

# Restored

## **Intro:**

1 cor 5

There are few things more distressing more debilitating in ministry than watching sin destroy and divide. There is nothing more discouraging than watching relationships shatter. The hardest thing for any church to do is to cause pain but there is a Divine purpose in discipline and sometimes we get to see it...

## **Problem:**

2 cor 5:11-6:2; 7:1

Ambassadors of reconciliation are not only making the appeal to be reconciled to God but also to be reconciled to each other.

Paul has been calling the Corinthians to widen their hearts towards him - to come out from their worldly ideas - to repent and be restored to fellowship and a salvation without regret

But what happens when they do? In other words, what does repentance and restoration look like?

## **Main Idea:**

Restoration looks like fellowship without restraint

Restoration looks like salvation without regret

## **Implication:**

Restoration doesn't happen in a vacuum

Faithful are the wounds of a friend

Faithful are the wounds of a Father

## **Application:**

Love is hard work - not only in the wounding but also in the rejoicing - Paul was confident in the supernatural sanctifying work of grace that leads to restoration - are you?

## **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.intouch.org/read/blog/3-lessons-from-the-elder-brother>

<https://www.spirituallylivingforbusypeople.com/unforgiveness>

<https://thecripplegate.com/the-goal-of-church-discipline-repentance-unto-restoration/>

<https://www.9marks.org/article/stories-of-restoration-after-church-discipline/>

## Restored

Text:

### **Restoration looks like fellowship without restraint**

2Corinthians 7:2 ¶ Make room in your hearts for us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one.

2Corinthians 7:3 I do not say this to condemn you, for I said before that **you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together.**

2Corinthians 7:4 **I am acting with great boldness toward you; I have great pride in you; I am filled with comfort. In all our affliction, I am overflowing with joy.**

2Corinthians 7:5 ¶ For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within.

2Corinthians 7:6 But God, who **comforts** the downcast, **comforted** us by **the coming of Titus,**

2Corinthians 7:7 and not only by his coming but also by the **comfort** with which he was **comforted** by you, **as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more.**

2Corinthians 7:8 For even if I made you **grieve** with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter **grieved** you, though only for a while.

2Corinthians 7:9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were **grieved**, but because you were **grieved into repenting.** For you felt a **godly grief**, so that you suffered no loss through us.

*2 cor 1:3-7 (the personal nature of this letter comes together here - How particularly did God comfort Paul...he tells us...)*

*2 cor 2:1-13 (...the coming of Titus - Paul went from the greatest anguish to the greatest confidence...why? Restoration)*

*2 cor 13:11 (ambassadors reconciliation 5:16-21 also ambassadors of restoration)*

*Prov 27:6 (restoration doesn't come in a vacuum -Paul made them grieve on purpose - faithful are the wounds of a friend )*

*zech 13:1-6 (his love was shown in his willingness to wound them into repentance)*

*gal 6:1-5 (wounds are hard both for the one being wounded but also for the one wounding)*

*matt 7:1-5 (restoration requires one scale of judgment - Paul did not condemn them even as he wounded them)*

*lk 5:27-32 (restoration requires one scale of righteousness - Paul did not sit over and aloof - reminding them they die together and live together as equals... )*

*acts 9:1-17 (restoration looks like fellowship without restraint-- he did not wait to match their longing mourning and zeal but rejoiced immediately in supernatural fellowship of love that bears all things and believes all things)*

### **Restoration looks like salvation without regret**

2Corinthians 7:10 ¶ For **godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.**

2Corinthians 7:11 **For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you,** but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.

2Corinthians 7:12 So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God.

2Corinthians 7:13 **Therefore we are comforted.** ¶ And besides our own **comfort**, we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.

2Corinthians 7:14 For whatever boasts I made to him about you, I was not put to shame. But just as everything we said to you was true, so also our boasting before Titus has proved true.

2Corinthians 7:15 And his affection for you is even greater, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

2Corinthians 7:16 **I rejoice, because I have complete confidence in you.**

*heb 12:3-11 (restoration doesn't come in a vacuum - faithful are the wounds of a friend - faithful are the wounds of a father)*

*lk 22:31-34, 39-46 (see what necessity what anguish brought this godly grief...but not all grief is godly...how to know?)*

*matt 26:75-27:5 (Judas did not run to God - he was grieved but in independent self sufficiency ran to his own death)*

*jn 21:1-8, 15-19 (Peter ran to the Lord - see what earnestness what eagerness to clear yourselves what fear what longing)*

*1 Tim 1:12-17 (restoration looks like salvation without regret - Paul was not confident their efforts at renewal he was confident in their identity as new creations - Love is hard work - not only in the wounding but also in the rejoicing - Paul was confident in the supernatural sanctifying work of grace that leads to repentance and rejoicing in restoration - are you?)*