## The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians

## That God may be All in All

1 Corinthians 15:28

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The ultimate plan of God is beyond all comparison (Rom. 11:34; Eph. 1:4; 1 Pet. 1:20) and immune to all criticism (Job. 38:1ff; Dan. 4:35; Rom. 9:20). His wisdom and His counsel are always good even when men believe them to be foolish, cannot comprehend them (1 Cor. 1:18) or when God has not revealed them to us (Deut. 29:29). In the infinite wisdom of God, He determined to create this universe and also to display the full range of His character in His interaction with men (Ps. 98:2-3). He has revealed His plan to redeem men in the intricate and incomprehensible pattern of providence (Gen. 50:20; Acts 2:22-24; 3:12ff). This plan involved the presence of sin and of death (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 53:8ff), and it will involve the absolute defeat of both of them (1 Cor. 15:26, 54-57; Rev. 21:3-4).

## 2. God is Supreme in

God is absolute in His power, there is no other person or thing in existence with power that is comparable on a scale with His power (Isa. 40:12-17). The Lord Jesus Christ has conquered death so that it no longer has any power over Him (Rom. 6:9). The power of God will be on display after all of His enemies, including death (1 Cor. 15:26, 54-57; Rev. 20:14) are fully and finally done away with. He alone can create (Gen. 1:1), all others only rearrange what He has provided for them. He has the power to make alive and to kill (Deut. 32:39), and nothing is done without His having allowed it (cf. Job 1:8-12; 2:4-7; John 19:11). He has demonstrated the scope of His magnificent power most clearly in the creation of all things (Ex. 20:11; Acts. 14:15) and in the sustaining of all things (Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3). He has also demonstrated the intricacy and intimacy of his power in how He creates (Ps. 139:13-14), sustains (Luke 12:24), changes (Dan. 4:37), and cares for all created things.

## 3. God is Supreme in

The actions of God in all things, including His certain and ultimate defeat of death, which He accomplished through the death and resurrection of the Son, are worthy of ultimate praise. The goodness of God (Ps. 86:5; 145:7-9; Nah. 1:7; cf. Mark 10:18), the righteousness of God (Ps. 99:4; 145:17), the mercy of God (Isa. 55:6-8; Eph. 2:4-5), the grace of God (Rom. 5:15; Heb. 2:9), the compassion of God (Jonah 4:11), and the holiness of God (Num. 20:11-12) have all been displayed to His creation. He is due our praise now and forevermore because of who He is (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8). The more we come to know our God, the more we will see how worthy He is of our praise (John 17:3; 1 John 5:20).