

A Survey of the New Testament

Lesson 12: 2 Corinthians "Paul's Apostolic Ministry"

April 24, 2019

Summary: Paul defends his apostolic authority to the people in the church at Corinth.

Important People:

- Paul: The author
- Timothy: The messenger
- Titus: Another of Paul's assistants who _____ Paul with good news from Corinth.

Author: Paul

- He identified himself as the author (2 Cor. 1:1).
- The book gives a lot of _____ details, making another author extremely unlikely.

Recipients:

- Church at Corinth
 - This church was started on Paul's _____ missionary journey (Acts 18:1, 4-11).
- Corinth was an extremely corrupt city.
 - Its location on a narrow isthmus meant it was a crossroads of ancient trade.
 - Many old Roman _____ lived there.
 - It was the headquarters of immoral Aphrodite worship (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

Key Theme: Proofs of a Minister's Heart

- He ministers through _____ (1:5-10).
- He forgives wrongs against himself (2:10).
- He shows God's changing power in his own life (3:18-4:2).
- He looks for eternal things (4:18).
- He labors to be accepted by Christ (5:9).
- They do not bring offense (6:3).
- He desires others to repent (7:9).
- He takes care when dealing with church _____ (8:19-22).
- He is bold when he speaks truth (10:9-11).
- He suffers willingly in the ministry (11:23-27).
- He cares for the churches (11:28).
- He does not minister for _____ (12:17-18).

Date:

- 1 and 2 Thessalonians were written in AD 51-52 (per extra-biblical records).
- 1 Corinthians was written:
 - After his second missionary journey (Acts 18:21-22).
 - After a brief trip to Antioch (Acts 18:23)
 - During his third missionary journey (Acts 19:1, 10-12; 1 Cor. 16:5-9).
 - From Ephesus before going to Corinth.
 - Around AD 55-56
- Between 1 & 2 Corinthians
 - Paul made a brief trip, called the “_____” to Corinth (1:16; 2:1; 13:1).
 - After coming into Macedonia on the way to Corinth (7:5)
 - After receiving good news from Titus (7:6)
 - AD 55-56 (same year as 1 Corinthians)

Recipients:

- Church at Corinth
 - This church was started on Paul’s second missionary journey (Acts 18:1, 4-11).
- Corinth was an extremely corrupt city.
- Paul specifically targeted _____.

Book Content Overview:

- Introduction (1:1-2)
- Apostolic _____ (1:3-3:4)
 - He suffered in Macedonia while the Corinthians prayed for him (1:3-14).
 - Plans for a third visit (1:15-2:5)
 - Forgiveness after offence (2:6-11)
 - Concern for the Corinthians took Paul from Troas to Macedonia (2:12-17).
 - The Corinthians bore witness to Paul’s apostleship (3:1-4).
- Apostolic _____ (3:5-7:16)
 - Renew yourself daily in the glory of the Lord (3:5-4:18).
 - The Judgment Seat motivates Godly living (5:1-11).
 - A new, righteous creation (5:12-21)
 - Avoid offence in the church (6:1-7:1).
 - The Corinthians godly sorrow unto repentance made Paul happy (7:2-16).
- Apostolic _____ (8:1-9:15)
- Apostolic _____ (10:1-13:10)
 - Paul’s letters were weighty but his presence was weak (10:1-18).
 - Paul’s actions and revelations demonstrated his apostleship (11:1-33).
 - Paul’s hard absentee letter was intended to bring the Corinthians back so he could be gentle when he came (13:1-10).
- Conclusion (13:11-14)

Application: “Be renewed daily.”