

# PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

## 2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 6:3-10

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU

*developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.*

## Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Ministry, Calling, Christ-like, Regeneration**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:3-10**

**Remembering That We Are Looking at The Evidence That Proves That the Apostle Paul Was In Fact - - a Christian !**

### **I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !**

**Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary** gives the meaning of "Encouragement" as being the act of imparting courage, or confidence. To incite to action or to put into practice. To encourage another towards virtue and heroism, bravery, fearlessness, *gallantry – courage that comes in the heat of battle.*

**As Christians and As a Christian Church;**

The question arises then – do we need encouragement?

***The answer is - - It Depends.***

It depends on whether or not we as Christians or We as a Christian Church Are engaged in a true, biblical battle. If so then **LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

### **1Th. 5:1-11**

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the

breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God did not appoint us to **wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. :11 Therefore **comfort** each other and **edify** one another, just as you also are doing.

### 2 Cor. 6:3-10

We give no **offense** in anything, that our ministry may not be **blamed**.

4 But in all things we **commend ourselves** as ministers of God

**in** much **patience**, **in tribulations**, **in needs**, **in distresses**, 5 **in stripes**, **in imprisonments**, **in tumults**, **in labors**, **in sleeplessness**, **in fastings**; 6 **by purity**, **by knowledge**, **by longsuffering**, **by kindness**, **by the Holy Spirit**, **by sincere love**, 7 **by the word of truth**, **by the power of God**, **by the armor of righteousness** on the **right hand** and on **the left**, 8 **by honor** and **dishonor**, **by evil report** and **good report**; **as deceivers**, and **yet true**; 9 **as unknown**, and **yet well known**; **as dying**, and behold we **live**; **as chastened**, and **yet not killed**; 10 **as sorrowful**, **yet always rejoicing**; **as poor**, **yet making many rich**; **as having nothing**, and **yet possessing all things**.

## LAST TIME WE LEARNED THAT...

### LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU

1.) **Christianity is not of this world** v. 3-4a

PAUL IS **ENCOURAGED** THAT HIS MINISTRY HAS BEEN AND IS ORDAINED OF GOD BY THE EVIDENCE OR SEAL OF GODS APPROVAL — EFFECTIVENESS.

### LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU

1a.) **By Its transcendent morality** v. 3

**We** give no **offense** in anything,

### CHRISTIANITY IS NOT OF THIS WORLD

1b.) **By Its observable effect** v. 3

that our ministry may not be **blamed**.

### CHRISTIANITY IS NOT OF THIS WORLD

1c.) **By Its followers influence** v. 4a

Verse 4

and **We** commend ourselves as *ministers of God*

## LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU

### 2.) Christianity is not an easy road

v. 4b-8

PAUL IS ENCOURAGED BY HOW THE MESSAGE AND MINISTRY OF THE GOSPEL IS HIS STRENGTH AND POWER – CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT HE IS SERVING A MISSION GREATER THAN HIMSELF.

## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT AN EASY ROAD

### 2a.) We will feel what others do not

v. 4-6

### *Paul's Honest List of Profound Realities*

## I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !

### AND HERE IS WHERE WE LEFT OFF...

### Paul's Third Area of Encouragement is Here in Closing

Verse 7b

by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left

Historians Tell Us That the Ancients Considered the Right Hand to be all That You Did in Public -for all to See. And the Left Hand Symbolized all that you did in Private.

#### 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

For though we walk in the flesh, (do life) we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (spiritual) but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds

Verse 8

by honor and dishonor;

popular in the positive (friends) and popular in the negative (foes)

All of This to Remind Us That;

“Paul saw himself engaged in a spiritual, yet mortal combat both in public and in private; and he did not employ ordinary pressure tactics or legislative corrections, though these have their place.

He used prayer and faith and love and righteousness as his confidence for effective ministry.

Paul’s dedicated purity was used to the fulfillment of his calling – **To Preach the Gospel**. His

Faith and Behavior combined, made him an awful weapon in the hand of God by which he attacked the issues of sin and death. He did this in honor and dishonor, that is, whether he was popular or unpopular. Loved or hated. Truly, Paul was

a heavenly Statesman and a Keen Ambassador of Christ’s kingdom.”

- G. Campbell-Morgan

**by evil report** and **good** simultaneous reports that contradict each other.

**as deceivers** imposters, frauds & fakes

and **yet true** proven to be real. Having a real life.

## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT AN EASY ROAD

**2b.) We will endure what others will not v. 4-8**

**Verse 4-8**

**in much patience,** to endure patiently

### The False Teachers of Paul’s Day

would not endure difficulties and hardship and examination –  
they had a false foundation and they knew it.

### Satan’s Greatest Attack Against the Church is **3-fold**.

- 1 - infiltration among** the rank and file believers.
- 2 - discredit the doctrines** within the church.
- 3 - to seize the leadership** roles of the church.

**for the Christian, life’s tribulations have  
a perfect and eternal purpose, in this present time.**

( but what does that mean ? )

Developing Greater Faith to be Employed for the Salvation of Others.

**1 Pet. 1:6-7**

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

**the reason why we will endure what others will not  
who do not know Jesus Christ is because of the undeniable change that has been  
accomplished in us by God.**

**We will endure total rejection because;  
We know the truth. // we have experienced His company.  
We've been persuaded. // we have been spoken for.**

**John 6:66-68**

From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" :68 But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

**"Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life."**

**Can you say that you've come to this moment of truth? - -  
it is all important that you do so.**

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU  
Our Suffering Matters – It Means Everything Because. . .  
Like Having Confidence in God and not Ourselves !!!**

**Rom. 8:37-39**

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**In all of these hardships and attacks and misunderstandings,  
There is a Powerful, All Necessary Purpose to These Difficulties.**

**They Expose the Truth and the Reality about Us.**

**I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !**

**Acts 14:21-22**

And when they (Paul and his Team) had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, **22 strengthening** the souls of the disciples, **exhorting** them to continue in the faith, and saying, **“We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”**

**tribulations** θλίψις **thlipsis**, *thlip'-sis*; from 2346; pressure (literally or figuratively): — afflicted(-tion), anguish, burdened, persecution, tribulation, trouble.

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

**Our Suffering Matters – It Means Everything Because...**

**Like Having Confidence in God and not Ourselves !!!**

**James 1:2-4**

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

**Our Suffering Matters – It Means Everything Because...**

**Like Having Confidence in God and not Ourselves !!!**

**Job 23:10**

But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me,  
I shall come forth as gold.

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

**Our Suffering Matters – It Means Everything Because...**

**Like Having Confidence in God and not Ourselves !!!**

**2 Tim. 4:6-8**

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. **7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. **8** Finally, there is laid up for me **the crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to **all who have loved His appearing**.

You will always be able to tell who the Christian is  
By their commitment to maintain **“the waiting”** for Jesus’ return.

**#1 They will be mindful of their mortality in the face of immortality.**

**2 Tim. 4:6** For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. **#2 They will be recognized by their engagement in the battles of this life.** **:7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. **#3 They lived and displayed a life that honored God.** **:8** Finally, there is laid up for me **the crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day. **#4 They have had Heaven as their destination all along.** and not to me only but also to **all who have loved His appearing**

**It's **The End** That I'm Looking Forward to –  
and I trust you are too**

**The Incorruptible Crown:**

*(in the face of having contended with an **immoral world**)*  
**1 Cor. 9:25**

**The Crown of Rejoicing:**

*(in the face of having contended with a **bitter world**)*  
**1 Thess. 2:19**

**The Crown of Life:**

*(in the face of having contended with a **dying world**)*  
**James 1:12**

**The Crown of Glory:**

*(in the face of having contended with a **darkening world**)*  
**1 Pet. 5:1-4**

**The Crown of Righteousness:**

*(in the face of having contended with an **unrighteous world**)*  
**2 Tim. 4:8**

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

**Our Suffering Matters – It Means Everything Because...**

**Like Having Confidence in God and not Ourselves !!!**

**Rom. 8:18**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

**but if you are not a Christian, life's tribulations have  
one eternal purpose, in the present.**

( but what does that mean ? )

Putting Your Faith Now Upon Jesus Christ for Forgiveness.

**2b.) We will **endure** what others **will not** v. 4-8**

**Because False Prophets, False Teachers, Wolves  
All dressed in Wool will not hang around when things get tough like this.**

I can tell you this because I know it's true;

“difficulty in church matters always – always  
has a good result for **those obedient to Christ**”

in the church – a crisis will always expose authenticity.  
for the good or for the bad.

## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT AN EASY ROAD

2c.) We will **do** what others **cannot** v. 6-8

Verse 6-8

Simply this – We are the People of God !!!

**The World Cannot **Love** Like We Can.**

( regardless of race, religion, or status in life )

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35** By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**The World Cannot **Speak** Like We Can.**

( blessings and truth and reality )

**I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !**

**The World Cannot **Live** Like We Can.**

( content with what God has handed to us )

**The World Cannot **Rest** Like We Can.**

( we stand ready to be deployed to the next divine appt. )

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

3.) **Christianity is not for the faint of heart** v. 9-10

FINALLY - PAUL IS **ENCOURAGED** BY HOW THE WORLD HAS RESPONDED TO HIS MINISTRY,  
AS YET ANOTHER PROOF OF GOD'S SURE CALLING.



## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART

3a.) This world is no longer our **goal** v. 9

Verse 9

**as** unknown, and **yet** well known;

### The Unbelieving World Sees Us as Fools

Why? - Because True Biblical Christianity Has  
Re-Created You In...

Your **thinking**. Your **emotions**. Your **decisions**. Your **future**. Your **life**

## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART

3b.) This world is no longer our **life** v. 9b-10a

Verse 9-10

**as** dying, and behold we **live**; **as** chastened, and **yet** not killed;  
10 **as** sorrowful, **yet** always rejoicing;

### Heb. 11:32-38

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: 33 who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented - - 38 *of whom the world was not worthy of.*

## I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !

### Rom. 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

## CHRISTIANITY IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART

3c.) This world is no longer our reason v. 10b

Verse 10

as poor, yet making many rich;  
as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

**2 Corinthians 8:9**

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

**Luke 10:17,20**

17 Then the seventy (disciples) returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name, 20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

**LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU**

1.) Christianity is not of this world v. 3-4a

2.) Christianity is not an easy road v. 4b-8

3.) Christianity is not for the faint of heart v. 9-10

**I PRAY - GUILTY AS CHARGED !**

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ, The Call** <<<<<

*Come Forward for Prayer*

*End of Study*

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