

# Washed, Connected, & Blessed 2nd Corinthians 7:1-7

#### Recap:

- -Worldly
- -Unimpressed With Paul
- -Confused about ministry and purpose

2 Corinthians = A Call to be a
Counter-Cultural-Cruciform Community

-This downhill progression begins in friendship with the world (James 4:4); then love for the world (1 John 2:15-17); then conformity to the world (Rom. 12:1-2.

# Three Worldly Separation Arguments

6:11-13 - The argument from passion

6:14-16 - The argument from principle

6:17-7:3 - The argument from promise

# Running start for context:

### 2 Corinthians 6

[14] Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

[15] And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

[16] And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

[17] Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you."

[18] "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.

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

[2] Open your hearts to us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have cheated no one.

[3] I do not say this to condemn; for I have said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together.

[4] Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation.

[5] For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears.

[6] Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus,

[7] and not only by his coming, but also by the consolation with which he was comforted in you, when he told us of your earnest desire, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more.

#### 7:1 Promises...

A W Pink rightly remarked that... "It is a blessed fact that God's promises are as large as His exhortations, and for each of the latter there is one of the former exactly meeting it."

7:1 Cleansing...
PASSIVE 1 John 1:9
AND ACTIVE Gal. 3:3; 5:7; Php. 1:6

Naaman in 2 Kings 5 See Psalm 119, John 15, Eph. 5

#### 7:1 Holiness...

Holiness = Dedication/ Consecration Rev. 19:7-8, Lev 11-20, 1 Peter 1:13-17

Naaman in 2 Kings 5 See Psalm 119, John 15, Eph. 5 6:17-7:3 - Be separate, Be Holy, Be His

From Isaiah 52:11, Ezekiel 20:34, 41

Jesus prayed the same for His own (Matt. 16:6, 11; John 17:14–17)

# 7:2 Open your hearts... Started in 2 Cor. 6:11-13

An invitation to transparency, honesty, accountability, and true fellowship

7:3 Live together - die for each other Jesus - John 10:11, 15:3
Paul - Phil. 1:7, 20, 24

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

-John 15:3 NKJV

# 7:4 Joy in Trials See James 1

"No circumstances of personal affliction can dim the gladness of seeing souls grow in the grace of the Lord Jesus." (Morgan)

#### 7:5-6

Comfort and Confidence in Conflicts Our call to holiness is not a shield against earthly struggles; it is a standard that we carry into the battlefield.

## 7:7 Look out for Titus(s)!

Started in 2 Corinthians 2:13... bearing each other's burdens (Gal. 6:2), encouraging one another (Heb. 10:25), ministering to one another (1 Peter 4:10-11

Be a Titus(s)

## Take-aways

- 1. Look. Examine our hearts/lives and identify areas that need cleansing.
- 2. Love. Is love/reverence for God your driving/force?
- 3. Read. Regular immersion in God's Word has the power to renew our minds, purify our hearts, and guide us into paths of righteousness.

- 4. Pray. Prayer invites the Holy Spirit to convict, reveal, and guide us in our pursuit of holiness. It is through the Spirit's help that we can deal with the sins that hold us back.
- 5. Show up. Be Surrounded by a community of believers who encourage and support our pursuit of holiness.

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