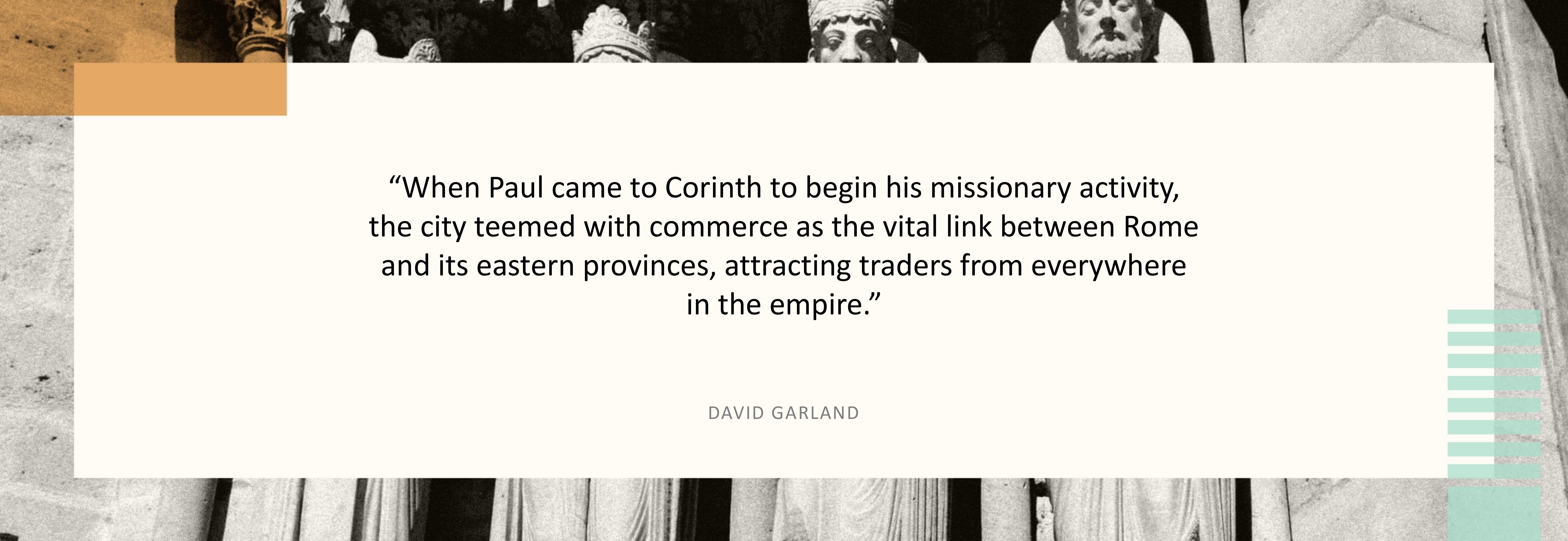


1 Corinthians 1:4-17

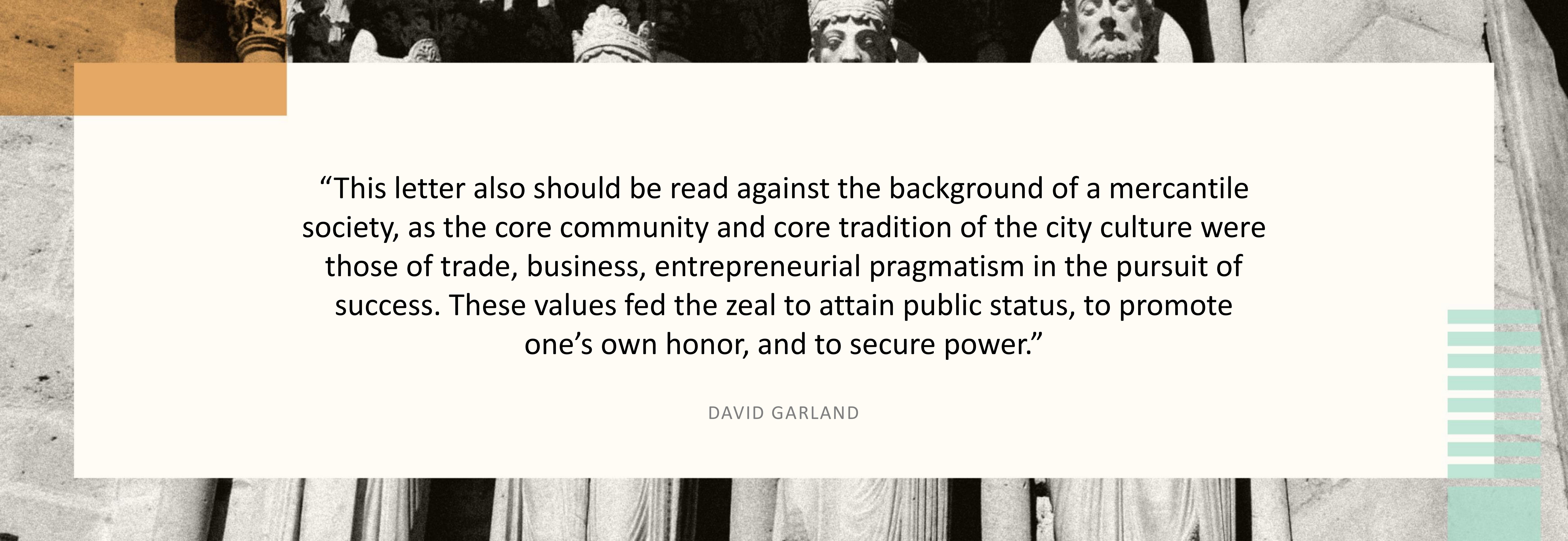
# PERSONALITIES AND THE CROSS





“When Paul came to Corinth to begin his missionary activity, the city teemed with commerce as the vital link between Rome and its eastern provinces, attracting traders from everywhere in the empire.”

DAVID GARLAND



“This letter also should be read against the background of a mercantile society, as the core community and core tradition of the city culture were those of trade, business, entrepreneurial pragmatism in the pursuit of success. These values fed the zeal to attain public status, to promote one’s own honor, and to secure power.”

DAVID GARLAND

# STATUS

Position or rank in relation to others

Relative rank in a hierarchy of prestige,  
especially high prestige

# STATUS

From God

From people

From the cross

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-16

1 Corinthians 1:17



# STATUS

## From God

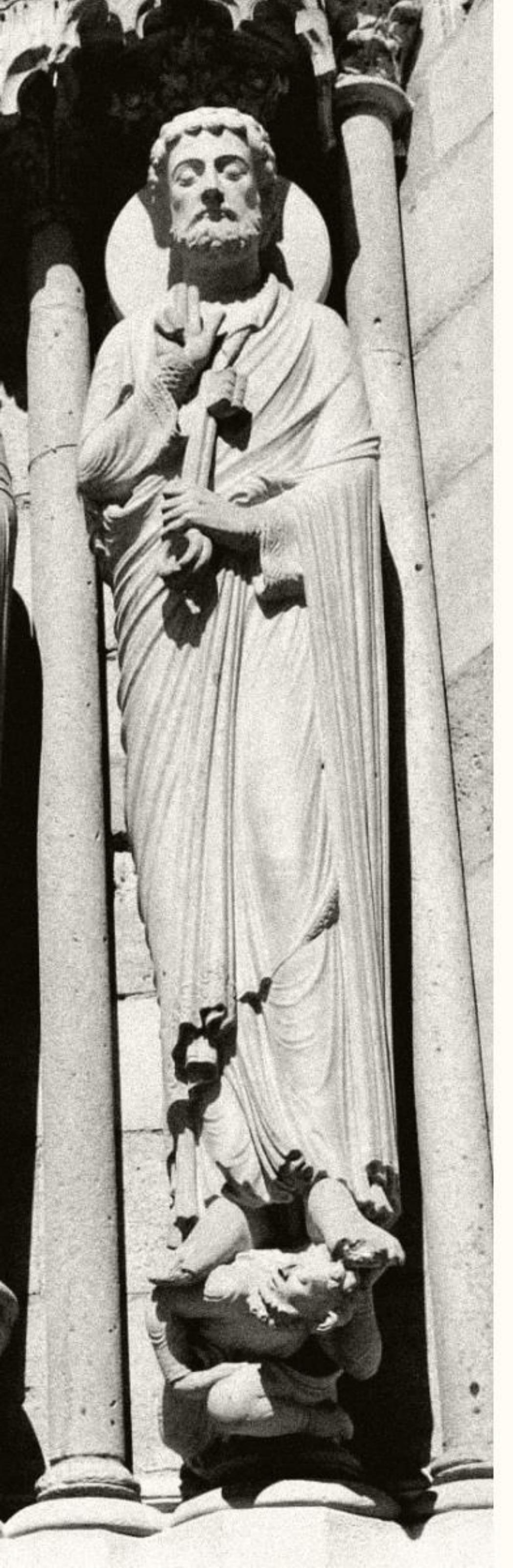
## From people

## From the Cross



### 1 Corinthians 1:4-7 NIV

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.



# STATUS

## From God

## From people

## From the Cross



### 1 Corinthians 1:4-7 NIV

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# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



1 Corinthians 1:8-9 NIV

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.**

# STATUS

Our status before God is a gift he's given us through Jesus Christ.



# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



## 1 Corinthians 1:10-11 NIV

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.<sup>11</sup> My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you.



# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



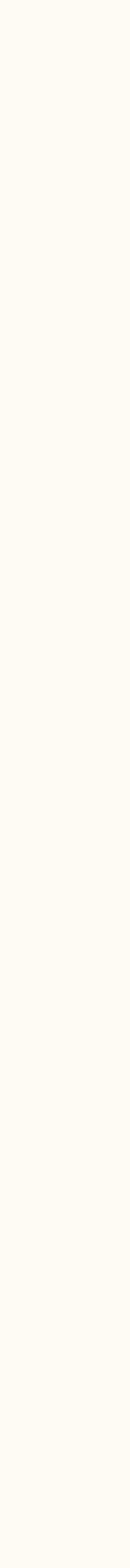
## 1 Corinthians 1:10-11 NIV

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# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



## 1 Corinthians 1:12 NIV

What I mean is this: One of you says, “I follow Paul”; another, “I follow Apollos”; another, “I follow Cephas”; still another, “I follow Christ.”



# STATUS

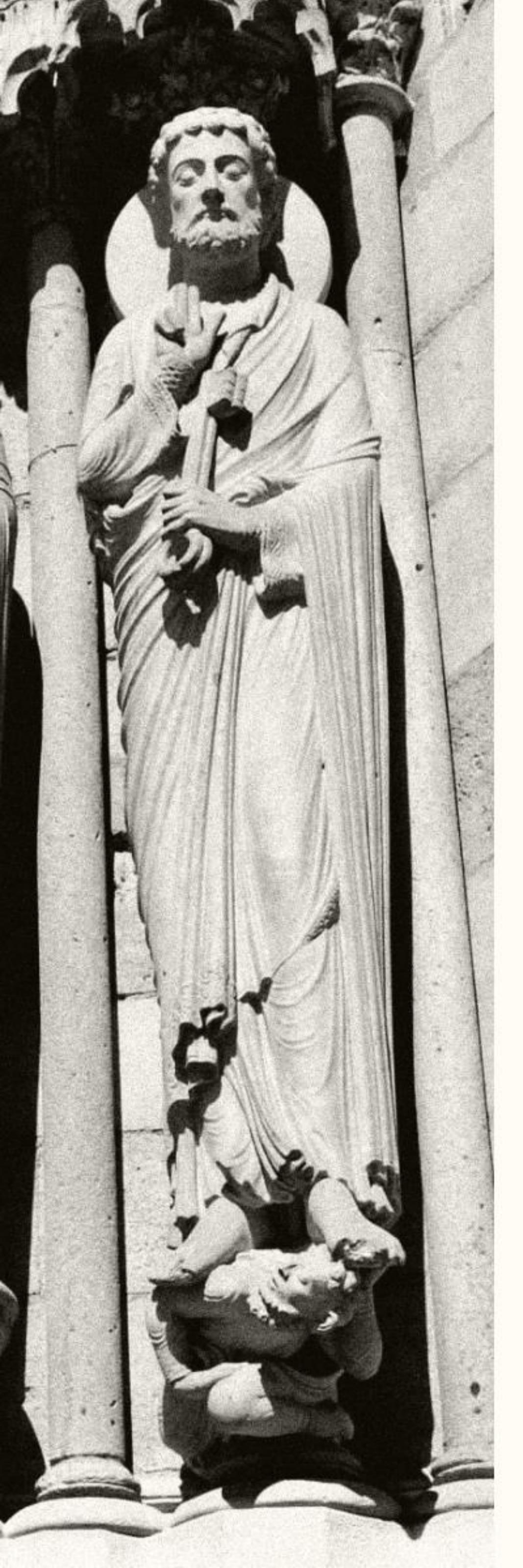
From God

From people

From the Cross

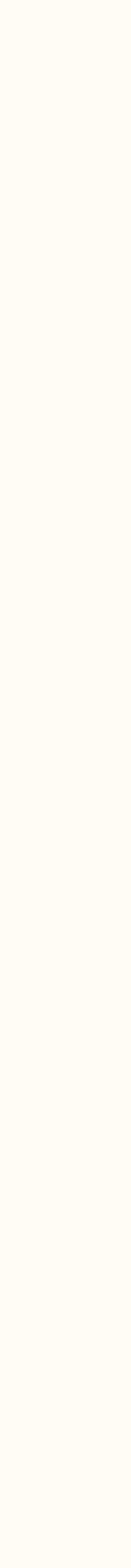


- Paul ————— Founder of the church
- Apollos ————— Skilled speaker
- Cephas (Peter) ————— Connection to Jewish tradition
- “I follow Christ” ————— No regard for human leadership



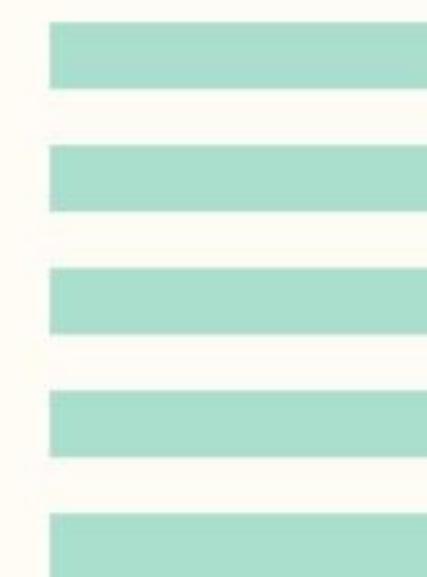
# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



## 1 Corinthians 1:13-16 NIV

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.)



# STATUS

Factions form when we seek to find our status through other people.



# STATUS

From God  
From people  
From the Cross



1 Corinthians 1:17 NIV

For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—  
not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied  
of its power.

# STATUS

Jesus gave up his status by going to the cross...

# STATUS

Jesus gave up his status by going to the cross  
so that He could give us our status as children of God.