

# L4: 2 Corinthians 2:1-11: Knowing Satan's Devices

## Sermon Review: Review/Summarize

- Father of mercies & God of all comfort
  - Suffering and consolation
- Conversation to the Corinthians
  - Helpers of your joy
- Reason Paul didn't come to them

## Sermon Preview:

- More of why Paul did not come to them
- Not overcharging, being a means of comfort without compromise of truth
- Personal and corporate forgiveness

## Sermon:

### Paul's Example of Dominion and Helper

#### Dominion

(2 Corinthians 2:1) **But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.**

- **"but I determined this with myself"**
  - Already established that Paul was planning on coming to them and was not fickle in what he had planned, but according to edification he had made a decision consistent with the will of God and his authority.
  - This determination is in view of being a "helper of your joy"
  - Not so much the process of determination, but what he determined
- **"that I would not come again to you in heaviness."**
  - There was a certain manner Paul wanted to come again unto them and it wasn't "in heaviness."
  - Therefore, based upon this determination and the current state he was in when he was to come he decided to not come.
  - **"heaviness"** - grief, sadness, sorrow
    - Weight
    - The heaviness comes from what he needs to say, not a compromise of

what needs to be corrected

- Patience - patience of hope produces comfort in dealings with others
  - Jas. 1:4
  - Col. 1

**(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?**

- **"for if I make you sorry"**
  - This heaviness would make them sorry - isn't sorrow what Paul is looking for?
    - Yes, but a certain sorrow and he is conducting himself to help in that
    - 2 Cor. 7:8-11
- **"who is he then that maketh me glad"**
  - Rom. 1
  - 2 Cor. 1:13-14
    - Paul considered their relationship when dealing with truth and obedience
- **"but the same which is made sorry by me?"**
  - How much joy can you receive from someone that you just made sorry for their offence?
  - Paul isn't compromising, nor is he being selfish
  - 2 Tim. 2:24-26

### Helper

**(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.**

- **"And I wrote this same unto you"**
  - Paul didn't compromise, but rather his writing did produce sorrow and this writing will produce sorrow
- **"lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice"**
  - The point is that it may be for a season and then the Corinthians will be glad and Paul will be glad
- **"having confidence in you all"**

- 1 Cor. 1:7 - "our hope of you is steadfast"
  - "partakers"
- **"that my joy is the joy of you all."**
  - Obedience from the correction, reprove, and instruction
  - Obedience in Christ to the honor and glory of Christ unto the reward of the inheritance
  - Obedience in Christ which yields His life
    - Walking after the Spirit by proving the will of God and experiencing His life

**(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.**

- **"For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears"**
  - Paul's heart and love toward them
  - 1 Cor. 1:12 - "conversation...more abundantly to you-ward."
  - 2 Cor. 12:14-15
  - **"much affliction and anguish of heart"**
    - Affliction - State of pain
    - Anguish - Pain of body or mind
  - Part of the sufferings of Christ are the disobedience to Christ of brothers and sisters toward you - that which doesn't produce comfort
    - So many faint, so many quite, so many end relationship
    - Broken, disjointed, Satan's advantage
      - Doctrinal differences that ought not cause divisions
      - Finding unity in differences, then endeavoring to keep unity in the essentials
    - Rom. 12:18
- **"not that ye should be grieved"**
  - Paul isn't bringing up his tears that Paul should have dominion or for them to be sorry, although he is hoping what he does works sorrow
- **"but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you."**
  - Paul brings up his heart and tears that they may know his love toward them.

**(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.**

- **"but if any have caused grief"**
  - Paul isn't looking to grieve, but others have caused him grief
- **"he hath not grieved me, but in part"**
  - Conversation toward them abundant, but their acknowledgment of Paul is in part
  - Paul doesn't want to grieve them, but they have grieved him in part
- **"that I may not overcharge you all."**
  - I don't want to grieve and the grief you caused me is for your benefit
  - Benefit of not overcharging
    - To be heavy upon, to be severe towards, to bring the rod
    - 2 Tim. 2:24-26
  - **"overcharge"** - to be imposed, dominion, where they do so grudgingly
    - To charge too much, to enter in an account more than is just

**(2 Corinthians 2:6) Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many.**

- **"sufficient to such a man is this punishment"**
  - Switches gears from his reason for not coming is for their benefit
  - Their causing of grief worked in Paul to their benefit
  - Yet, they are not conducting themselves not only to Paul, but to others
  - "this punishment"
    - Charging too much is what the Corinthians have done to a man (most likely the 1 Cor. 5 man)
- **"which was inflicted of many."**
  - Many had not just charged the man, but overcharged, therefore, there was a overcharge of punishment laid upon this man.
  - Their initial response was godly and appropriate, but now they need to conduct themselves differently.

**(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.**

- **"So that contrariwise"**
  - Instead to that which is contrary to the excess of punishment inflicted of many
- **"ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him"**
  - Instead they are to "forgive" and "comfort"
  - The body is to be the representation of God's forgiveness and comfort when proper punishment from the church takes place because of some leaven, leavening the lump.
  - Eph. 4:31-32, Col. 3:12-13
    - Matt. 6:1-5; Heb. 10:24-39
    - Forgiveness in relationship to reward not justification
- **"lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow"**
  - Nothing more he can do to meet the requirement of their forgiveness, thus overmuch sorrow
  - Experience a different death, not from judgment of his sin from the church, but a unconditional judgment that can never be met to bring him back in
    - A death of ungodly loneliness and isolation based upon the lack of forgiveness from the body.
  - :11 - "lest Satan should..."

**(2 Corinthians 2:8) Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.**

- Paul's conclusion - "confirm love toward him"
  - This is what Paul is doing toward them, this is what they need to do toward this man
  - When they begin to do this toward the man, they will understand what Paul is doing
  - 1 Cor. 1:8, 10, 5:3-5

**(2 Corinthians 2:9) For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.**

- **"For to this end also did I write"**

- Here is the end reason of his writing to them
- **"that I might know the proof of you"**
  - Why ought Paul want to prove them? They are saved isn't that what matters
  - This isn't the end, but rather the judgment seat of Christ and being perfect in Christ
  - Experience, trial, process or operation that ascertain truth or fact, quality of spirit is ascertained by proof
- **"whether ye be obedient in all things"**
  - They already obeyed from the heart the gospel
  - Paul is seeking proof of being obedient in all things

**(2 Corinthians 2:10) To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ;**

- What they forgive, Paul forgives
- Paul had forgiven already and he did so in the person of Christ to be their example
- Why the "person of Christ"?
  - Presence, face, before
  - "persons of men"; "respect of persons"
  - Quality and character of a person
  - To represent

**(2 Corinthians 2:11) Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

- **"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us"**
  - Not many of us "in Christ", those declared righteous in Christ gets an advantage by our ungodly behavior toward others that isn't with the grace of God, nor in simplicity and godly sincerity, thus leading to much sorrow and Satan's advantage.
  - **"advantage"** - any state, condition, circumstance favorable to success
    - 2 Cor. 10; 1 Tim. 5:14; 2 Tim. 2:24-26
- **"for we are not ignorant of his devices."**
  - How often is the case
  - Scheme, his design, his stratagem for his purpose
    - Use the disobedience of one to result in the disobedience of many

## **Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize**