



SOSTHENES

one of Paul's most remarkable converts

#### The Unexpected Testimony

Years later, when Paul wrote to the Church in Corinth, he was able to say, "Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother. Unto the church of God which is at Corinth . . . Grace be unto you." Obviously there is a gap between the two sections of the story; but it is clear that the old enemy of the faith, the one-time ruler of the synagogue, had taken his place at Paul's side. In company with his predecessor Crispus, Sosthenes had bowed before the Lord Jesus Christ, and through personal faith in the Saviour had found peace beyond understanding. It would appear that two features united to win him for Christ. Paul's loving deeds had adorned the Gospel he proclaimed, and this combination of virtues swept aside all opposition, and brought Sosthenes to the Lord. The story is rich in suggestions, but perhaps the greatest is that we should never despair of winning difficult characters, for oftentimes the most unlikely people become the best Christians.

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