

# 1 Corinthians 16:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied.

## Analysis

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**I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus**—Chairō *epi tē parousia* (χαίρω ἐπὶ τῇ παρουσίᾳ, "I rejoice at the coming"). *Parousia* (παρουσία), often used for Christ's second coming, here simply means "arrival, presence." These three men traveled from Corinth to Ephesus, likely bearing the Corinthians' letter (7:1) and oral reports.

**For that which was lacking on your part they have supplied**—To *hymōn husterēma houtoi aneplērōsan* (τὸ ὑμῶν ὑστέρημα οὗτοι ἀνεπλήρωσαν, "your lack these men have filled up"). *Husterēma* (ὑστέρημα, "deficiency, lack") refers either to information about Corinthian problems or to personal fellowship Paul missed. Philippians 2:30 uses similar language for Epaphroditus supplying what the Philippians couldn't give in person. These delegates embodied the congregation, making Paul's separation from Corinth more bearable.

## Historical Context

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Ancient letters were typically hand-delivered by trusted messengers who also answered questions and provided oral elaboration. Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus fulfilled this role, serving as living extensions of the Corinthian church. Their willingness to make the dangerous journey from Corinth to Ephesus (approximately 250 miles, requiring sea travel) demonstrated devotion to Paul and concern for their church's welfare.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How did Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus 'supply' what was lacking—information, fellowship, encouragement?
2. What does their willingness to travel to Paul teach about the importance of personal presence versus written communication?
3. How do modern churches maintain personal connection with distant ministry partners and missionaries?

## Interlinear Text

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χαίρω	δὲ	ἐπὶ	τῇ	παρουσίᾳ	Στεφανᾶ	καὶ
<b>I am glad</b>	G1161	<b>of</b>	G3588	<b>the coming</b>	<b>of Stephanas</b>	<b>and</b>
G5463		G1909		G3952	G4734	G2532
Φουρτουνάτου	καὶ	Ἀχαϊκοῦ	ὅτι	τὸ	ὑμῶν	
<b>Fortunatus</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>Achaicus</b>	<b>for that</b>	G3588	<b>on your part</b>	
G5415	G2532	G883	G3754		G5216	
ὑστέρημα	οὗτοι	ἀνεπλήρωσαν·				
<b>which was lacking</b>	<b>they</b>	<b>have supplied</b>				
G5303	G3778	G378				

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 11:9** (Kingdom): And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.

**Philippians 2:30** (Parallel theme): Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

**Philemon 1:13** (Parallel theme): Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

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