

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 7:13-16

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

HIS WORK UNDER CONSTRUCTION

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Repentance, Salvation, Maturity, Discipleship

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 7:13-16

I've been told that a good architect can see
the finished project long before anyone ever goes to work on it.

Before the site is cleared, before the foundation is set,
before anyone else can figure out what is being built – the architect knows.

So Much So That When Something is Amiss,
It's the shout of the architect that stops the work when something isn't right.

Because There's a Vision for What is to Be

The LORD God of the Architecture of Our Salvation

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 1 Cor. 2:9

2 Cor. 7:13-16

Therefore we have been **comforted** in your **comfort**. And we **rejoiced exceedingly more** for the **joy** of Titus, because his spirit has been **refreshed** by you all. 14 For if in anything I have **boasted** to him about you, I am not **ashamed**. But as we spoke **all things to you in truth**, even so our **boasting** to Titus was found true. 15 And his **affections** are greater for you as he remembers (1) the **obedience** of you all, (2) how with **fear** and (3) **trembling** you received him. 16 Therefore I rejoice that I have confidence in you in everything.

HIS WORK UNDER CONSTRUCTION

1.) God has the perfect design

v. 13

GOD HAS THE PERFECT DESIGN

1a.) He has the perfect plan

v. 13

13 Therefore we have been **comforted** in your **comfort**. And we **rejoiced exceedingly more** for the **joy** of Titus, because his spirit has been **refreshed** by you all.

Because they were back on God's **Plan**
Like Site Work, The Old Things Need to Be Cleared Away.

Jeremiah 29:11

For **I know the thoughts** that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, **to give you a future and a hope.**

Prov. 16:9 NLT

We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.

He has the perfect plan

Psalms 139:5-6

You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

GOD HAS THE PERFECT DESIGN

1b.) He will keep on schedule

v. 13b

13 Therefore we have been **comforted** in your **comfort**. And we **rejoiced exceedingly more** for the **joy** of Titus, because his spirit has been **refreshed** by you all.

Eph. 2:4-7

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5** even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), **6** and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, **7** that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Foundations Must Be (Re)Established

GOD HAS THE PERFECT DESIGN

1c.) He always maintains progress

v. 13c

13 Therefore we have been **comforted** in your **comfort**. And we **rejoiced exceedingly more** for the **joy** of Titus, because his spirit has been **refreshed** by you all.

Psalms 138:8

The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

The Superstructure Begins

Isaiah 41:10

Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

HIS WORK UNDER CONSTRUCTION

2.) God is doing the very best

v. 14-15a

GOD IS DOING THE VERY BEST

2a.) He is creating us

v. 14

14 For if in anything I have **boasted** to him about you, I am not **ashamed**. But as we spoke **all things to you in truth**, even so our **boasting** to Titus was found true.

GOD IS DOING THE VERY BEST

The Lord is Doing “The Very Best” in how He deals with us in this life.
I Cannot Explain to You How He Does What He Does But This is My Rest.

Rom. 8:28

And we **know** (*been convinced*) that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are **the called** according to His purpose.

The Facade of a Building Gives It a Look

What an Encouragement This Is;

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

GOD IS DOING THE VERY BEST

2b.) He is **preparing** us

v. 15a

15 And his **affections** are greater for you as he **remembers**...

The Interior Work Is Underway

Jude 20

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

The foundation of God’s building, Both Israel & The Church is His Son, Jesus Christ,

1 Pet. 2:4-5a

Coming to Him as to a Living Stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house.

The “Living Stone.” (*singular*) As our Foundation. In addition, we are invited to build upon Him as living stones (*plural*)

It’s never “God are You?” I know that He exists.

Rather, its “God Where Are You?” That is a big point of temptation for us as His people.

He doesn’t always seem Big to us or Mighty to us. God, I know You, but Where Are You in This Thing?

GOD IS DOING THE VERY BEST

2c.) He is **assembling** us

v. 15a

15 And his **affections** are greater for you as he **remembers**...

remembers ἀναμνήσκω *anamimnesko*, *an-am-im-nace´-ko*; to regather the thoughts. Recollect, bring to mind, entertain.

The Atmosphere is Established

Out of trial and difficulty comes great revelations !
like what was exposed at the end of the matter.

as he **remembers**...

Malachi 3:16

Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.

HIS WORK UNDER CONSTRUCTION

3.) God is finishing His greatest work v. 15b-16

John 5:18-19

Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, **making Himself equal with God.** 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can **do** nothing **of** Himself, but what He **sees the Father do**; for whatever He **does**, the Son **also does in like manner.**

GOD IS FINISHING HIS WORK

3a.) He loves His redemption v. 15

15 ... (1) the **obedience** of you all, (2) how with **fear** and (3) **trembling** you received him. 16 **Therefore I rejoice** that I have **confidence** in you in **everything.**

Gal. 3:13

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

Gal 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. :6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

GOD IS FINISHING HIS WORK

3b.) He desires His salvation v. 15-16

15 ... (1) the **obedience** of you all, (2) how with **fear** and (3) **trembling** you received him. 16 **Therefore I rejoice** that I have **confidence** in you in **everything.**

consider with me for a moment,

That God is love and that you have been targeted by His love. That even though He has need of nothing, he desires that you, mankind be saved, rescued, escape...

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that all should come to repentance.

John 3:17-18

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, **but that the world through Him might be saved.** :18 "He who believes in Him **is not condemned**; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

GOD IS FINISHING HIS WORK

3c.) He completes His glory v. 15-16

15-16 ... (1) the **obedience** of you all, (2) how with **fear** and (3) **trembling** you received him. 16 **Therefore I rejoice** that I have **confidence** in you in **everything.**

The Epistle of 2 Corinthians (chiefly 6-7) is all about repairing a fractured relationship between a church and their God.

Philippians 1:6

being (be being continuously) confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

Col. 1:26-27

the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. 27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles:

which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

For The Corinthian Church -

In their hour of testing they went back to the Lord as their rescue.

the fine-print is all important here. Paul's **ultimate confidence wasn't** in the Corinthian believers, it was in God's ability to do what He has promised to do.

The Finished Work of Christ

(the carpenter's handkerchief)

John 20:3-7

Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. 4 So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. 5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

Any relationship can be repaired *if*

We face the issues honestly, deal with them biblically and lovingly as all involved seek to be right with God.

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

Come Forward for Prayer

End of Study

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