

The First Letter to the Corinthians (The Pillar New Testament Commentary (PNTC))

By Roy E. Ciampa, Brian S. Rosner


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This careful, sometimes innovative, mid-level commentary touches on an astonishingly wide swath of important, sensitive issues ? theological and pastoral ? that have urgent resonances in twenty-first-century life. Roy Ciampa and Brian Rosner reveal how 1 Corinthians directly addresses the claims of unity and truth, church discipline, sexual matters, the Lord's supper, the nature of love, Christian leadership, and many other significant topics.

Those who preach and teach 1 Corinthians will be grateful to Ciampa and Rosner for years to come and scholars will be challenged to see this letter with fresh eyes.

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Review

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"Up to date, replete with many fresh readings, and rooted in the complex historical context that was first century Corinth, this commentary is in touch with those issues that make 1 Corinthians so relevant for the church. Both useful and edifying, Ciampa and Rosner's work is a partner to keep close at hand as one probes this ethically relevant epistle."

Richard Bauckham

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"Two experts on 1 Corinthians provide detailed yet lucid exegesis of one of Paul's more difficult letters. I particularly appreciate the very full introduction, which covers many more topics than the usual introductions to a Pauline letter."

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"Here 1 Corinthians emerges as a unified and comprehensive exercise in radical theological and ethical reorientation, whereas past interpretations all too often defined its purposes merely in terms of addressing a list of various concerns. This clarification of Paul's agenda creates a compelling context for thinking about the shape of Christian faith today."

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"For the past generation research into and commentaries on 1 Corinthians have focused on clarifying the social and literary contexts of the letter. Now Rosner and Ciampa remind us that the primary background for Paul's theology and ethics was his biblical and Jewish heritage. And in demonstrating how much fresh light can be shed on the letter by taking account of that heritage, they also show that 1 Corinthians still has much to contribute to the discussion of present-day issues."

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About the Author

Roy E. Ciampa is director of the Th.M. program in biblical studies, associate professor of New Testament, and chair of the division of biblical studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Massachusetts.

Brian Rosner teaches New Testament and Ethics at Moore Theological College in Newtown, NSW, Australia.

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