

**PAUL AS AN ADMINISTRATOR OF  
GOD IN 1 CORINTHIANS**

This book looks in detail at Paul's description of apostles in 1 Corinthians 4 and 9 as divinely appointed administrators (*oikonomoi*) and considers what this tells us about the nature of his own apostolic authority. John K. Goodrich investigates the origin of this metaphor in light of ancient regal, municipal, and private administration, initially examining the numerous domains in which *oikonomoi* were appointed in the Graeco-Roman world, before situating the image in the private commercial context of Roman Corinth. Examining the social and structural connotations attached to private commercial administration, Goodrich contemplates what Paul's metaphor indicates about apostleship in general terms, as well as how he uses the image to defend his apostolic rights. He also analyses the purpose and limits of Paul's authority – how it is constructed, asserted, and contested – by examining when and how Paul uses and refuses to exercise the rights inherent in his position.

JOHN K. GOODRICH is Assistant Professor of Bible at Moody Bible Institute, Chicago. He has published articles in *New Testament Studies*, the *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* and the *Journal of Biblical Literature*.

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GOD IN 1 CORINTHIANS

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# Paul as an Administrator of God in 1 Corinthians

JOHN K. GOODRICH



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## ABBREVIATIONS

References to ancient literature generally follow the conventions established by Patrick H. Alexander, *et al.* (eds.), *The SBL Handbook of Style* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999), and the translations used are those from the Loeb Classical Library unless otherwise indicated. Abbreviations for inscriptions generally follow the recommendations of B. H. McLean, *An Introduction to Greek Epigraphy of the Hellenistic and Roman Periods from Alexander the Great down to the Reign of Constantine (323 BC–AD 337)* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2002). For papyri, see John F. Oates, *et al.* (eds.), *Checklist of Editions of Greek, Latin, Demotic, and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca, and Tablets* (5th edn; Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists Supplements 9; Oakville: American Society of Papyrologists, 2001).

AB	Anchor Bible
AGJU	Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Judentums und des Urchristentums
AGSU	Arbeiten zur Geschichte des Spätjudentums und Urchristentums
AJA	<i>American Journal of Archaeology</i>
ANRW	<i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt: Geschichte und Kultur Roms im Spiegel der neueren Forschung</i>
ANTC	Abingdon New Testament Commentaries
ARIDSup	Analecta Romana Instituti Danici Supplement
AusBR	<i>Australian Biblical Review</i>
Austin	M. M. Austin, <i>The Hellenistic World from Alexander to the Roman Conquest: A Selection of Ancient Sources in Translation</i> (2nd edn; Cambridge University Press, 2006)
AYB	Anchor Yale Bible

## List of abbreviations

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- Bagnall/Derow Roger S. Bagnall and Peter Derow, *The Hellenistic Period: Historical Sources in Translation* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2003)
- BASP *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists*
- BBR *Bulletin for Biblical Research*
- BDAG W. Baur, W. Danker, W. F. Arndt, and F. W. Gingrich, eds., *Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (3rd edn; University of Chicago Press, 2001)
- BDF F. Blass and A. Debrunner, *A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature* (trans. and rev. R. W. Funk; University of Chicago Press, 1961)
- BECNT Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament
- Behr P. Aelius Aristides, *The Complete Works* (trans. Charles A. Behr; 2 vols.; Leiden: Brill, 1981)
- BETL Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium
- BICS Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies
- BNTC Black's New Testament Commentaries
- BTB *Biblical Theology Bulletin*
- BZNW Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft
- CBET Contributions to Biblical Exegesis and Theology
- CBQ *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*
- CJ *Classical Journal*
- CQ *Classical Quarterly*
- Crawford Michael H. Crawford, *Roman Statutes* (2 vols.; BICS 64; London: Institute of Classical Studies; University of London, 1996)
- Crawley Thucydides, *The History of the Peloponnesian War* (trans. Richard Crawley; London: J. M. Dent, 1910).
- CRF Otto Ribbeck, *Comitorum Romanorum Fragmenta* (3rd edn; Leipzig: Teubner, 1897)
- ECC Early Christianity in Context
- EKK Evangelisch-katholischer Kommentar zum Neuen Testament
- GRBS *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*
- GRS Thomas Wiedemann, *Greek and Roman Slavery* (London: Routledge, 1981)
- HNT Handbuch zum Neuen Testament

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<i>HTR</i>	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
HTS	Harvard Theological Studies
HUT	Hermeneutische Untersuchungen zur Theologie
ICC	International Critical Commentary
<i>JBL</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
<i>JETS</i>	<i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i>
<i>JGRChJ</i>	<i>Journal of Greco-Roman Christianity and Judaism</i>
<i>JHS</i>	<i>Journal of Hellenic Studies</i>
<i>JÖAI</i>	<i>Jahreshefte des Österreichischen archäologischen Instituts</i>
<i>JRA</i>	<i>Journal of Roman Archaeology</i>
JRASup	Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series
<i>JRS</i>	<i>Journal of Roman Studies</i>
<i>JSTNT</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i>
JSTNTSup	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
KEK	Kritisch-exegetischer Kommentar über das Neue Testament (Meyer-Kommentar)
LCL	Loeb Classical Library
LNTS	Library of New Testament Studies
LSJ	H. G. Liddell, R. Scott, H. S. Jones, <i>A Greek–English Lexicon</i> (9th edn with revised supplement; Oxford University Press, 1996)
MM	J. H. Moulton and G. Milligan, <i>The Vocabulary of the Greek Testament</i> (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997)
NICNT	New International Commentary on the New Testament
NIGTC	New International Greek Testament Commentary
<i>NovT</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
NovTSup	Supplements to Novum Testamentum
NSBT	New Studies in Biblical Theology
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i>
<i>OCD</i>	S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth, eds., <i>Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> (3rd rev. edn; Oxford University Press, 2003)
ÖTK	Ökumenischer Taschenbuch-Kommentar
PNTC	Pillar New Testament Commentary
<i>PRSt</i>	<i>Perspectives in Religious Studies</i>
<i>ResQ</i>	<i>Restoration Quarterly</i>
SBL	Studies in Biblical Literature
SBLDS	Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series
<i>SJT</i>	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i>
SNTSMS	Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series

*List of abbreviations*

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SNTW	Studies of the New Testament and Its World
TDNT	G. Kittel and G. Friedrich, eds., <i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i> (trans. G. W. Bromiley; 10 vols.; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1964–76)
THKNT	Theologischer Handkommentar zum Neuen Testament
TNTC	Tyndale New Testament Commentaries
<i>TynBul</i>	<i>Tyndale Bulletin</i>
Watson	<i>The Digest of Justinian</i> (trans. Alan Watson; 2 vols.; rev. edn; Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1998)
WBC	Word Biblical Commentary
WUNT	Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament
ZNW	<i>Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche</i>
ZPE	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>
ZTK	<i>Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche</i>
Zulueta	<i>The Institutes of Gaius</i> (trans. Francis de Zulueta; 2 vols.; Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1946)