



REVIEW

- The section of 2 Corinthians we have been in and continue in through 7:16 is about Paul's apostolic ministry
 - It is a ministry of a glorious covenant
 - His ministry is from God
 - God makes Him sufficient
 - If one honestly and without prejudice examines his words and deeds, they will not find fault

REVIEW

- Paul's ministry in the gospel of Christ was characterized by
 - A) patience
 - B) purity
 - C) knowledge
 - D) longsuffering
 - E) kindness
 - F) spirit of holiness
 - G) sincere love
 - H) the word of truth
 - I) the power of God
 - J) the armor of righteousness
 - K) all of the above
 - K) all of the above

REVIEW

- How is it that Paul's apostolic ministry was by both honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report, as deceivers and yet true, as unknown and yet well known?
 - To those who had open hearts to receive the truth of the gospel, the apostle's service was done in honor, with good report, in truth, and well-known. To those who did not want the truth, they would accuse his ministry of dishonor, with evil report, as a deceptive, and unknown.
- What difficult things did Paul endure that he enumerates in verse 4-10?
 - Tribulations, needs, distresses, stripes, imprisonments, tumults, labors, sleeplessness, fastings, as dying, as chastened, as sorrowful, as poor, as having nothing

HIGH-LEVEL SUGGESTED OUTLINE

- I. Salutation (1:1-2)
- II. Paul's conduct in the light of the apostolic ministry (1:3-7:16)
- III. Instructions regarding the collection for needy saints in Jerusalem (8-9)
- IV. Addressing the enemies of Christ (10-13)

(Based on Outline in The Book of 2 Corinthians, by Melvin Curry, 2008, p.44-46)

PAUL'S CONDUCT IN THE LIGHT OF THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY (1:3-7:16)

- I. Deep concern for the Corinthians (1:3-2:13)
 - A. Sincere Behavior (1:12-14)
 - B. Explaining change of plans and dealing with charge of fickleness (1:15-22)
 - C. Sparing the Corinthians a painful visit (1:23-24)
 - D. Why Paul wrote the former letter (2:1-4)
 - E. Reclaiming the penitent (2:5-11)
 - F. Anxiety in Troas (2:12-13)

(Based on Outline in The Book of 2 Corinthians, by Melvin Curry, 2008, p.44-46)

PAUL'S CONDUCT IN THE LIGHT OF THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY (1:3-7:16)

- II. The Apostle's Ministry of the New Covenant (2:14-7:16)
 - A. The apostles – true ministers of Christ (2:14-17)
 - B. The Corinthians are Paul's letter of recommendation (3:1-3)
 - C. Paul, as God's minister of the new covenant, is made sufficient by God for this task (3:4-6)
 - D. The glory of the new covenant (3:7-11)
 - E. The reason for Paul's boldness (3:12-18)

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PAUL'S CONDUCT IN THE LIGHT OF THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY (1:3-7:16)

- II. The Apostle's Ministry of the New Covenant (2:14-7:16)
 - F. The character of the apostles (4:1-6)
 - G. The apostles' confidence and steadfastness (4:7-5:10)
 - H. The apostles' conduct and motives in their ministry (5:11-15)
 - I. Overview of the apostle's ministry (5:16-19)
 - J. Paul, an ambassador of Christ (5:20-6:2)
 - K. Paul's credentials (6:3-6:10)
 - L. A plea for mutual affection from the Corinthians (6:11-6:13)

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PAUL'S CONDUCT IN THE LIGHT OF THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY (1:3-7:16)

- II. The Apostle's Ministry of the New Covenant (2:14-7:16)
 - M. Exhortation to be separate and holy (6:14-7:1)
 - N. A final plea for the Corinthians to open their hearts (7:2-3)
 - O. The joyous news from Titus of the Corinthians' repentance that gives Paul confidence in them (7:4-16)

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2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-16A EXHORTATION TO HOLINESS

“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? {15} And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? {16} And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God.”



2 CORINTHIANS 6:16B-7:1 EXHORTATION TO HOLINESS

“As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’
{17} Therefore ‘Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you.’ {18} ‘I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.’ {7:1} Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”



2 CORINTHIANS 7:2-3

A FINAL PLEA FOR THE CORINTHIANS TO OPEN THEIR HEARTS

“Open your hearts to us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have cheated no one. {3} I do not say this to condemn; for I have said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together.”

TAKE AWAYS

- In the past, the Corinthians participated in idolatry and other immorality (1 Corinthians 6, 8, 10). They must separate themselves from those practices and not be in relationships where the unbeliever or immoral one forms the standard or dilutes the standard of the Christian.
 - Remember 1 Corinthians 15:33
 - Come out from among them!
 - Speak up and speak out about what the unbeliever is still involved in
- We must live holy lives that we may be sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty, and He our Father.
 - Be morally pure, both internally and externally
 - Motive: the fear of God



2 CORINTHIANS 7:4-7

COMFORTED BY THE COMING OF TITUS

“Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation. {5} For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears. {6} Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, {7} and not only by his coming, but also by the consolation with which he was comforted in you, when he told us of your earnest desire, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more.”

2 CORINTHIANS 7:8-9

CAN REJOICE OVER THE WRITING OF THE FIRST LETTER

“For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. {9} Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing.”



2 CORINTHIANS 7:10-12

THE FRUITS OF REPENTANCE

“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. {11} For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter. {12} Therefore, although I wrote to you, I did not do it for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you.”