

L17: 2 Corinthians 7:2-16: The Ways of God's Comfort

Sermon Review: Review/Summarize

- Perfecting Holiness
 - Suffering from separation
- Enlarge Heart
- Unequally Yoked

Sermon Preview:

- :2-3 - to live and die with you
- :4-7 - God's comfort from Titus in the same mind
 - :8-9 - that mind
 - :10-11 - outcome of that mind
- :12-16 - comfort and a glimpse of confidence

Sermon:

2 Corinthians 7:2-3 - To Live and Die with You

(2) Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.

(3) I speak not this to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you.

- "receive us" - Paul's plea, but more than just receive Paul, receive the word of God
 - "we have wronged no man"
 - "we have corrupted no man"
 - "we have defrauded no man"
- "I speak not this to condemn you:"
 - Not a condemnation, but
- "for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you"
 - He has such a love and care for them

2 Corinthians 7:4-7 - God's Comfort from Titus and the Corinthians Mind Toward Paul

(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.

(5) For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears.

(6) Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the

coming of Titus;

(7) 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.

- **"Great is my boldness of speech toward you"**
 - 2 Corinthians 10:10
 - :11 - "our mouth is open unto you"
 - The word of God was effectually working

- **"great is my glorying of you"**
 - Paul gloried to others about the Corinthians and the work going on in Corinth

- **"I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation."**
 - Theme of the epistle suffering and comfort
 - Why is he this?

- **"For when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest"**
 - **"but we were troubled on every side"**
 - **"without were fightings, within were fears."**
 - The detail of Paul's tribulation and how God comforted

- **"Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down"**
 - Statement of fact this is what God does
 - **"comforted us by the coming of Titus"**
 - The fellowship of the saints - the presence of others
 - **"and not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you"**
 - Comfort found in one another
 - Romans 1
 - **"when he told us your"**
 - **"earnest desire"**
 - **"your mourning"**
 - **"your fervent mind toward me"**
 - **"so that I rejoiced the more."**
 - Paul exceeding joyful in tribulation by Titus and the news he brought of the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 7:8-11 - The Fervent Mind and Fruit

(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.

(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.

(10) For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

(11) For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

- **"For though I made you sorry with a letter"**
 - 1st Corinthians
- **"I do not repent, though I did repent"** - Paul had thought it wasn't the best idea, but no longer does
- **"for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season."**
 - Sorry for how they thought about Paul and sorry in connection with what they have been doing.
 - Yet, they didn't wallow in their sorrow
- **"Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance:"**
 - Paul doesn't repent for his letter, but rejoices because they repented
 - **"repentance"** - is a change of mind based upon the renewing of your mind
- **"for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing."**
 - **"sorry"** - Grieved for the loss of some good; pained for some evil that has happened to one's self or friends or country
 - **"after a godly manner"** - there is an ungodly manner
 - **"damage"** - loss
 - No loss by us in nothing
- **"for godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:"**
 - **"godly sorrow"** - there is an ungodly sorrow
 - Works repentance to salvation

- It effectually works - it is effected by that which was wrong, changes the mind, and begins to work that which is right, saving from the error.
- **"but the sorrow of the world worketh death"**
 - Sorrow that doesn't effect change is simply sorrow and therefore works death, functional death
- **"for behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort"**
 - **"what carefulness"** - discerning, watchful, care what they think and do
 - **"clearing of yourselves"** - don't remain - no damage - Unobstructed; unobscured; free from guilt, blameless
 - **"indignation"** - the proper bowels toward ungodliness - Anger or extreme anger, mingled with contempt, disgust or abhorrence
 - **"fear"** - godly positive fear to move toward God and a move from that which is ungodly
 - **"vehement desire"** - Very ardent; very eager or urgent; very fervent
 - **"zeal"** - ardent pursuit
 - **"revenge"** - To inflict pain or injury in return for an injury received;
 - Romans 12
 - Following truth and living godly
- **"In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter."**
 - "in all things" - things Paul has mentioned, their attitude, their mind, and their action
 - "ye have approved yourselves" - agree with the truth, taking the appropriate actions
 - "to be clear in this matter." - no longer obstructed regarding what Paul has brought up

2 Corinthians 7:12-16 - Comfort and Confidence

(12) Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, I did it not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you.

(13) Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

(14) For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which I made before Titus, is found a

truth.

(15) And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him.

(16) I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.

- **"I wrote unto you...that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you."**
- :13 - review of what he has mentioned
- **"I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things."**
 - Paul has confidence in God's Word, but there also is to be confidence measured in others based upon their response whether it is negative or positive toward the truth and in their lives.

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize