

2 Corinthians Chapter 2

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Points in 2 Corinthians Chapter 2

1. To appreciate the attitudes Paul had in writing his previous letter
2. To understand the need for proper follow-up toward one who has reacted favorably to church discipline
3. To see the different effects the gospel can have on people

1. What was Paul determined not to do?

I would not come to you in sorrow again.

2 Corinthians 2:1-2

¹ But I determined this for my own sake, that **I would not come to you in sorrow again.**

² For if I cause you sorrow, who then makes me glad but the one whom I made sorrowful?

1. What was Paul determined not to do?

NASB - sorrow

NKJ – heaviness

NIV - painful

Greek – lupe - grief

1. What was Paul determined not to do?

Malachi 3:5

⁵ **"Then I will draw near to you for judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against those who swear falsely, and against those who oppress the wage earner in his wages, the widow and the orphan, and those who turn aside the alien and do not fear Me,"** says the LORD of hosts.

1. What was Paul determined not to do?

1 Corinthians 4:1

¹ Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2. Why did he write his previous letter?

Lest when he came he would have sorrow over those who ought to give him joy

2 Corinthians 2:3

³ This is the very thing I wrote you, so that when I came, **I would not have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice**; having confidence in you all **that my joy would be the joy of you all.**

2. Why did he write his previous letter?

1 Corinthians 4:21

²¹ What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

3. How did Paul write as he penned his letter?

1. Out of much affliction of heart
2. Out of much anguish of heart
3. With many tears
4. You might know the love which I have especially for you

2 Corinthians 2:4

⁴ For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would be made sorrowful, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.

4. What did Paul want them to do with the man who had sinned, yet repented after their disciplinary action toward him?

1. Forgive and comfort him
2. Reaffirm your love for him

2 Corinthians 2:5-8

⁵ But if any has caused sorrow, **he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree**—in order not to say too much—**to all of you.**

⁶ Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was *inflicted* by the majority,

⁷ so that on the contrary **you should rather forgive and comfort him**, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

⁸ Wherefore I urge you to **reaffirm your love for him.**

4. What did Paul want them to do with the man who had sinned, yet repented after their disciplinary action toward him?

James 2:8

⁸ If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.

5. What was Paul's purpose in writing to them?

1. Put you to the test
2. Confirm your obedience in all things

2 Corinthians 2:9

⁹ For to this end also I wrote, so that I might **put you to the test**, whether **you are obedient in all things.**

5. What was Paul's purpose in writing to them?

Luke 17:3-4

³ "Be on your guard! **If your brother sins,** **rebuke him;** and **if he repents, forgive** **him.**

⁴ "And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' forgive him."

6. Why was Paul so willing to forgive the offender once the Corinthians had forgiven him?

Satan would not take advantage of them

2 Corinthians 2:10-11

¹⁰ But one whom you forgive anything, I *forgive* also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, *I did it* for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

¹¹ **so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.**

7. When Paul came to Troas to preach the gospel, what did he find?

A door was opened for me in the Lord

2 Corinthians 2:12

¹² Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when ***a door was opened for me in the Lord,***

8A. What troubled Paul greatly?

Paul did not find Titus

2 Corinthians 2:13

¹³ I had no rest for my spirit, *not finding Titus my brother*; but taking my leave of them, *I went on to Macedonia.*

9. Why does Paul give God thanks?

1. God always leads us in triumph in Christ
2. God manifests us in the sweet aroma in knowing that He is in every place

2 Corinthians 2:14

¹⁴ But thanks be to **God**, who **always leads us in triumph in Christ**, and **manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.**

10. In what two ways, and to what two groups of people, does Paul describe himself as "the fragrance of Christ"?

2 Corinthians 2:15-16

¹⁵ For we are a *fragrance of Christ* to God among *those who are being saved* and among *those who are perishing*;

¹⁶ to the one an *aroma from death to death*, to the other an *aroma from life to life*. And who is adequate for these things?

Fragrance of Christ

1. Those who are being saved

Aroma from life to life

2. Those who are perishing

Aroma from death to death

11A. How do many misuse the Word of God?

Peddling the Word of God

2 Corinthians 2:17

¹⁷ For we are not like many, *peddling the word of God*, but as from *sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.*

11B. How did Paul speak the Word?

1. From God
2. In sincerity
3. We speak in Christ
4. In the sight of God

12. What are the privileges that Paul and Christians have in the “triumph in Christ”?

1. The privilege of being led by a sovereign God
2. The privilege of promised victory in Christ
3. The privilege of influence for Christ
4. The privilege of pleasing God in Christ
5. The privilege of power in Christ