

2 Corinthians 7:2-16

1. From 7:2-7 how did the Corinthians react to Paul's earlier letter (1 Corinthians!)?

responded. Titus reported to Paul their deep sorrow, ardent (heartfelt) concern and longing for Paul. Paul reminded them in 1-4 that his conduct among them was godly. He seems to be making an oblique reference to charges that the false teachers that were among them seem to have been making against him: he and his coworkers had not corrupted or exploited anyone.

2. Look up and define the word "repentance." Try a bible dictionary. An easily accessible on line one is Blue Letter Bible. We also have a couple available in the church library. It means "a change of mind." A conscious change of thinking that affects one's life. See Act 26:19-20. How is repentance seen? Is it always? 1 Tim 5:17-25, Lk 19:1-10

a. Why did Paul's previous letter help and not hurt the church? (vs 8-13) They were sorry for the right reasons and repented. It produced in them earnestness, eagerness to clear themselves, indignation, alarm and a longing/concern and readiness to see justice done. This may likely refer to the situation mentioned in 1 Cor 5, 2 Cor 2:5-1

b. How does godly sorrow differ from mere sorrow? Given it your best shot. One is sorry to be enduring consequences. The other is sorry to have done those things that produced the consequences. How many times are we sorry we got caught rather than sorry we did something? Think of Israel in the wilderness.

c. How was that sorrow seen in the Corinthian's subsequent behavior? They took care of business. Their sorrow resulted in action. Are we lamenting a situation we are enduring or do we element and will we turn from any wrong action and attitude that caused the situation? How was it seen in Thessalonica (1 Thess 1:8b-10)?

3. Paul had sent Titus to Corinth to "trouble shoot" things. He probably had a little anxiety about what Titus might find there and how he might be received. How did it turn out? Titus was treated well by the Corinthians, was refreshed and Paul's boasting about them to him was proved true. He found them obedient and respectful.

For next week:

Please read 2 Cor 8-9 and answer the following questions

- 1. What was the collection Paul spoke of going to be used towards? See also Act 11:27-30, 24:17, Gal 2:10. Do you see a pattern?**

- 2. What principles regarding giving can you find in Chpts 8-9, Matt 6:1-4, and 1 Jn 3:16-20**
 - a. What sort of giving is being described in these texts?**

 - b. How is this different than the tithe (Dt 14) or offerings for the Lord's work?**

- 3. What is said specifically in these verses:**
 - 2 Cor 8:5
 - 2 Cor 8:12
 - 2 Cor 8:13-15
 - 2 Cor 8:16-21
 - 2 Cor 9:6-9
 - 2 Cor 9:10-12

- 3. What does God promise to do for those who honor Him with their resources (9:8, 11)?**
 - a. What is meant?**

 - b. Are any promises made to reward the believer *materially*? Explain.**