

2 Corinthians Chapter 7

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Points in 2 Corinthians Chapter 7

1. To see how God can use others to comfort us
2. To understand true repentance: what leads to it, and what is the evidence that it has occurred

1. In view of the promises in the preceding chapter, what two things does Paul admonish us to do?

2 Corinthians 6:17-18

¹⁷ "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "**AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN**; And **I will welcome you**."

¹⁸ "And **I will be a father to you**, And **you shall be sons and daughters to Me**," Says the Lord Almighty.

Promises from God

1. God will welcome you
2. God will be our Father
3. We will be sons and daughters to God

1. In view of the promises in the preceding chapter, what two things does Paul admonish us to do?

2 Corinthians 7:1

¹ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us ***cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.***

1. Cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit

2. Perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

1. In view of the promises in the preceding chapter, what two things does Paul admonish us to do?

2 Timothy 2:21

²¹ Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

James 4:8

⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

1. In view of the promises in the preceding chapter, what two things does Paul admonish us to do?

1 Peter 5:10

¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

2. What plea does Paul repeat that was made in chapter six?

2 Corinthians 7:2

² Make room for us in your hearts; **we wronged no one**, **we corrupted no one**, **we took advantage of no one**.

Make room for us *in your hearts*

Paul's reasons for this request:

1. We wronged no one
2. We corrupted no one
3. We took advantage of no one

3. What was Paul's heart concerning the Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 7:3-4

³ **I do not speak to condemn you**, for I have said before that **you are in our hearts to die together and to live together**.

⁴ Great is **my confidence** in you; great is **my boasting on your behalf**. **I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction**.

1. Paul did not send this letter to condemn them
2. The Corinthians are in our hearts to die to and live together
3. He had great confidence in them
4. Paul boasted about the saints at Corinth
5. He was filled with comfort
6. He expressed joy in our affliction.

3. What was Paul's heart concerning the Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 6:11-13

- ¹¹ Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart is opened wide.
- ¹² You are not restrained by us, but you are restrained in your own affections.
- ¹³ Now in a like exchange—I speak as to children—open wide *to us* also.

2 Corinthians 7:2-4

- ² Make room for us *in your hearts*; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.
- ³ I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.
- ⁴ Great is my confidence in you; great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.

3. What was Paul's heart concerning the Corinthians?

- Honestly & Truthfully** 2 Cor. 6: 11 - Our mouth has spoken freely to you
- Affectionally** 2 Cor. 6: 11 - our heart is opened wide
- In Fellowship** 2 Cor. 6: 13 - I speak as to children (Spiritual Father)
- In Purity** 2 Cor. 7: 2 - we wronged no one, we corrupted no one
- In Humility** 2 Cor. 7: 2 - we took advantage of no one
- In Forgiveness** 2 Cor. 7: 3 - I do not speak to condemn you
- In Loyalty** 2 Cor. 7: 3 - you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.

3. What was Paul's heart concerning the Corinthians?

In Trust

2 Cor. 7: 4 – Great is my confidence in you

In Praise

2 Cor. 7 : 4 - great is my boasting on your behalf

Comforting

2 Cor. 7: 4 - I am filled with comfort

In Joy

2 Cor. 7: 4 – I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction

4. What was Paul's condition when he first came to Macedonia?

2 Corinthians 7:5

⁵ For even when we came into Macedonia *our flesh had no rest*, but *we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.*

1. Our flesh had no rest
2. We were afflicted on every side:
 - a. Conflicts without
 - b. Fears within

Conflicts without

2 Timothy 2:23

²³ But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.

Titus 3:9

⁹ But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

James 4:1

¹ What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

Fears within

Romans 12:16

¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

5. How did God comfort Paul in Macedonia?

2 Corinthians 7:6-7

⁶ But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

⁷ and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

1. Paul was comforted with the arrival of Titus
2. They were “longing” to see Paul and resume their relationship with him;
3. “Mourning”, they were sorrowful over their sin and the separation it created between themselves and Paul;
4. “Zeal”, they loved Paul to such a degree that they were willing to defend him against those who sought to harm him, specifically the false teachers.

6. Why did Paul rejoice?

2 Corinthians 7:8-9

⁸ For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—*for* I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—

⁹ I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of repentance*; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of God*, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

The Corinthians were made sorrowful to *the point of repentance*

7. What is the difference between "Godly sorrow" and "sorrow of the world"?

2 Corinthians 7:10

10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Godly sorrow

Sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret – leading to salvation

Worldly sorrow

The sorrow of the world produces death

8. Name seven things that demonstrated the Corinthians' Godly sorrow.

2 Corinthians 7:11

¹¹ For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

8. Name seven things that demonstrated the Corinthians' Godly sorrow.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Godly sorrow | Produces repentance - leading to salvation |
| Vindication | To clear or justify someone |
| Indignation | Anger aroused by something unjust or unworthy |
| Fear | Reverence for God |
| Longing | Yearning to see their relationship with Paul restored |
| Zeal | Holiness (repent from sin) |
| Avenging of wrong | Evidence of the reality of their repentance |

9. Why had Paul written to the Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 7:12

¹² So although I wrote to you, *it was* not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, **but that your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God.**

Your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God

1 Thessalonians 5:14

¹⁴ We **urge you**, brethren, **admonish the unruly**, **encourage the fainthearted**, **help the weak**, **be patient with everyone.**

10. What gave Paul comfort and joy?

2 Corinthians 7:13

¹³ For this reason ***we have been comforted.***
And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even
much more for ***the joy of Titus, because his
spirit has been refreshed by you all.***

Paul was comforted and rejoiced when Titus
reported the effect that Paul's letter had on the
saints at Corinth.

11. What had served to increase Titus' affection for the Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 7:14-15

¹⁴ For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I was not put to shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also ***our boasting before Titus proved to be the truth.***

¹⁵ His affection abounds all the more toward you, as ***he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.***

1. The obedience of you all

2. How you received him with fear and trembling

12. What also gave Paul joy?

2 Corinthians 7:16

¹⁶ I rejoice that in everything ***I have confidence in you.***

Paul had confidence in the saints at Corinth.

The attitude of Christians at Corinth

- Loyal** 2 Cor. 7: 7 - your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me
- Repentant** 2 Cor. 7: 9 - you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance
- Pure** 2 Cor. 7: 11 - yourselves to be innocent in the matter
- Spiritual** 2 Cor. 7: 12 - your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God.
- Encouraging** 2 Cor. 7: 13 - And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus
- Obedience** 2 Cor. 7: 15 - the obedience of you all
- Trusting** 2 Cor. 7: 16 - I have confidence in you