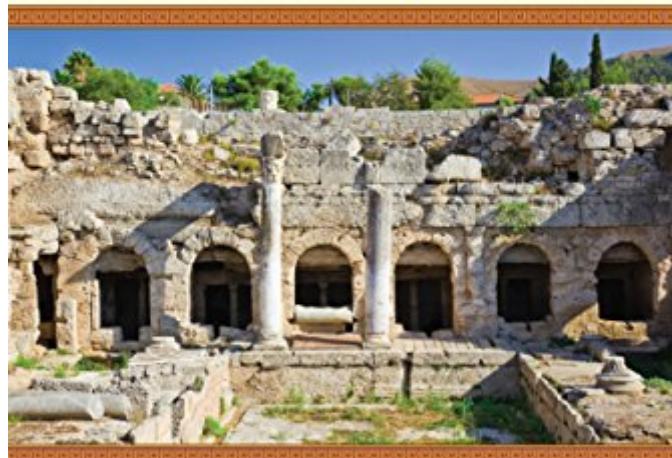


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# A Week In The Life Of Corinth

## A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF CORINTH



BEN WITHERINGTON III



## **Synopsis**

Ben Witherington III attempts to reenchant our reading of Paul in this creative reconstruction of ancient Corinth. Following a fictitious Corinthian man named Nicanor through an eventful week of business dealings and conflict, you will encounter life at various levels of Roman society--eventually meeting Paul himself and gaining entrance into the Christian community there. The result is an unforgettable introduction to life in a major center of the New Testament world. Numerous full-page text boxes expand on a variety of aspects of life and culture as we encounter them in the narrative.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is the sort of thing more Christians need. Forget that mushy Christian romance crap that is more popular than it needs to be. Unlike myself, most people don't like reading textbooks and scholarly works on the history and culture of the New Testament world (or Old Testament). Books like this would be the perfect compromise. You have a basic story that gets the job done. Nothing too fancy and nothing too complicated. In addition, you also get a large dose of information regarding the way people lived back then. It really puts things into perspective. I'll discuss the

educational content and the story itself separately. Story: I'll be honest, I didn't buy this book for the story and wasn't expecting an award winning novel with deep characterization. The story didn't really exceed my expectations. The story didn't grab me and propel me further. The characters were not that deep, story seemed to be your standard non-christian-becomes-christian-by-the-end story. Now, despite these criticisms, I did enjoy the story for what it did. It illustrated Paul, Priscilla and others in the socio-cultural context of which they lived. In that regard, I kept reading to see how the characters would interact in a time period so different from my own. In the end, story was nothing special, but not exactly terrible either. 3/5 Educational Content This is the reason I bought the book: to see how a scholar would construct a world from all the cultural, historical and political facts we know of that era. Within the story, the author inserts textboxes illustrated certain aspects about that time. You have a few blurbs on slavery, a few on politics, some on favors, the baths, etc. I really enjoyed reading this info and then seeing it illustrated within the story. I applaud Mr.

Take a trip with me to the mid-1st century, won't you, aboard a ship bound for Corinth. Nicanor is our guide to one of the most important regions and cities in the New Testament. He also happens to be the main character in Ben Witherington's delightful new book, *A Week in the Life of Corinth*. I'm told this book is the first in a new genre of historic nonfiction Witherington hopes to write to help the Church better understand and engage the 1st century NT world. Based on this solid first offering I hope it does well enough to justify more such books--imagine similar ones on Rome, Galatia, and Colossi! *A Week in the Life of Corinth* is a piece of historical nonfiction that traces the life of one Nicanor, a manumitted--former, released slave--businessman-in-the-making who serves a successful tradesman, businessman, and political up-and-comer, Erastos. Along the way you meet a cast of fictitious characters that give flesh to Witherington's tale and actual characters, like Priscilla, Aquilla, and the apostle Paul himself. You also encounter the typical staples of modern Corinthian life: forums, baths, marketplaces, medicine, politics, slavery, and many other facets that create a compelling, accurate world for Witherington's historical fiction. Speaking of compelling historical fiction, the book is actually a compelling, enjoyable read from a narrative, literary perspective! I was pleasantly surprised to find some degree of character development and a nice plot-line along which the author brought his characters, with conflict, climax, resolution and all. I liken this book to the wildly popular and compelling historical fiction author, Steven Saylor.

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