

"TO THE CHURCH OF GOD WHICH IS AT CORINTH" PAUL'S LETTERS TO THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH



The Second Corinthian Letter Chapter 7

Context: Remember the previous chapter that urged the Corinthians to take care regarding their associations, "Come out and be separate", because ungodly associations can lead us away from the Lord.

¹ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

☀ What promises?

☀ What would be examples of defilement of

☀ flesh?

☀ spirit?

☀ What does the phrase "perfecting holiness" imply regarding spiritual growth?

MAKE ROOM FOR US IN YOUR HEARTS (7:2-7)

² Make room for us in your hearts; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one. ³ I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.

☀ *There seems to be a major interruption from the theme of 6:1-13, to 6:14—7:1, and then to 7:2. But it may be that the "unbeliever" Paul is thinking of are the false prophets/apostles; and therefore the subject remains consistent.*

☀ Make room for _____ in your hearts (2 Corinthians 7:2-4)

☀ we _____ no one

☀ we _____ no one

☀ we _____ of no one

⁴ Great is my confidence in you; great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.

☀ I do not speak to condemn _____, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to _____ together and to _____ together

☀ Great is my _____ in you

☀ great is my _____ on your behalf

☀ I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our _____

GETTING TITUS' NEWS...

⁵ For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within. ⁶ But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus; ⁷ and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

☀ How worried was Paul about the outcome of things in Corinth?

☀ 2 Cor. 2:12-13 —

☀ 2 Cor. 7:5 —

☀ How did Paul feel when he finally met up with Paul (2 Cor. 7:5-7)?

☀ _____ by seeing Titus

☀ comforted by the good news of the Corinthian _____, brought by Titus

⁸ For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—⁹ I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. ¹⁰ For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. ¹¹ For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter. ¹² So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the offender nor for the

TWO KINDS OF SORROW (7:8-12)

- ☀ Sorrow to the point of _____
 - ☀ according to the will of _____
 - ☀ no _____ suffered
 - ☀ without _____,
 - ☀ leading to _____
- ☀ Sorrow of the world, not leading to repentance, leads to _____ (What is this?)
- ☀ What does godly sorrow do? (vs. 11)
 - ☀ _____ of yourselves, (What is this?)
 - ☀ what _____, (What is this?)
 - ☀ what _____, (What is this?)
 - ☀ what _____, (What is this?)
 - ☀ what _____, (What is this?)
 - ☀ what avenging of _____ (What is this?)

sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God.

¹³ For this reason we have been comforted.

And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. ¹⁴ For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I was not put to shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved to be the truth. ¹⁵ His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling. ¹⁶ I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

☀ What does Paul mean... 2 Corinthians 7:12 "So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but ***that your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you*** in the sight of God."

THINGS ARE OK WITH PAUL, BECAUSE THEY'RE OK WITH THE CHURCH... (7:13-16)

☀ Titus' spirit has been _____;

☀ What does peace in the congregation feel like?

☀ Psa. 133:1

☀ Eph. 4:3

☀ What does conflict in the congregation feel like?

☀ Paul's boast about the Corinthian church hadn't been put to _____. (What is this?)

☀ Is there any good that comes out of this sort of boasting?

☀ How could we apply this to...

☀ Our brethren

☀ Our children

☀ Our husbands and wives