

4/17/13

### 2Corinthians 13

Paul has poured out his heart to the Corinthians and torn it wide open, in order that there would be no doubt about his love and care for them.

Paul would not allow anyone to rob him of the joy of having introduced Christ to them, nor allow his children to be deceived without a fight.

Paul has dealt with the defense of his ministry, the collection for the saints and his apostleship, so now he comes to the closing of the letter to prepare them for his third visit.

#### **13:1-6      The coming of Paul in apostolic authority.**

**13:1**      The apostle Paul reminded them of his third coming.

- 1) Paul had made two other visits; at the founding of the church and one between the two letters we have. 2Cor. 2:1; 12:14; 20-21
- 2) Paul would not come as some despot or tyrant, but in accord to the Law, establishing everything by two or three witnesses. Duet. 19:15; Matt. 18:15-20;

Jn. 8:17; 1Cor. 5:3-5; 1Tim. 5:19; Heb. 10:28

**13:2**      The apostle Paul had told them in his second visit that he would not spare in his third coming.

- 1) He was telling them now as if he were there at the second time, yet absent. 2Cor. 1:23
- 2) He is directing himself to those who have sinned and the rest, who were in sin or siding with the false teachers and apostles, assuring them that they would be dealt with. 2Cor. 12:20-21
  - a) Paul could not compromise with sin, even turning unrepentant saints to Satan. 1Cor. 5:5
  - b) The Lord chastens those He loves. Heb. 12:5-6
  - c) The extreme case is to rebuke some before all. 1Tim. 5:20

**13:3**      The apostle Paul would deal with them in such a way as evidence of Christ speaking through him just as Christ in them, not weakness regarding sin.

- 1) He and Christ were one.
- 2) He had asked them how they wanted him to come, with a rod or love and the spirit of gentleness. 1Cor. 4:21

**13:4** The parallel of Christ and Paul.

- 1) Christ was crucified in what appeared as weakness, only to manifest the power of God through His resurrected life.
- 2) Paul and his partners were also weak in the flesh, but lived with him by the power of God towards the Corinthians. 2Cor. 2:3-5, 14; 3:5-6; 4:7  
\* The crucified life, motivated by love!  
Gal. 2:20; 5:22

**13:5** The apostle Paul called them to examine their Christianity.

- 1) Paul pointed out believers have the ability to examine their spiritual life in Christ. vs. 5a-b
  - a) The Corinthians had allowed the supper apostles to judge Paul, as well as the Corinthians.
  - b) Now Paul say, you examine or judge yourselves, being emphatic.
  - c) They were to examine “peirozo”, to find out if there is good or evil, as metal is tested.
  - d) They were to test “dokimazo”, scrutinize themselves to verify if they were in the faith, due to unrepentant of sin. 1Cor. 11:28, 31; Ps. 139:23-24 Search me.
- 2) Paul told them they were to be aware that Christ was in them. vs. 5c-e

- a) A life-style of sin is not compatible. 1Cor. 6:15-20
- b) Less they be disqualified “adokimoi”, fail the test, worthless and rejected, as Paul indicated about himself. 1Cor. 9:27

**13:6** The apostle Paul contrast himself and his co-laborers.

- 1) Paul and they had passed the test.
- 2) Paul and they were not disqualified or unapproved, worthless, rejected
  - a) Used of men’s minds. Rom. 1:28
  - b) Used of being disqualified. 1Cor. 9:27
  - c) Used of Jannes and Jambres. 2Tim. 3:8
  - d) Used of being disqualified for every good work. Tit. 1:16
  - e) Used of reprobate silver, representing men who the Lord has rejected. Jer. 6:30

**13: 7-10** The coming of Paul for their edification.**14:7** The apostle Paul’s prayer for the Corinthians.

- 1) That they do no evil “kakos”, meaning thing bad in nature, worthless, or senseless, pernicious things.

- a) For they were members of the body of Christ. 1Cor. 6:15
  - b) For they were new creatures. 2Cor. 5:17
- 2) The reason for his prayer was not to approve or validate their ministry, but simply that the Corinthians do what was honorable.
- \* Honorable “kalos”, meaning excellent, suitable, commendable.
- 3) This was despite their appearance of seeming disqualified by the false teachers and few at Corinth.

**13:8** The apostle Paul and his friends were committed to the truth.

- 1) They could do nothing against the truth.
  - a) The word of God and doctrine.
  - b) The will of God.
- 2) They could do only all for the truth.
  - a) Having been born of the truth.
  - b) Having the conviction of the truth.

**13:9** The apostle Paul as a loving Father and shepherd expressed his joy over the advancement of his children, even at his own disadvantage.

- 1) He tells them that he was glad they were weak and the Corinthians strong.
  - a) The weakness is in the incapacity’s of the flesh, not the Holy Spirit in them.

- b) The gladness is that God is exalted not them. 2Cor. 11:21; 13:4
- 2) Paul and his co-laborers prayed again that they might be made complete.
- a) The Christian is on a constant journey through life, from birth to perfection which consists of the process of growth, development and maturity.
    - 1)) The word complete “katartisin”, means to strengthen for soundness.
    - 2)) The root word “katartizo”, is used for the mending of nets. Mk. 1:9
  - b) The Corinthians had to be brought back to restoration, or jointing in again; a metaphor taken from the setting of bones that are dislocated and out of joint; for the church at Corinth was like a disjointed body, and the apostle’s wish was, that their animosities might cease, their divisions be healed, their disorders rectified, and each member be in its proper place, behaving as became the Gospel of Christ. 1Cor. 1:10-13
  - c) The purpose of the church is to perfect or equip the saints. Eph. 4:11-16
  - d) “As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.” 1Pet. 2:2
  - e) “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.” 2Pet. 3:18

**13:10** The apostle Paul’s concluding reminder to the Corinthians of his intent for his stern spirit towards the.

- 1) Paul wrote sternly being absent, lest he have to exercise sharpness in presence. vs. 10a-b  
\* The word sharpness “apotomos”, means severely, corrective discipline.
- 2) Paul would be acting on the authority vested to him by Christ for the purpose of edification not destruction. 2Cor. 10:8

### **13:11-14 The closing greeting of Paul and benediction.**

**13:11** The apostle Paul greets and exhorted them.

- 1) Paul is closing his letter, the word finally “loipon”, means for the rest or remaining. Eph. 6:10; Phil. 3:1; 4:1
- 2) Paul closes his letter as he began it calling them brethren “adelphos”, of the same womb, of the same family.
- 3) Paul bided them good-bye, the word farewell “chairo”, means to be glad or rejoice, the customary greeting for closing.  
\* This is an imperative!

- 4) Paul closes with four exhortations.
  - a) Become complete “katartizesthe”, to mend and restore the former position, an imperative present, continuously. vs. 9c  
\* Pressing towards the mark. Phil. 3
  - b) Be of good comfort “parakaleo”, in the sense of coming along side exhorting and comforting by God and their obedience.  
\* Imperative present, continuously!
  - c) Be of one mind, the mind of Christ. Phil. 2:5, 8-9
  - d) Live in peace “eireneuo”, in harmony, reconciled, imperative present, continuously!  
\* In as much as is possible. Heb. 12:14
- 6) The promise the God of love and peace will be with you.
  - a) God of love is found nowhere else in the Old and New Testament, only here.
  - b) God of peace is found more often. Rom. 15:33; 16:20; 1Cor.14:33; Phil. 4:9; 1Thess. 5:23; 2Thess. 3:16; Heb. 3:20
  - c) The love of God provides for us the peace of God and the peace of God, reminds us of the love of God!

**13:12** The apostle Paul encouraged the Christians to be affectionate.

- 1) To greet one another with a holy kiss.
  - a) The word greet “aspasothē”, means to welcome, an imperative aorist middle voice, each was to do it as they met each other. Rom. 16:16; 1Cor. 16:16; 20; 1Thess. 5:26
  - b) Customary it was men to men and women to women.
  - c) Later it became abused and discontinued.
- 2) This is still customary in many European and south American countries, without any corrupt meaning. but simply a common greeting.

**13:13** The apostle sent the greeting of other believers.

- 1) The saints are most likely the Macedonians from where he is writing the letter.
- 2) All the saint could refer to all who are born again!
  - a) The saints are those who are set apart by the blood of Jesus Christ in faith.
  - b) The saints are those that are living, not dead saint to intercede for anyone in prayer, as taught by the Catholic Church.

**13:14** The benediction of the Trinity.

- 1) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
  - a) The benediction is usually found in Paul’s letters. Rom. 16:24; 1Cor. 16:23; Gal. 6:18; Phil. 4:23; 1Thess. 5:28; 2Thess. 3:18; Philem 25
  - b) Grace came to sinner by way of Jesus Christ and we are saved by grace through faith. Jn. 1:17; Eph. 2:8-9
  - b) All are to grow in grace throughout life journey. 2Pet. 3:18
  - c) All will be able to handle the most difficult things of life through grace, God’s grace is sufficient. 2Cor. 12:9
  - d) The Second person of the Trinity,
  - e) Lord “kurios” Master, Jesus “Iesou” the God-Man, Christ “Cristos” Messiah.
- 2) The love of God.
  - a) It is the love of God the Father, First person of the Trinity, that motivated Him to send His Son to die for us to be able to offer salvation. Jn. 3:16
  - b) It is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Gal. 5:22
  - c) It is to be the distinguishing mark of the believer. Jn. 3:35
  - d) It is the only motive honored by God for reward. 1Cor. 4:5
- 3) The communion of the Holy Spirit.

- a) The Third person of the Trinity, the One sent by the Father and the Son to give witness about Jesus, never Himself. Jn. 14-16
- b) Making them the temple of God. 1Cor. 6:19
- b) Making them able to understand the things of God. 1Cor. 2:9-16
- c) Making them partakers of the gifts of the Holy Spirit of God. 1Cor. 12-14