

“Dedication on Display”

2nd Corinthians 6:1-10



I. It Proceeds From Identity (1-3)

- A. Resting in grace (1) - “Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.”
- B. Remembering gratitude (2) - “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”
- C. Recognizing the big picture (3) - “We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry...”

II. It Requires Endurance In Adversity (4-5)

- A. Paul was a proven servant of God (4a) - “...but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way...”
- B. Paul was a powerful soldier of God (4b) - “...by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities...”
- C. Paul was a persistent sufferer for God (5a) - “...beatings, imprisonments, riots...”
- D. Paul was prepared to sacrifice for God (5b) - “...labors, sleepless nights, hunger.”

III. It Is Empowered By Spiritual Endowments (6-7)

- A. Invisible, personal endowments (6) - “By purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love;”
- B. Public, ministry endowments (7) - “By truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;”

IV. It Is Proven In Challenging Relationships (8-10)

- A. The price of being misunderstood (8a) - "Through honor and dishonor..."
- B. The pain of being maligned (8b) - "...through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;"
- C. The paradox of being a messenger (9a) - "As unknown, and yet well known..."
- D. The prospect of being a martyr (9b) - "...as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed."
- E. The privilege of being a minister (10a) - "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich..."
- F. The preciousness of being made new (10b) - "...as having nothing, yet possessing everything."