

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 7:2-8

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT LOVE IS THIS

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Repentance, Attitude, Humility, Contrition

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 7:2-8

1st Corinthians Was A Strong Letter

That He Had Written. He Had Become Concerned That Maybe Some
Had Been Hurt Or Discouraged By It.

1 Corinthians 3:1-15

And I, brethren, could not speak to you **as to spiritual people** but **as to carnal, as to babes** in Christ. :2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it*, and even now you are still not able; :3 **for you are still carnal**. For where *there is envy, strife, and divisions* among you, are you not carnal and behaving like *mere men*? :4 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I *am* of Apollos," are you not carnal?

If that wasn't enough – there was the gross conduct

that the church had not only allowed – but promoted as an act of grace.

1 Corinthians 5:1-2

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! 2 And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned,

2 Corinthians 7:2-8

Open your hearts to us. We have **wronged** no one, we have **corrupted** no one, we have **cheated** no one. 3 I do not say this to condemn; for I have said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together. 4 Great is my **boldness** of speech toward you, great is my **boasting** on your behalf. I am **filled** with **comfort**. I am **exceedingly joyful** in all our **tribulation**. :5 For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were **troubled** on every side. Outside were **conflicts**, inside were **fears**. 6 Nevertheless God, who comforts the **downcast**, comforted us by the coming of Titus, 7 and not only by his coming, but also by the **consolation** with which he was **comforted** in you, when he told us of your **earnest desire**, your **mourning**, your **zeal** for me, so that I **rejoiced** even more.:8 **For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while.**

To Land This Morning – We Need to Look Ahead at Our Landing Zone

:8 For even if I made you **sorry** with my letter, I do not **regret** it; though I did **regret** it. For I **perceive** that the same epistle made you **sorry**, though only for a while.

:8 For even if I made you **sorry** with my letter, I do not **regret** it; though I did **regret** it.

Afterthoughts are not always good.

Paul began to doubt if he had said the right thing. Was he too hard on them, parental stuff that plagues a mom and a dad.

The Authority and Sufficiency of the Bible

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (put it to the test)

2 Peter 1:20

knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy **never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God **is living and powerful**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS

1.) That **cares about your thoughts** v. 2-3

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CARES ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS

1a.) **Thoughts** based on what you see v. 2

Open your hearts to us. We have **wronged** no one, we have **corrupted** no one, we have **cheated** no one.

Background Check:

When Paul claims he has defrauded no one, remember that he was organizing a collection for the poor Christians in Judea, and had charge over a good amount of money (1 Corinthians 16:1-4)

Open cwre ÷ w **choreo**, *kho-reh'-o*; make a space or clear an area for me (us

wronged ajdike ÷ w **adikeo**, *ad-ee-keh´-o*; not unjust, have done no wrong, did nothing morally offensive. – to be wisely conducted

corrupted fpei ÷ rw **phtheiro**, *fthi´-ro*; we brought nothing rotten to you. To not pollute or to hinder.

Cheated pleonekte ÷ w **pleonekteo**, *pleh-on-cek-teh´* to be covetous, to reach over and grab — get an advantage, defraud, make a gain.

Paul knew the church at Corinth personally. He loved them. Cared for them

James 3:13

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

**WHAT LOVE IS THIS
THAT CARES ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS**

1b.) Thoughts based on what you hear v. 3

I do not **say** this to condemn; for I have **said** before that you are **in our hearts**

The Corinthians Had Such Words From Paul As The “Love” Chapter – He Lived That Out to Before Them. He Had Put Up With So Much From The Start

Acts 18:1,9-11

After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth..... :9 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, **“Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city.”** 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

**WHAT LOVE IS THIS
THAT CARES ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS**

1c.) Thoughts based on what you know v. 3

to **die together** and to **live together**.

this term **“to die together – to live together”** was used as a term of inseparable devotion toward another person.

In the context of a wedding we would say “till death do us part”

following Jesus Christ full throttle is what makes living your life, the great journey that’s called Christianity.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS

2.) That creates such a passion v. 4-5

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CREATES SUCH A PASSION

2a.) A passion that is resolute

v. 4

Great is my **boldness** of speech **toward** you, **great** is my **boasting** on **your behalf**.

There is an Exuberance Here Unlike many other places and for good reason.

boldness par jrJhsi ÷ a **parrhesia**, *par-rhay-see´-ah*; an out-spokenness rooted in confidence. a loving frankness or bluntness, to be direct for the sake of love.

*“A Passion to Reach Your Friends with Jesus
Can only happen if you have been reached yourself.”*

He spoke to them directly, honesty, accurately – in love !!!

boasting kau/chsiß **kauchesis**, *kow´-khay-sis*; boasting in a pure sense of approval or gladness

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CREATES SUCH A PASSION

2b.) A passion that is abounding

v. 4

I am **filled** with **comfort**.

I am **exceedingly joyful** in all our **tribulation**.

I am (1) **filled** with **comfort**. = in all our **tribulation**

I am (2) **exceedingly joyful** = in all our **tribulation**.

exceedingly uJperperisseu/w **hyperperisseuo**, *hoop-er-per-is-syoo´-o*; from 5228 and 4052; to super-abound: — abound much more, exceeding.

tribulation qli ÷ yiß **thlipsis**, *thlip´-sis*; from 2346; pressure, anguish, trouble.

Super Abundant Cheerfulness

1. *What are the signs of discouragement?* =
2. *What are the effects of discouragement?* =
3. *What is the conclusion if left unchecked?* =
4. *What is the remedy for discouragement?* =
5. *What should I do about it?* =

#1

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

#2

Psalm 43:5

Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

Jeremiah 15:16

When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Heaven's Armies.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CREATES SUCH A PASSION

2c.) A passion that is stronger v. 5

:5 For indeed, when we came to Macedonia (*Philippi*), our bodies had **no rest**, but we were **troubled** on **every side**. **Outside** were **conflicts**, **inside** were **fears**.

The Location and Geography of Macedonia,

Macedonia the central Balkan peninsula in Southeast Europe **today's region of North of Greece and East of Italy and West of Bulgaria, it's one of the most beautiful places in Europe.**

Grk: **rest** αἰνεσιβ **anesis**, *an'-es-is*; from no relaxation, no relief, no ease no liberty

Grk: **troubled** κλιθω **thlibo**, *thlee'-bo*; to be crowded in, to be pressed or crushed.

Grk: **conflicts** μαχ **mache**, *makh'-ay*; battles, controversy, strife's and striving.

Grk: **fears** φοβος **phobos**, *fof'-os*; alarmed or frightened. terror.

What Was Paul's Struggle?

Paul struggled with what he had written earlier so much that in his humanity he began to be almost sick over it. He was now feeling that his last letter to the Corinthians was a huge mistake.

Relationships, Parenting, Leadership, Ministry is Often That Way

– A Servant of God can be Divinely Inspired **until the mission is done** – then he's reminded that he is a servant of God. Nothing more!!!

John 13:16

Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS

3.) That causes such a response v. 6-8

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CAUSES SUCH A RESPONSE

3a.) A response filled with comfort

v. 6

6 **Nevertheless God**, who comforts the **downcast**, **comforted** us by the coming of **Titus**
the man **Titus**

Nevertheless “God”

downcast tapeino/β **tapeinos**, *tap-i-nos´*; of uncertain derivation; depressed, i.e. (figuratively) humiliated (in circumstances or disposition): — base, cast down, humble, of low degree (estate), lowly.

comforted parakale÷w **parakaleo**, *par-ak-al-eh´-o*; from 3844 and 2564; to call near, i.e. invite, invoke (by imploration, exhortation or consolation): — beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort(-ation), entreat, pray.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CAUSES SUCH A RESPONSE

3b.) A response filled with joy

v. 6

and not only by his coming, but also by the **consolation** with which he was **comforted** in you, when he told us of your **earnest desire**, your **mourning**, your **zeal** for me. so that I **rejoiced** even more.

Rejoiced cai÷rw **chairo**, *khah´-ee-ro*; a deep and glad joy of heart. Joy that results in a physical expression of gladness and delight – yippee !!!

earnest desire ejpipo/qhsiβ **epipothesis**, *ep-ee-poth´-ay-sis*; a longing or pursuit for God. intense craving. To lust after (**God**) and the things of God.

mourning ojdurmo/β **odurmos**, *od-oor-mos´*; to moan or to lament over sin and the shame sin brings.

zeal zhv1oβ **zelos**, *dzay´-los*; from 2204; properly, heat, i.e. (figuratively) “zeal” fervency. Passionate indignation, jealousy or hot heartedness.

I have a blanket of many colors filled with verses from friends and this is the verse that pastor chuck smith wrote on it...

3 John 1:4

I have **no greater joy** than to hear that **my children walk in truth**.

WHAT LOVE IS THIS THAT CAUSES SUCH A RESPONSE

3c.) A response filled with restoration

v. 6

:8 For even if I made you **sorry** with my letter, I do not **regret** it; though I did **regret** it. For I **perceive** that the same epistle made you **sorry**, though only for a while.

8 For even if I made you **sorry** with my letter, I do not **regret** it;
(it was not me – but God speaking to you all)

regret *metame ÷ llomai metam-el-lom-ai, met-am-el'-lom-ahee*; to be filled with care afterwards or to have afterthoughts, "second thoughts" which breeds doubt and tormenting questions of the mind.

Proverbs 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend,

though I did **regret** it. For I **perceive** that the same epistle made you **sorry**, **though only for a while.**
(I am just human instrument living to obey the LORD)

there are 2 great examples of what it means to repent and not repent of wrong doing. PETER and JUDAS are perfect examples.

Dear Church @ Chino Hills

There is no bible college, seminary or university that can prepare you for what Paul is speaking of here. - - it's by God, it's of God – it's the love of God

Matthew 11:28

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

The Lord requires repentance from the heart.

(1) When the Gospel goes forth, the heart and mind of a man is affected. When this happens, (2) conviction arises in us and we (3) become aware of sinfulness. In that moment, (4) God, by His mercy, grants us the opportunity to repent-change our "minds" our "hearts". (5) seeing forgiveness and restoration possible, (6) the man rejoices.

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

Come Forward for Prayer

End of Study

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