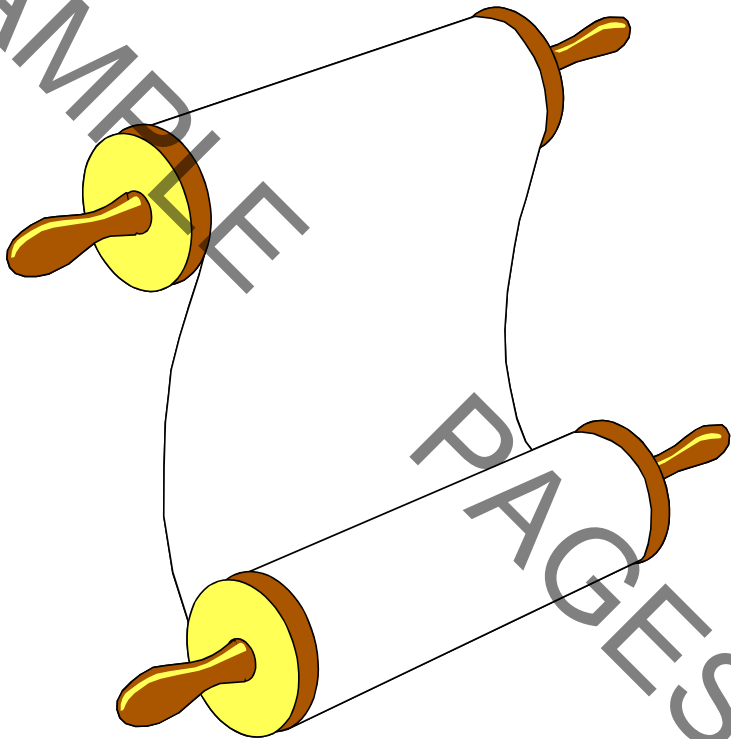


2nd Corinthians

Preaching Verse-by-Verse



Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.

SAMPLE

PAGES

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Foreword

- **The Beginning.** This book is the **seventeenth** in a series of verse-by-verse preaching from various New Testament books of the Bible. It is an attempt to bring to the minds of the readers two things: (1) the **meaning** of the words in the verses, and (2) some practical **applications** of those words to the lives of both genuine Christians and non-Christians.
- **Preached Sermons.** These were messages that I preached to our **Bible For Today Baptist Church** in Collingswood, New Jersey. They were broadcast over the Internet by computer-streaming around the world. I preached verse-by-verse on half a chapter of the book each Sunday as the messages were preached. All verses quoted are from the King James Bible.
- **Other Verses.** In connection with both the **meaning** and **application** of the verses in this book, there are many verses from other places in the Bible that have been quoted for further elaboration on the teachings in this book. All the verses of Scripture that were used to illustrate further truth are written out in full for easy reference.
- **A Transcription.** This entire book was typed into computer format by Patricia Canter from the tape recordings of the messages as they were preached. In addition to the words used as I preached these sermons, I have added other words for clarification as needed.
- **The Audience.** The intended audience for this book is the same as the audience that listened to the messages in the first place. These studies are not meant to be overly scholarly, though there are many references to various Greek or Hebrew Words used. My aim and burden was to try to help genuine Christians to understand and follow the Words of God. It is also my hope that my children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and others might profit from this study. There is a **10-page INDEX of words and phrases** to help the reader easily find the various topics they are looking for.

Yours For God's Words,

D. A. Waite

**Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.
Bible For Today Baptist Church**

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2 Corinthians

Chapter One

2 Corinthians 1:1

“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:”

Paul is the apostle of Jesus Christ by God's will. Before this, he imprisoned and agreed to the killing of Christians. The Lord Jesus Christ met him as he was going to Damascus to imprison Christians. On his way there, the Lord Jesus Christ saved him and called him to be an apostle. I believe Paul, not Mathias, was chosen by the Lord Jesus Christ to take the place of Judas Iscariot who betrayed the Saviour. Timothy was with Paul when he wrote 2 Corinthians and he was right there in the church of Corinth with all the genuine Christians in Achaia or northern Greece. This was Paul's second letter to them. In his first letter, he excoriated them because one of the men had committed incest with his father's wife. Paul is trying to encourage them in the things of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:2

“Grace *be* to you and peace from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Notice grace and peace. Grace (*charis*) is the Greek greeting for those who are Greeks. Peace (*shalom*) is the Hebrew greeting for those who are Hebrews. Both of these greetings come from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This shows clearly that the Lord Jesus Christ is one of the Members of the Bible's Triune God. All three Members of the Trinity are joined together, yet are separate Persons of the Godhead, **united together**. It is very important to understand that both grace and peace come from both of these Persons in the Godhead.

2 Corinthians 1:3

“Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;”

The Lord Jesus Christ was sent from Heaven by God the Father. God is called the Father of mercies. Grace has been properly defined as “*getting something we **do not deserve.***” Mercy has been properly defined as “Not getting something that we **do deserve.**” God is the Father of these mercies. He is a merciful God. If He were not merciful, He would have wiped out the United States of America and the entire world decades ago. He is both a gracious and a merciful God.

Verses On Mercy

- **Genesis 32:10**

“I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.”

Jacob was honest about this. Not many people are as honest as Jacob. They say that they are worthy.

- **2 Samuel 24:14**

“And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.”

There were three choices that David had because he numbered the people. One was to fall into the hands of the LORD; “*for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.*”

- **Nehemiah 9:19**

“Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.”

The Lord did not forsake His people, Israel, because of His mercies.

- **Psalms 25:6**

“Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.”

The Lord did not just begin his mercies in David’s time. They were from ancient times.

● **Psalms 51:1**

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.”

David was guilty, not only of adultery, but also murder. He murdered Bathsheba’s husband Uriah and yet prayed to the Lord prayed for His tender mercies rather than what he deserved.

● **Lamentations 3:22**

“It is of the LORD’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.”

All of us could be consumed if it were not for God’s mercies found by sincerely trusting His Son for salvation.

● **Romans 12:1**

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

These Christians at Rome needed God’s mercies. Because of His mercies, they were to present to Him their bodies as living sacrifices. This included their two eyes, two ears, two hands, two feet, their hearts, and their minds.

● **Colossians 3:12**

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;”

Genuine Christians are to be merciful to other people.

Verses On Comfort

● **Psalms 23:4**

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”

The rod is for the discipline of genuine Christians when they are out of line. The crook of God’s staff is to pick these Christians up when they fall into the ditches of sin.

● **Isaiah 61:2**

“To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;”

When true Christians are sad and in mourning, God has His comfort available for them.

4 2 Corinthians Preaching Verse-By-Verse

- **Romans 15:4**

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

This is why I encourage all genuine Christians to read the Old Testament as well as the New Testament which gives them God’s comfort.

- **Ephesians 6:22**

“Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.”

Paul knew that Tychicus was able to comfort the hearts of these true Christians at Ephesus.

- **1 Thessalonians 3:2**

“And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the Gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith.”

Paul wanted Timothy to comfort the genuine Christians at Thessalonica.

- **1 Thessalonians 4:16-18**

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

The Biblical pre-tribulation rapture by the Lord Jesus Christ of every true Christian is a great comfort to all of them.

2 Corinthians 1:4

“Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

God has promised to give His comfort to genuine Christians.

Verses On Tribulation

- **Romans 5:3**

“And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience,”

True Christians should glory in tribulations because it leads to patience.

- **Romans 12:12**

“Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;”

That is not easy. Genuine Christians have God the Holy Spirit indwelling them. He can give them patience in tribulation.

- **2 Corinthians 7:4**

“Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.”

Paul had plenty of tribulation but he was joyful in the tribulation. Part of the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, in tribulation, no matter where it is, in trouble, in prison or trials, sickness, true Christians can be joyful in all their tribulation.

- **1 Thessalonians 3:4**

“For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.”

He warned genuine Christians that they should suffer tribulation

2 Corinthians 1:5

“For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.”

True Christians in Paul’s day abounded in the sufferings of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Verses On Suffering

- **Romans 8:18**

“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Glory for genuine Christians will be greater than their sufferings.

- **Philippians 3:10**

“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;”

Paul wanted to have fellowship of Christ’s sufferings and be a part of them, regardless of the cost.

- **Hebrews 2:9**

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

The Lord Jesus Christ came into this world for the purpose of suffering death for the sins of the world, tasting death for every

person.

- **James 5:10**

“Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and patience.”

The Old Testament prophets were examples of suffering.

2 Corinthians 1:6

“And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.”

Paul endured the same suffering that the genuine Christians at Corinth were enduring.

Verses On Consolation

- **Romans 15:5**

“Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:”

True Christians should partake in God’s consolation as those in Rome did.

- **2 Corinthians 7:6-7**

“Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.”

Consolation and comfort work together.

- **2 Thessalonians 2:16**

“Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,”

God gives everlasting consolation and good hope to genuine Christians.

- **Hebrews 6:18**

“That by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:”

True Christians have been promised strong consolation.

Verses On Sufferings And Afflictions

● **Psalms 34:19**

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.”

Though genuine Christians have many afflictions, He is able to deliver them.

● **Psalms 119:50**

“This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.”

God’s Words comfort true Christians in their afflictions.

● **Isaiah 63:9**

“In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.”

God shares the afflictions of His people.

● **Jeremiah 16:19**

“O LORD, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and *things* wherein *there is* no profit.”

God is the strength, fortress and refuge in the afflictions of genuine Christians.

● **2 Corinthians 4:17**

“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;”

The affliction for true Christians is only for a moment compared to the glory that will follow in Heaven.

● **2 Corinthians 6:4**

“But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,”

Genuine Christians should approve themselves in God’s patience despite their afflictions.

● **1 Thessalonians 3:3**

“That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.”

True Christians are appointed to afflictions, so they should expect them.

8 2 Corinthians Preaching Verse-By-Verse

- **2 Timothy 1:8**

“Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the Gospel according to the power of God;”

Pastor Timothy was to be partaker of the afflictions of the Gospel according to God’s power.

- **2 Timothy 3:11**

“Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.”

At Lystra, they stoned Paul and he died, but the Lord raised him up again. He took Paul to Heaven, and then raised him up again. The Lord is a delivering God who delivers from all afflictions.

- **2 Timothy 4:5**

“But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”

Do not just pass through afflictions, but endure them. Preach the Word even in affliction.

Verses On Stedfast And Enduring

- **Acts 2:42**

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Stedfastly, continue. That is what we have to do in our doctrines of our church and in our Bible.

- **1 Corinthians 15:58**

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

Stedfast means unmoving and firm in the truth.

- **Colossians 2:5**

“For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.”

Paul was stedfast in his faith, even in jail.

- **Hebrews 6:19**

“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.”

Genuine Christians have a **stedfast** anchor in Christ.

- **1 Peter 5:8-9**

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

True Christians must be stedfast in the faith because of their adversary the devil.

2 Corinthians 1:8

“For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:

Asia is the area of land we now call Asia Minor or Turkey. In Asia, Paul and his group were pressed down so hard, above their strength, until they had no strength to resist. Notice, they despaired even of life. That was a death wish of the apostle Paul. Other people have death wishes. Elijah had a death wish. Other people in scripture did also.

It happens to people now as well. For instance, twenty-five to thirty years ago, I had cancer in the lymph glands, Hodgkin’s disease. The Lord spared me. A lot of people want to die. Doctors give them drugs to help them die. In some states, that’s the law. It’s going to get worse and worse. Some social engineers want to de-populate the world by killing off a lot of old people. If you are too old, Obamacare won’t let you get certain medical treatments and drugs. “Kill them off!” Paul was pressed out of measure beyond distress.

2 Corinthians 1:9

“But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:”

Paul learned from this stress. The sentence of death taught him “that we should not trust in ourselves.” And we should not trust in ourselves, “but in God.” He’s the one we can trust in all of our afflictions and in all of our troubles. He knows the answers. We can trust Him in the wilderness. We can trust him when affliction came. Trust in the Lord.

10 2 Corinthians Preaching Verse-By-Verse

God, who raises the dead. If he can raise the dead, he can certainly take care of our petty problems, difficulties and tribulations. Trust in Him and not ourselves.

2 Corinthians 1:10

Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;”

God delivered Paul from three deaths--past, present and future.

Verses On Deliverance

- **Psalms 18:17**

“He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them which hated me; for they were too strong for me.”

God delivered David from his enemies.

- **Psalms 22:5**

“They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.”

Genuine Christians must cry unto the Lord for deliverances as well.

- **Psalms 34:4**

“I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.”

Deliverance from all fears is a great deliverance.

- **Psalms 56:13**

“For thou hast delivered my soul from death: *wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling*, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?”

God can deliver from death and feet from falling.

- **Psalms 86:13**

“For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.”

Deliverance is possible by the Lord.

- **Psalms 116:8**

“For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.”

These are three different kinds of deliverances.

- **Daniel 6:16**

“Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast *him* into the den of lions. *Now* the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”

Even a heathen king believed in God’s deliverance of Daniel from the den of lions.

- **Acts 12:11**

“And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.”

Peter doubted, but God delivered him from that prison.

- **Colossians 1:13**

“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:”

Genuine Christians have been delivered from Satan’s power of darkness.

- **2 Timothy 3:11**

“Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.”

The Lord delivered Paul out of all these afflictions.

- **2 Timothy 4:17**

“Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.”

God delivered Paul either out of lions in the arena or from Satan as a roaring lion.

- **2 Peter 2:7**

“And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:”

God delivered even Lot who He called “just” though he was very carnal.

2 Corinthians 1:11

“Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift *bestowed* upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.”

So, Paul wanted these true Christians to help him by their prayers. Someone gave him a special offering. He thanked them for “*the gift bestowed upon*” him by the Corinthians. Many people gave this gift, not just to Paul but also to poor saints in Jerusalem. He was thanking those that gave to the gift in the name of the people who would receive it.

2 Corinthians 1:12

“For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.”

Notice what Paul said: “*Our rejoicing is this.*” Paul was rejoicing in this thing. The testimony of his conscience was his knowledge inside of himself. No other human can see our conscience. But God can see our conscience. Notice what Paul’s conscience told him to do. It was to give him simplicity. He also wanted to have godly sincerity. He did not want to lie, cheat, or cover up things. He wanted true sincerity. Also, Paul did not want fleshly wisdom. He had a lot of wisdom, but he did not want to trust in his fleshly wisdom that he had attained through his schools, the law of Moses, or all of the different Jewish traditions that he had been taught. He wanted the wisdom that came by God’s grace. That is where Paul stood firm.

Verses On Sincerity

- **Joshua 24:14**

“Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.”

Genuine Christians must serve the Lord in sincerity and genuineness. They must put away the gods which their fathers served on the other side of the flood. They were to “serve the LORD.”

● **1 Corinthians 5:8**

“Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”

This probably refers to the Lord’s supper. True Christians must participate the Lord’s supper being sincere, honest, just, and truthful.

● **2 Corinthians 2:17**

“For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.”

All these new modern Bible versions, whether they are in English or in other languages of the world, corrupt the Words of God because of the false Hebrew, and Aramaic Old Testament text and the false Gnostic, Critical New Testament Greek Text they use for their Bibles. Paul was not one of those “*corruptness.*” Our church uses the English King James Bible which has been accurately translated from the inspired and preserved Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Words. “*We are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.*” That is what every genuine Christian must do so as not to corrupt God’s Words.

● **Ephesians 6:24**

“Grace *be* with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.”

True Christians must love their Saviour in sincerity.

● **Titus 2:7**

“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,”

Titus was a pastor on the island of Crete. Every true pastor must show himself a pattern of good works. He must do the work of the Lord Jesus Christ showing a pattern of good works, in doctrine, in teaching, and in all other areas of life.

SAMPLE

PAGES

2 Corinthians

Chapter Two

2 Corinthians 2:1

"But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness."

Paul had written 1 Corinthians. The epistle caused a great deal of grief because of the unrebuked sin of the man that was involved in incest. Paul determined not to physically come again at that time. Instead of returning to Corinth with heaviness, sorrow, or grief, he chose to come by letter. The Greek word for heaviness is LUPA. This grief/sorrow is something that is harmful. He did not want to cause heaviness.

There are various verses that have to do with heaviness:

- **Psalms 69:20**

"Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none."

And so, Paul did not want this heaviness that the psalmist talked about to come on the Corinthians. He did not his presence, even in a letter, to bring heaviness, grief and sorrow to the people.

- **Psalms 119:28**

"My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word."

God is able to strengthen us, even when there is heaviness, grief and sorrow. He can strengthen us in heaviness. The Word of God is the thing that will do that for us. We have to trust in his Word. We have to accept it, not only read and study it, but follow it as God gives us the grace to do so.

- **Proverbs 12:25**

"Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad."

We know about stooping shoulders, with our hearts stooping. A stooping heart means there is sadness in heart "but a good word maketh it glad." Good words make hearts glad. Bad things and heaviness makes hearts to stoop, go down, and be discouraged. So, there is **heaviness** in the Scriptures in many places and there are many different things about it.

- **Romans 9:2**

"That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart."

He was concerned about his people, the Israelites, the Jews. Paul was a Jew. He came to Christ and now he was a Christian. The unbelieving Jewish people did not go along with Paul. Now he was sort of an outcast and he wanted them to be saved and born again, just like himself. So, he had great heaviness and sorrow, continual sorrow, in his heart. Sorrow of heart is a very serious disease, as you know. We can be sorry in our minds but when it reaches the heart, it really grips us even stronger than ever and Paul had heart sorrow.

The apostle Peter used this term, heaviness, as well,

- **1 Peter 1:5-6**

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

That is final salvation. God is taking us to heaven and we are kept forever. God promises to keep us who are genuinely trusting Christ as Saviour safe and saved until we meet him in glory. He says, we are "kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation" – unto heaven, all the way until we get to the glorious land. Then he says this, "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:"

Those who are genuinely saved, who are going to heaven, should greatly rejoice because that is our destiny. We are kept by the power of God until that time. That is true even "though now for a season," now, for a short length of time, "if need be, ye are in heaviness." Now, everyone does not have the same heaviness, sorrow, and grief that others have. Each one has his own heaviness, your manifold temptations, and testings. So Paul was concerned for his believers, as was Peter for his, that they would not have too many difficulties.

2 Corinthians 2:2

“For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?”

When you bring sorrow to some person, does that make them happy? No. That word is LUPU. It means *to make sorrowful, to afflict with sadness, to cause grief*. When you make someone sorry, are they very happy with you? No. That is what Paul is saying. He could write this letter to the Corinthian church like the first letter in which he confronted them with the situation in 1 Corinthians 5, but if he did, that would make a number of them sorry because he really laid down the law. They were wrong in what they did to this gentleman, this man, who was a sinner. But, Paul said, If I make you sorry, "who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?"

People can be glad when other people are glad and rejoicing with them. In the same way if you bring sorrow to someone, do not expect them to make you happy and glad. See, that is what he is saying here. He did not want to make them sorry. He wanted to make them glad, so they could make him glad. As far as being sorry,

- **Nehemiah 8:10**

"Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for *this* day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Now Nehemiah was a post-exilic prophet. God sent the Israelites to exile in Babylon for seventy long years. Ezra and Nehemiah were prophets after they came back to the land. Nehemiah said, God has given you all that you need, "neither be ye sorry". Do not be sorry. And then he says this. ". . . [F]or the joy of the LORD is your strength." The joy of the LORD is your strength. We cannot have sorrow when the joy of the LORD is there. Joy is the opposite of sorrow. The Lord can give us joy, His joy, in the midst of our sorrow.

- **2 Corinthians 7:8**

"For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season."

I am glad we can take away the sorrow and replace it with the joy of the Lord.

● **2 Corinthians 7:9**

"Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing."

Paul's letter had caused them to have a change of mind. They straightened themselves out. That is the definition of *repent*. They repented for the wrong they had been doing. There is a godly purpose for sorrow, "that ye might receive damage by us in nothing." And so, Paul was glad that they were no longer sorry.

2 Corinthians 2:3

"And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is *the joy of you all.*"

Paul says, That is what I intended to happen I wrote to you. He wrote in 1 Corinthians about problems they had in the church "lest, when I came, I should have sorrow." He did not want to return to the church till things were corrected.

He said, "lest when I came." He wrote the second epistle of Corinthians rather than the coming to the church at that time. He did not want to come until they were ready for him to come, until they were ready to receive him. So he wrote this second letter, "lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice;" He said, I do not want to come back to Corinth too soon. He came back once again by writing this 2 Corinthians letter in order to encourage them. He wanted to rejoice in these people that he made sorrowful. Then he said "having confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all." Paul wanted his joy to be their joy and rejoicing, not sorrow, not tears, not afflictions.

2 Corinthians 2:4

"For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you."

Paul wrote this out of affliction and anguish. The Greek Word for affliction means "tribulation, persecution, oppression, and distress." Paul was in all sorts of distress when he wrote that first letter. He was in affliction and distress. Notice also, not only

affliction, outward affliction but anguish of heart. The Greek Word for “*anguish*” means “*holding together and narrowing, constricting, pushing together, pushing in upon.*” He was in anguish with pressure in his heart. “I wrote unto you with many tears;” Paul did not write First Corinthians just with his head. He had tears but he had to do it. When people are wrong, when you love them, you want to correct them and we write and tell them about it, even if they are angry about it, they are sorry about it, maybe mad at us and angry but Paul had to do it. The case in Corinth that was wrong was straightened out by them because he wrote the letter First Corinthians. Straightened out. He said I wrote out of affliction and anguish with many tears. Notice, why he did not write them in First Corinthians. Not that you should be grieved or sorry. That was not the purpose of his writing the First Corinthians letter. “that you might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you” “For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth,” That is what it says. He corrects. Paul said, I love you, Corinthians. You were going astray, you had different problems. I wrote this letter to you so you could see the love that I have to you. I wrote in love. I did not want to grieve you. As far as anguish, he wrote out of anguish of heart.

● **John 16:21**

“A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.”

In this verse the Lord Jesus is talking about a woman, when she has had her baby. My wife has had five of them. You wives know what the Lord Jesus was talking about.

I remember when they let me into the labor room, in Dallas, Texas, with our first child, D. A. Waite Jr.. They put my wife under lots of sedation. She did not even know she was having a baby. But I did! I was there. I had no sedation. I saw the pain. I knew the suffering. I saw it.

They would not let me go in for the second, third, fourth and fifth child. But that first child, they let me go in. I needed to know. It is a great sorrow but after the child is born, she remembers “no more the anguish.” I am sure they remember some of it but the scriptures say she “remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.”

Paul says, to those who do evil,

- **Romans 2:9**

"Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;"

I wish there would be more feeling of anguish by those who do evil. They seem to do evil and love it. "It is wonderful, let us keep it going. Its fun to do evil." But God says there is anguish upon every soul. There is anguish, trouble, great sorrow, and burden to evil workers. That should cause them to straighten up but it does not seem to work. In many cases, they keep right on doing what they are doing, wrong as it may be.

2 Corinthians 2:5

"But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all."

Some people in this church of Corinth were grieved. Paul was not grieved because those people were grieved. They were guilty of sin. They should grieve. But Paul was sorry that they were sorrowful. That word for grieve again is LUPEO. He says I do not want to overcharge you or burden you. That Greek word is EPIBARO. I do not want to over burden you, put a burden upon you, to be burdensome unto you. He was sorry that he had caused them any grief when he wrote the letter because he loved them. He wanted to correct what was in that church. There was something very wrong in that church and he wanted to straighten it out if possible. He did not want to cause any unnecessary grief.

- **Job 2:13**

"So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that *his* grief was very great."

If there is anybody that had grief, it was Job. In one day all his possessions, his cattle and his workers. His children were killed. Then his health was taken away, from the top of his head to the souls of his feet. He had great grief. His friends came and sat down with him for seven day and seven nights without speaking a word.

I am glad they joined him. Sometimes when someone is in grief the best thing to say is nothing. Once they started to speak they just added to his grief. Instead of comforting him they accused him of causing his own grief because his hidden sin. He knew he had done nothing wrong. God knew he had done nothing wrong. But the accusations of his friends forced him to defend his life. They argued with him and that is the thing. When a person is in sorrow and grief and pain, please, do not argue with them. These people just talked back and forth and made Job had to defend his cause.

When someone is in grief, and you go to be a comfort and you do not know what to say, say nothing. They know you are there. They see you. They sense you are concerned. And they are comforted. This is true if you meet them in their home, in the hospital, funeral home, or wherever they are.

That is what these people did for seven days and seven nights. Then they opened their mouths. And it was not helpful. Job said of them, "miserable comforters are ye all" because they did things that were wrong for comfort.

- **Isaiah 53:3**

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."

The Lord Jesus, was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, at the cross of Calvary. But he had been rejected before the cross. The Bible tells us how the Jewish religious leaders rejected Him. (Matthew 26:4) The crowds abandoned him. (John 6:66). In Pilate's judgement hall he was rejected (We have no king but Caesar). (John 19:15) He was not esteemed. They hated him. And then they crucified him and they esteemed him not. Surely He was despised, rejected, and a man of sorrows acquainted with grief.

- **Hebrews 13:17**

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Pastors or Sunday school teachers or missionaries, they watch for your souls, as they that must give an account. Every preacher, every pastor, that preaches the Word, must give an account before his Lord, one day, for you. Are you causing him grief or joy? What are you doing?

Those people that are lost, are the devil's children. They will give an account to the Lord. They will give an account for their attitude toward God's servants. They will give an account for the way they treat them. And, ultimately if they do not get saved they will go to hell, the Lake of Fire for eternity.

Pastors that are saved pastors, born again Christian pastors, are going to have to give an account to the Lord for what they say from the pulpit and in counseling. They must ask themselves: is it right? Is it scriptural? Is it Biblical? Is there a heresy? They have to give an account to the Lord Jesus Christ. "[A]s they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." Help them to give an account with joy, a joyous account not a grievous account. That preacher must be faithful to the Word of God.

2 Corinthians 2:6

"Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which was *inflicted* of many."

Now Paul goes after what was happening in the church at Corinth. It was bad enough that they followed people. I am of Paul, I am of Peter, I am of Cephas, I am of Christ but then they had this man that committed sin with his father's wife and they were not properly in tune to that. They said, oh, that is fine, no problem. Before Paul's rebuke, they were wonderful and joyful. The people in the church thought there was nothing wrong with that sin! The Corinthians thought that they were being kind and gracious allowing this man who was sleeping with his father's wife to go without rebuke or consequence. They thought tolerating his sin was a virtue. That is the trouble. When the pastor and members of a church allow sin, wickedness, or doctrinal impurity in the church, the church becomes corruptible. Eventually the whole church will become corrupt. Soon, Bible believing people that are sound, sane and spiritual have to leave that church because it is a corrupt church.

What should the church have done? What should be the punishment for open sin? What should be the rebuke for those who tolerate it? That was the real sin. In 1 Corinthians 5:1-7, Paul outlines the problem that is in that church,

- **1 Corinthians 5:1-7**

"It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife."

Paul writes to them and says, now, everybody knows there is sin in your church. What is the matter with you people? There is sexual impurity among you. This type of fornication is not even named among the heathen. Incest, wicked incest-- gentiles did not even have that particular situation. So, did Paul mince words with them? No, he did not. He told everything straight to them.

"And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

Because of the sin, they were proud of this wicked sin. Just like people today are proud of all kinds of different sins, whether it is adultery or fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, whatever it is, they are proud as anything. In fact, there was a note I got today, letter on the internet, that in California, they are punishing a Christian college, the lesbians, the LGBTQ, they are punishing them because the Christian college takes a position that marriage is one man and one woman for life, not two men and two women, so this lesbian crowd is punishing this Christian college in California. "And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned," They should have mourned for this sin, of incest, "that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

Church discipline is a part of the New Testament and those that have committed this sin should be taken away and removed from the church at Corinth. They did not remove him at that time, later they did but not then. Then Paul says, "For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, *concerning* him that hath so done this deed," Paul said, I am not there but I have already judged it that it was wrong, it is sinful, it is wicked, it is the scriptures, and I have judged it. "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?"

To glorify sin or wickedness and corruption, is not good at all. Not good. I am not a baker, but I understand. You put a little leaven in bread it just goes throughout the whole bread. A little poison. A lot of people think that leaven is good. Leaven in scripture is always poison, it is always bad, it is always dangerous. A little leaven. This incestuous man, if he remains in that church, the whole church will be leavened with poison and sin and wickedness and corruption. That is the scripture he uses here.

A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. When unbelief and godlessness and doctrinal fallacies are in a church, or sexual impurity, whatever it may be, that goes through the whole church. That is where churches begin to go corrupt. As Pastor Dan has mentioned in his *History of Fundamentalism*, churches of the past have followed this pattern. Many Presbyterian churches started out one way and now are completely gone. Many Baptist churches started one way and now are completely gone. Many Methodist churches started one way and now are completely gone. Many other churches, denominational or non-denominational started out one way but now are completely gone. Not every church goes bad, but many do. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. What is Paul's remedy for this wickedness and this sin?

- **1 Corinthians 5:7**

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:"

Clean it out, get rid of this incestuous man, get him out of the church. You are not to have poison among you if you are genuinely saved. One of the things they have to do away with at the Passover feast, there is no leaven. That bread had to be unleavened bread. We remember the Lord's death until he comes. We use unleavened bread in our Communion services as well. Unleavened bread.

2 Corinthians 2:7

"So that contrariwise ye *ought* rather to forgive him, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow."

Notice, that is the title of our message, *Forgiveness and Comfort*. The Greek word for Forgiveness is XARIZOMAI. We are to forgive and also to comfort. You should not have this man swallowed up with much sorrow. It is interesting, forgiveness. In 1 John 1:9, it talks about Christian forgiveness.