

Bible Study – Outline

II CORINTHIANS

Author Paul
Date Written 55-57AD from Macedonia
Audience: Corinthian Church

Major Theme(s)

- Hope
- Trials
- Giving gracefully
- Encouragement
- Rejecting false teachers

Key People

Paul
Timothy
Titus
False Teachers

II Corinthians

II Corinthians	
MINISTRY WITHIN THE CHURCH	1-4
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Paul's change of plans, not able to go to Corinth	1:12-2:4
Forgive and restore the repentant sinner	2:5-13
Christ causes us to triumph	2:14-17
Paul's ministry, - changed lives – new covenant – a ministry of Christ	3:1-4:7
The trials of ministry	4:8-15
Our motivation for serving God	4:16-18
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Paul's collection for needy Christians and principles of godly giving	8-9
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AUTHORITY, WISE EXERCISE OF LEADERSHIP	11-13
Paul's own apostleship and authority	11:1-12:6
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Paul's plans for a future visit	12:14-13:10
Conclusion	13:11-14

Key Scriptures

II Cor. 1:1 *

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God in Corinth, together with all his holy people throughout Achaia:

II Cor. 1:21-23 * Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 23 I call God as my witness—and I stake my life on it—that it was in order to spare you that I did not return to Corinth

II Cor. 2:5-11 How to handle disputes

II Cor. 2:17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

II Cor. 3:3 You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts

II Cor. 3:6 * He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

II Cor. 3:17 * Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

II Cor. 4:1 Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

II Cor. 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

II Cor. 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

II Cor. 4:8-9 * We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

II Cor. 4:16-17 * Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

II Cor. 5:5 Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

II Cor. 5:10 * For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

II Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

II Cor. 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God

II Cor. 6:1 As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain

II Cor. 6:4-11 How to serve

II Cor. 6:14-18 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial²? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

"I will live with them
and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they will be my people."

17 Therefore,
"Come out from them
and be separate, *says the Lord*.
Touch no unclean thing,
and I will receive you." 18 And,
"I will be a Father to you,
and you will be my sons and daughters,

II Cor. 7:8 * Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—

II Cor. 7:10,13 Encouragement

II Cor. 8:7-9 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. 8 I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

II Cor. 9:6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

II Cor. 11:4 * For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough.

II Cor. 11:13-14 For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

II Cor. 12:2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows

II Cor. 12:9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

II Cor. 13:5 * Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?

- see note in Life Application Bible for this verse

Discussion Questions

1. What to you is the most encouraging part of II Corinthians?
2. What to you is the most disturbing part of II Corinthians?
3. What are some ways that the New Covenant is superior to the Old Covenant? (II Cor. 3:6-11)
4. What is the hope we are given in II Cor. 5:1-4?
5. We are entrusted with a ministry – what is it? (5:18-6:2)
6. How does Paul show us how to handle disputes?
7. What is the danger described in II Cor. 11:1-4 that is also a danger to us today?
8. What is the test we should be careful not to fail? (13:5)
9. Why did Paul write II Corinthians? (13:10)

Resources Used

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman
Be Encouraged – Warren Wiersbe
Life Application Bible (NIV) - Zondervan and Tyndale House.

www.biblestudytools.com