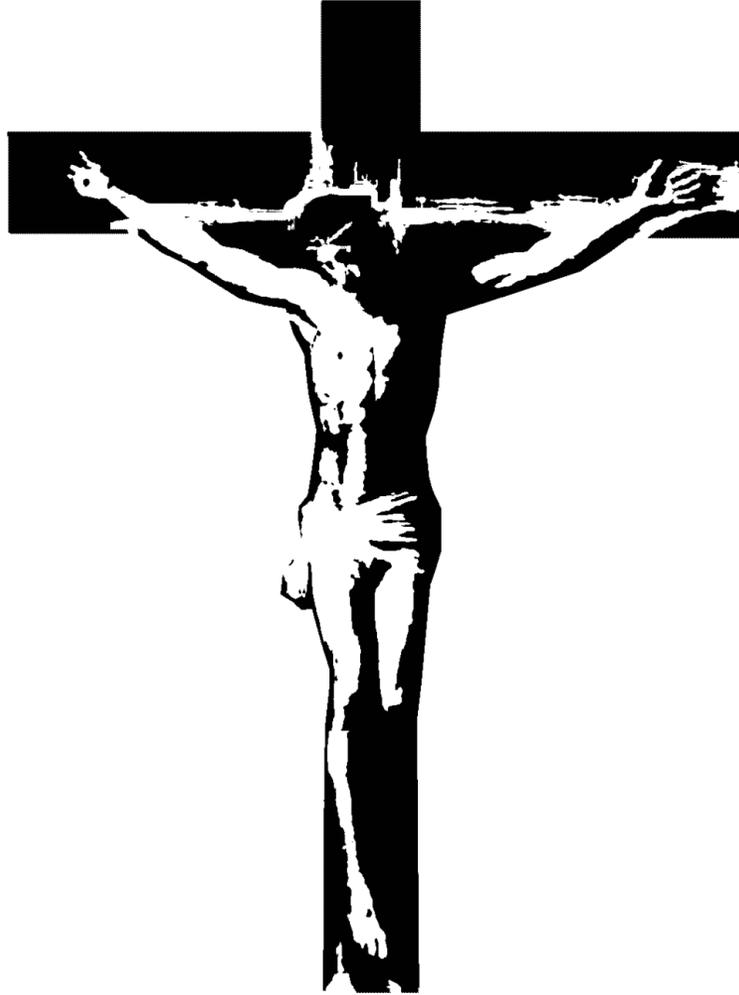
<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

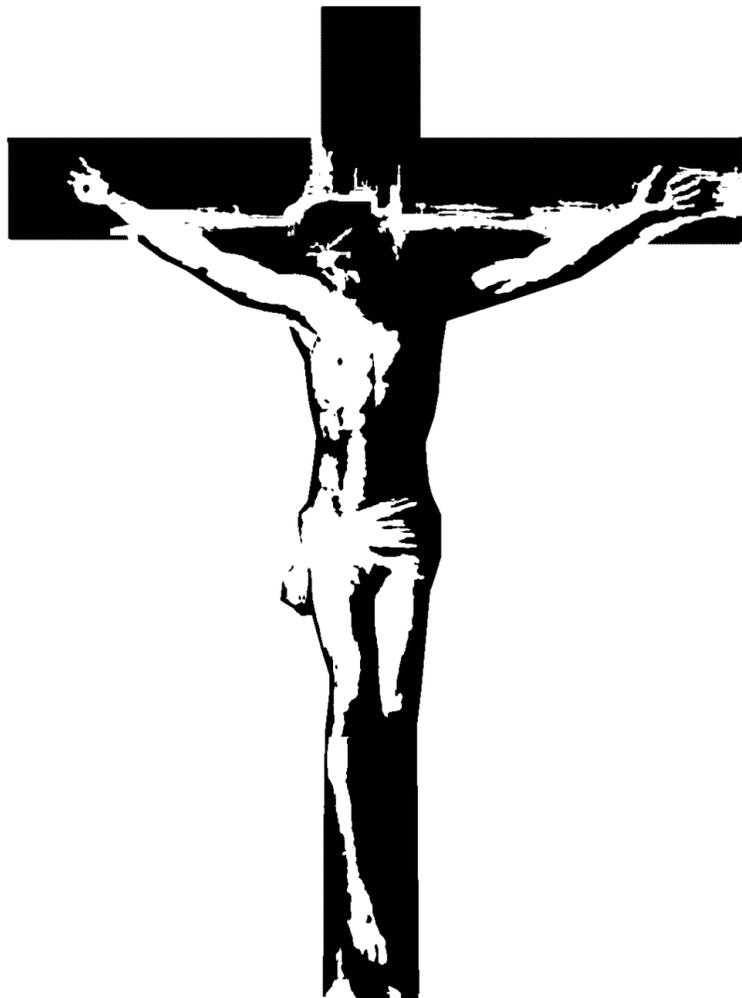
*“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”*

Compare the ‘wisdom of the world’ with the  
‘wisdom of God’.



Compare the  
'wisdom of the  
world' with the  
'wisdom of  
God'.





Be God's fool—that's the path to true wisdom.  
What the world calls smart, God calls stupid.

1 Corinthians 3:18-19

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of **what you were** when you were called. Not many of you were **wise** by human standards; not many were **influential**; not many were of **noble birth**. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the **foolish** things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the **weak** things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the **lowly things** of this world and the **despised things**—and the things **that are not**—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him.

<sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: *“Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”*

Influencer?

Radical ideas – New exodus

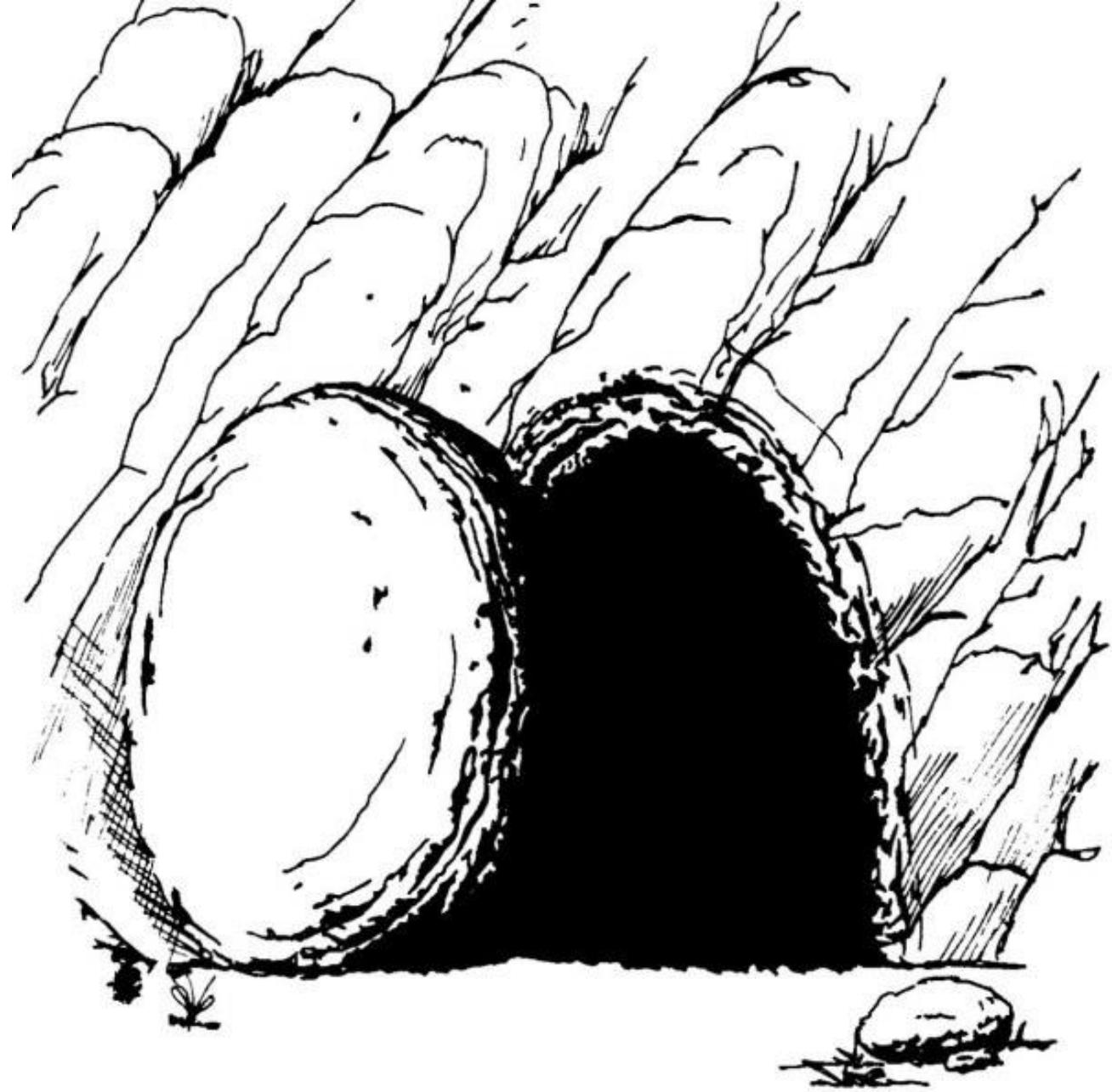
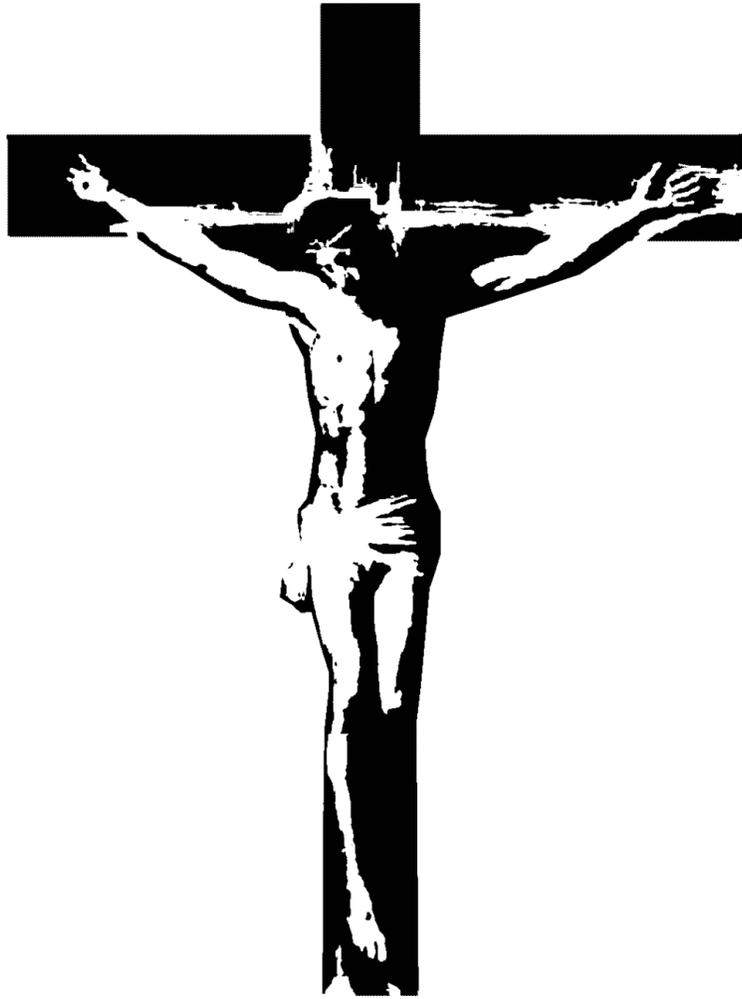
-Jesus is Messiah

-Jesus the true wisdom Col 1:15-20, 2:1-3

-To live wisely is to be in Him, in Jesus

**2** And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. **2** For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

**3** I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. **4** My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, **5** so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.



## 2 key themes in 1 Corinthians:

1. Faith/Allegiance is demonstrated in community not individuality.
2. Paul is concerned about the spiritual battle showing God at work in all history through King Jesus.

# Living Wisely:

1. God is faithful through Christ Jesus
  - a) May seem foolish
  - b) Live in community
  - c) It is bigger than us
2. Know who we were, are & will be and the community we are part of.