

P.T. BIBLE SURVEY

The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

THE BOOK OF 2 CORINTHIANS

- ⦿ **After receiving Paul's first letter, the Corinthian church was swayed by false teachers who stirred the people against Paul (11:13-15). After a brief visit and a follow-up letter (now lost), Paul sends this second epistle after hearing Titus' good report.**

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- ⦿ After receiving Paul's first letter, the Corinthian church was swayed by false teachers who stirred the people against Paul (11:13-15). After a brief visit and a follow-up letter (now lost), Paul sends this second epistle after hearing Titus' good report.
- ⦿ Who wrote it?
 - Paul is the writer of this epistle. Paul wrote this letter to express his thanksgiving for the repentant majority and to appeal to the rebellious minority to accept his authority.

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- ◉ Date of writing:
 - Around A.D. 57 to 58

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◉ Timing of Events:

- 1 Corinthians is delivered by Timothy.
- Paul visits Corinth (1 Cor. 16:5; 2 Cor. 2:1)
- Lost letter by Paul (2 Cor. 2:4-11; 7:8)
- Titus gives report on Corinth (2 Cor. 7:5-13)
- Paul wrote 2 Corinthians about six months after he wrote 1 Corinthians.

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◎ Location of Events:

- Paul wrote 2 Corinthians while in Macedonia (2:12, 13).

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THE OUTLINE OF 2 CORINTHIANS

- ◎ **I. Paul's Explanation of His Ministry (1-7:16)**
 - Paul's Change of Plans (1:1-2:13)
 - Paul's Philosophy of Ministry (2:14-6:10)
 - Paul's Exhortations to the Corinthians (6:11-7:16)

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◎ I. Paul's Explanation of His Ministry (1-7:16)

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◎ II. Paul's Collection for the Saints (8:1-9:15)

- Example of the Macedonians (8:1-6)
- Exhortation to the Corinthians (8:7-9:15)

THE OUTLINE OF 2 CORINTHIANS

- ◎ **III. Paul's Vindication of His Apostleship (10:1-13:14)**
 - Paul Answers His Accusers (10:1-18)
 - Paul Defends His Apostleship (11:1-12:13)
 - Paul Announces His Upcoming Visit (12:14-13:10)
 - Conclusion (13:11-14)

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◎ Summary in one sentence:

- True Christian ministry, although it may have to be defended against false attacks, is commissioned by Christ and empowered by His Spirit.

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◎ Summary in 10 words or less:

- Paul defends his ministry to the troubled Corinthian church.

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◎ Cast of Characters:

- **Paul:** acts not according to worldly wisdom but according to God's grace
- **The Corinthian Church:** many repent; some remain rebellious
- **Timothy:** Listed with Paul as a sender of the second letter to Corinth (1:1)
- **Silas, Timothy:** also preached the gospel to the Corinthians (1:19)

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◉ Cast of Characters continued:

- **Titus:** returned from a visit to Corinth spiritually refreshed
- **False prophets:** preach a different Jesus to the people
- **The governor of Damascus:** tries to arrest Paul but fails (11:32, 33)

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Verse to Remember

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

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◉ Interesting Facts:

- 2 Corinthians 8-9 is the longest discussion of the principles and practice of giving found in the New Testament.
- After 1 Corinthians had been received by the church in Corinth, false teachers had entered in and stirred the people up against Paul. They claimed he was:
 - Fickle (2 Cor. 1:17)
 - Proud (2 Cor. 5:11-13)
 - Unimpressive in appearance (2 Cor. 10:7-11)
 - Unqualified as an apostle of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 7:2; 10:2)

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- What is my take away?
 - The church must learn to submit to the authority that God has appointed, and not yield to seducing spirits. (Heb. 13:7; Romans 13:1, 2)

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◉ Home Study

- Read a couple chapters daily in Galatians this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.