

2 CORINTHIANS LAST WEEK

- 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)

ADDRESSING THE ENEMIES OF CHRIST

- 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 (chapters 10-13)
 - A. The prevention of pride (12:7-10)
 - B. Paul's credentials as an apostle (12:11-13)
 - C. Warnings to repent before his visit (12:14-21)

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REVIEW – 12:7-21

- What good purpose did the thorn in the flesh, which was given Paul, serve?
 - Kept Paul from being exalted above measure by the abundance of revelations, 12:7
- Did Paul's thorn in the flesh hurt?
 - It buffeted him – “to beat, to strike with the fist, give one a blow with the fist...to maltreat, treat with violence and contempt,” v.7
- Did Paul ask that the thorn be removed?
 - Yes, 3 times, v.8

REVIEW – 12:7-21

- What was the Lord's reply to Paul's request for the thorn to be removed?
 - "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness," v.9
- What was Paul's response to the Lord's answer?
 - Acceptance. "Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong," vss.9-10

REVIEW – 12:7-21

- Should the Corinthians have commended Paul?
 - Yes, v.11
- Was Paul glad to spend and be spent for the Corinthians even though the more he loved them the less they loved him?
 - Yes, v.15

REVIEW – 12:7-21

- Paul addressed issues in Corinth in the first letter. In verse 20, what issues is he concerned about still existing in Corinth?
 - Contentions
 - Jealousies
 - Outbursts of wrath
 - Selfish ambitions
 - Backbitings
 - Whsiperings
 - Conceits
 - Tumults

REVIEW – 12:7-21

- In verse 21, what other sins is Paul concerned about still existing in Corinth?
 - Uncleaness
 - Fornication
 - Licentiousness
- He is concerned that they have _____ and have not _____.
 - He is concerned that they have sinned before and have not repented.

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- I. Salutation (1:1-2)
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- III. Instructions regarding the collection for needy saints in Jerusalem (8-9)
- IV. Addressing the enemies of Christ (chapters 10-13)
 - A. Final warning – what they can expect from Paul when he comes and what they are expected to do to be ready (13:1-10)
 - B. Final exhortations, greetings, and blessing (13:11-14)

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2 CORINTHIANS 13:1-4 PAUL IS COMING WITH AUTHORITY

“This will be the third time I am coming to you. “By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.”

{2} I have told you before, and foretell as if I were present the second time, and now being absent I write to those who have sinned before, and to all the rest, that if I come again I will not spare—

{3} since you seek a proof of Christ speaking in me, who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you.

{4} For though He was crucified in weakness, yet He lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, but we shall live with Him by the power of God toward you.”

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5-10

EXAMINE YOURSELVES AND REPENT OF EVIL

“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

{6} But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.

{7} Now I pray to God that you do no evil, not that we should appear approved, but that you should do what is honorable, though we may seem disqualified.

{8} For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

{9} For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. And this also we pray, that you may be made complete.

{10} Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for edification and not for destruction.



2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-14

EXHORTATIONS, GREETINGS, AND BLESSINGS

“Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

{12} Greet one another with a holy kiss.

{13} All the saints greet you.

{14} The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.”

TAKE AWAYS

- Christians must take time for self-examination.
 - It is not a one-off
 - It involves careful scrutinization of our inner man – thoughts, intents, motives, desires, etc. – and of our whole man, including obedient works of faith
- God wants us to grow up. He wants us to be made complete.
 - We must give great diligence to know the word of God, abstain from every form of evil, and produce the fruit of righteousness



TAKE AWAYS

- How is our warmth and friendliness toward brethren (greet one another with a holy kiss)?

SOME GO-TO'S

- What is one reason we are comforted by God?
 - 2 Corinthians 1:4
- How should I treat a brother when he has repented?
 - 2 Corinthians 2:6-11
- Unforgiveness is a device, a scheme, of Satan
 - 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

SOME GO-TO'S

- Has the law of Moses passed away, and does that include the ten commandments?
 - 2 Corinthians 2:6-11
 - Yes, “passing away,” “veil taken away
 - v.6 “written and engraved on stones” refers to the ten commandments
- 2 Corinthians speaks of “the letter” and “the Spirit.” To what does that refer?
 - 2 Corinthians 3:6-15
 - The letter = the law of Moses, written and engraven on stones, the Old Testament
 - The Spirit = the ministry of righteousness, the gospel
 - “Letter” and “Spirit” does not refer to the details of law contrasted to the intent/spirit/feeling of the law

SOME GO-TO'S

- In the resurrection, we will be clothed with a dwelling which is from heaven
 - 2 Corinthians 5:2
- The unveiling of God's plan of reconciliation is described in 2 Corinthians 5:18-21
 - All things are of God
 - He reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ
 - He commissioned the apostles, giving them the ministry of reconciliation
 - He committed to the apostles the word of reconciliation
 - The apostles implore you
 - God → Jesus Christ → Apostles → Word → to you

SOME GO-TO'S

- Proper understanding of 2 Corinthians 5:21 is important
 - Jesus was not made a sinner; our sins were not transferred to Him
 - Isaiah 53:8 – He took our punishment, the stroke that was due us
 - Isaiah 53:10 – He was made a sin offering for us
 - Isaiah 53:6 – He got the stripes, we got the healing
 - Why?
 - So that we might be made righteous
 - 1 Corinthians 10:30-31: “But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness and sanctification and redemption”

SOME GO-TO'S

- Truths regarding repentance
 - 2 Corinthians 7:10, 11
 - Godly sorrow produces repentance
 - Repentance is unto salvation
 - Repentance produces fruits
- Principles regarding our giving on the first day of the week
 - Chapters 8-9

SOME GO-TO'S

- Our spiritual war and its purpose
 - 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
- Preachers receiving wages from other churches
 - 2 Corinthians 10:8
- The existence of false apostles, deceitful workers
 - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

SOME GO-TO'S

- Paul's sufferings for Christ
 - 2 Corinthians 11:23-29
- The existence of false apostles, deceitful workers
 - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15
- Dealing with our thorns
 - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10



SOME KEY VERSES

- 5:1 – “For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”
- 5:7 – “For we walk by faith, not by sight”
- 5:10 – “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”



SOME KEY VERSES

- 5:17 – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
- 6:14 – “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers”
- 7:10a – “For godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation, not to be regretted”

SOME KEY VERSES

- 9:6 – “But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”
- 12:10 – “For when I am weak, then I am strong”
- 12:12 – “Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds”



SOME KEY VERSES

- 13:5 – “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.”
- 13:11 – “Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”