

2 Corinthians 07 - The Inner Court Ritual

I. Paul's explanation of his ministry (2 Cor 1:1—7:16)

- (4) Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to restore their confidence in him (6:11—7:16)
 - (A) Appeal (6:11—7:4)
 - (b) The admonition to separate from the Judaizers (6:14—7:1)
 - (c) Appeal restated (7:2-4)
 - (B) Encouraging response from the Corinthians (7:5-16)
 - (a) Paul's encouragement (7:5-13a)
 - (b) Titus' encouragement (7:13b-16)

2 Corinthians 7

(b) The admonition to separate from the Judaizers (6:14—7:1)

1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let's cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

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

1 Since we have these promises, dear friends, let's cleanse ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit by becoming mature in our holy fear of God.

1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

(c) Appeal restated (7:2-4)

2 Make room for us *in your hearts*; we have wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one.

2 Make room for us *in your hearts*; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.

2 Make room for us in your hearts! We have not treated anyone unjustly, harmed anyone, or cheated anyone.

2 Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.

3 I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together.

3 I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.

3 I am not saying this to condemn you. I told you before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.

3 I speak not this to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you.

4 My confidence in you is great; my boasting in your behalf is great. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.

4 Great is my confidence in you; great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.

4 I have great confidence in you. I am very proud of you. I am very much encouraged. I am overjoyed in all our troubles.

4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

(B) Encouraging response from the Corinthians (7:5-16)

(a) Paul's encouragement (7:5-13a)

5 For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts on the outside, fears inside.

5 For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.

5 For even when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest. We suffered in a number of ways. Outwardly there were conflicts, inwardly there were fears.

5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears.

6 But God, who comforts the discouraged, comforted us by the arrival of Titus;

6 But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

6 Yet God, who comforts those who feel miserable, comforted us by the arrival of Titus,

6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

7 and not only by his arrival, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted among you, as he reported to us your longing, **your mourning**, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

7 and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

7 and not only by his arrival but also by the comfort he had received from you. He told us about your longing for me, your sorrow, and your eagerness to take my side, and this made me even happier.

7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

— "...your mourning" - they mourned over having not disciplined the disobedient brother (Cf. 1 Cor 5:2), as well as having caused Paul grief

— A man in the church at Corinth was living in sexual immorality (incest) and the church did nothing about it (Cf. 1 Cor 5:1-13)

— In 1 Cor, Paul rebuked the congregation for its negligence in not dealing with the situation. His rebuke made them sorry and caused them grief and pain (v8)

8 For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—

8 For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—

8 If I made you sad with my letter, I do not regret it, although I did regret it then. I see that the letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while.

8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season.

- Paul first says that he did not regret having written that letter and then says that he did

— He did not regret what he said because it made them repent (v9)

— On the other hand, he regretted writing it when he perceived that it made them sorry.

Love regrets causing pain even when the pain is necessary as when a parent has to punish a child.

9 I now **rejoice**, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made **sorrowful to the point of repentance**; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of God*, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of repentance*; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of God*, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

9 Now I am happy, not because you had such sorrow, but because your sorrow led you to repent. For you were sorry in a godly way, and so you were not hurt by us in any way.

9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

- "...rejoice" - Paul now says he is not sorry that he made them sorrowful because their sorrow led them to repent
- "...sorrowful to *the point of* repentance" - makes a clear distinction between "sorrow" and "repentance"
 - Their sorrow was that they had disappointed Paul, which led them to repent (that is, change their minds about dealing with the issue at hand)

10 For the sorrow that is according to *the will* of God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to **salvation**, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

10 For the sorrow that is according to *the will* of God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

10 For having sorrow in a godly way results in repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regrets. But the sorrow of the world produces death.

10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

- Paul here delineates two types of sorrow: godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world leads to death

— Godly sorrow takes God's will into account and produces a change of mind that leads to "salvation"

- "...salvation" - *sōtēria*, deliverance; a flexible term that can refer to deliverance from sickness, difficulties, physical death, or condemnation (Cf. Luke 3:48; Acts 27:31; 2 Cor 1:6; Eph 2:8-9; Phil 1:19)

— In this case, it refers to deliverance from God's discipline

11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of *yourselves*, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

11 See what great earnestness godly sorrow has produced in you! How ready you are to clear yourselves, how indignant, how alarmed, how full of longing and enthusiasm, how eager to seek justice! In every way you have demonstrated that you are innocent in this matter.

11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea,

what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

12 So although I wrote to you, *it was not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness in our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God.*

12 So although I wrote to you, *it was not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God.*

12 So, even though I wrote to you, it wasn't because of the man who did the wrong or because of the man who was hurt. Instead, I wrote to you so that your devotion to us might be made perfectly clear to you before God.

12 Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, I did it not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you.

(b) Titus' encouragement (7:13b-16)

13 Because of this, we have been comforted. And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.

13 For this reason we have been comforted. And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.

13 This is what comforted us. In addition to our own comfort, we were even more delighted at the joy of Titus, because his spirit had been set at rest by all of you.

13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

14 For if I have boasted to him about you regarding anything, I was not put to shame. But as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved to be *the truth.*

14 For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I was not put to shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved to be *the truth.*

14 For if I have been doing some boasting about you to him, I have never been ashamed of it. Moreover, since everything we told you was true, our boasting to Titus has also proved to be true.

14 For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which I made before Titus, is found a truth.

15 His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

15 His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

15 His affection for you is even greater as he remembers how obedient all of you were and how you welcomed him with fear and trembling.

15 And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him.

16 I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

16 I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

16 I rejoice that I can have complete confidence in you.

16 I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.