

# STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF 2<sup>ND</sup> CORINTHIANS

## ***STUDY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BOOK OF 2nd CORINTHIANS***

**Please Read Carefully**

- ✓ Remember that all Home Bible School studies are **FREE** and pre-denominational. You will never be asked for money.
- ✓ This “**Studies in the Book of 2nd Corinthians**” completes the series. When you finish this lesson, you should continue your study with some of the remaining courses: **Survey of the Old Testament, Making Sense of the Bible, the book of Revelation, the Church of the Bible, Hebrews & Galatians** or a **Home Bible Study Curriculum**.
- ✓ **YOUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR “STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF 2NDCORINTHIANS”:**
  1. The King James Bible is the text for these Bible study courses, but you may use your own translation..
  2. Please read the lesson very carefully and make notes in your notebook. then complete all the test questions at the end of this lesson. **All answers to the test questions are found in the lesson.**
  3. **Send the** test questions back to the address below.. **Please do not send back the entire lesson.** It is yours to keep.
  4. **Please make sure your name and address are on the test questions before you mail them back.**
  5. Your lesson will be graded and the results sent back to you and when you finish each of these lessons and the rest of the courses, you will be sent a **Certificate of Completion**.

God blesses those who sincerely study the Bible and we pray his blessings on you as you study.

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## STUDY OF THE BOOK OF 2<sup>ND</sup> CORINTHIANS

We have studied the first letter (epistle) to the church of God at Corinth (1 Corinthians 1:2) where Paul hits head on the problems that they were having. He used the truth of God as revealed in the Old Testament and by the Holy Spirit in New Testament days to help them correct their problems because he knew that **the truth is the only way to solve problems Christians and churches have.**

Remember some of those problems they had which he mentioned in 1 Corinthians?

- ✓ They were **divided** among themselves because they were **loyal to men** instead of to Jesus
- ✓ They were **not spiritual** people, but were giving in to the “the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life” (1 John 2:16)
- ✓ They were letting **immorality** stay in their presence and were doing nothing about it
- ✓ Christians were taking Christians **to court** to solve little problems which should have been solved by wise men in the church
- ✓ They didn’t understand about **marriage, divorce and remarriage**
- ✓ They wanted to know how to **handle marriage** in view of the horrible persecution they were going through
- ✓ Some of them wanted to **have their own way** and didn’t care about the feelings of others
- ✓ They were mixing up the **Lord’s supper and combining it with a common meal**
- ✓ They needed instruction about the miraculous gifts of the **Holy Spirit**
- ✓ They needed to know more about **Christian love**
- ✓ They had **denied the resurrection** of Jesus and the final resurrection of all who had ever lived

Paul taught them with kindness, yet he was very firm with them. He did not fool around with words, he told the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. Remember: **the only way to handle problems in the church is with the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth!**

Now, why did Paul write the second letter to the Corinthian church? This is a great followup book and it shows us Paul’s heart as well as his mind.

### THE SECOND EPISTLE (LETTER) TO THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH

#### Introduction and Background

Whenever a preacher preaches the straight truth, some people are not going to like it. They can’t deny what he’s saying because it’s right, so they turn on the preacher/teacher and call him bad names. They’re hateful and mean. They want to put their own point across so they do all they can to convince people that the messenger is at fault. That’s exactly what happened at Corinth: some Christians listened and some didn’t. They were still the “church of God” (1:1), but some of them still had a long way to go before they could please God in all things.

After reading the book through twice, you’ll find that it’s divided into two parts:

- ✓ Chapters 1-9 seem to be written to those who wanted to listen to what Paul taught
- ✓ Chapters 10-13 seem to be written to those who did not want to listen to what Paul taught

The folks in chapters 1-9 needed to be encouraged and the folks in chapters 10-13 needed to be convinced to listen to the truth. You're going to enjoy this study, so let's get started!

## Between the Two Books

First Corinthians was very much written to correct their problems with God's truth and there was a year between the writing of the two books. When people have problems, sometimes it takes a little time for them to completely solve them and that's the picture we have painted for us in 2 Corinthians.

### CHAPTER ONE Crisis, comfort and confidence

Paul again writes to the "church of God which is at Corinth" as well as to all Christians in Achaia (modern day Greece). This time he has Timothy with him (v 1). In verses three through eight he uses the words "**comfort**" six times and the word "**consolation**" four times.

The words "comfort" and "consolation" both come from the same word which means "**to bring alongside....to be soothing to.**" God is on our side (v 3) in every problem (tribulation) we have, and with God on our side we can help others (v 4) just like Christ's sufferings soothes everyone (v 5). When Christians suffer affliction and endure persecution, other Christians are comforted because of good examples of patience (v 6). This wonderful fact is available only to Christians and it reminds us of Romans 8:35,36, "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*"

**Even when Christians suffer persecution, we do not stop following Jesus and we are not alone in our sufferings.**

I can't think of any Christian living today who has suffered for Jesus like Paul suffered. He was burdened (v 8) and even was sentenced to death, which caused him to trust even more in God (v 9) "*Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us*" (v 10). The faithful brethren at Corinth sent Paul some financial support (v 11) and he promised them that he had earned that money by having a good conscience, sincerely teaching the simple gospel and living a faithful Christian life (v 12). He saw this gift as their being with him (v 14) and had confidence in him (v 15). He had planned to visit them (v 16), but didn't come for good reasons (v 17) and those reasons are:

- He wanted them to know he did not do things because of human wisdom (v 17)
- He wanted them to know that the gospel of Jesus Christ is a positive thing (v 18-19)
- Positive things sometimes have negative things about them
- He didn't want them to think he was dominating their faith (v 24)

**NOTE:** What does verse 22 mean? "*Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.*" The word "seal" is explained in 2 Timothy 2:19, "*Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.*"

The Holy Spirit gave the truth and those that believe in Jesus and obey the truth belong to him. They also leave off sinning, which is why Paul wrote 1 Corinthians. The word “earnest” means a “down payment” and we use this principle in business dealings today when a person gives “earnest money” towards a purchase. If we don’t pay the whole bill, we give up the earnest money, don’t we? In the same way, if we stop serving Jesus and disobey his will, we will give up our salvation.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **The Devil doesn’t want us to forgive others**

Forgiveness for our own sins and our forgiving others who sin are basic principles of Christianity, which are not common in other religions. Many religions claim to deal with the sin problem, but few, if any, deal with the forgiveness we give to others. Jesus said, *“And forgive us our debts [sins], as we forgive our debtors [those who sin against us]. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses”* (Matthew 6:12-15).

The Corinthian Christians had taken care of most of those problems Paul pointed out in 1 Corinthians (7:10,11), except they evidently had not forgiven the brother who had his father’s wife (1 Corinthians 5). It is to that problem that Paul now turns his attention.

He didn’t want to have to be hard on them again (v 1), but only wanted the one who sinned to repent (v 2), which is why he wrote 1 Corinthians (v 3). Like any faithful gospel preacher he only pointed out their problems to show his love for them (v 4). It was time for them to forgive the one who had repented (v 10) because a repentant Christian never needs to be “swallowed up with overmuch sorrow” (v 7). The way we show we love our brethren and sisters is to forgive them when they ask for it (v 8) because Christ has forgiven us and so must we must forgive others (v 10).

The devil wants Christians to keep forgiveness away from the church (v 11). He himself can never be forgiven and he doesn’t want anyone else forgiven either. **When Christians do not forgive other Christians, we serve Satan.**

Christians ought always to take advantage of opportunities to preach the gospel, as Paul did in Troas (v 12) and we shouldn’t be discouraged, even if we’re worried about someone as Paul was worried about Titus (v 13). When we preach the gospel, we bring sweetness into the lives of both saint and sinner (v 15,16). And the gospel we preach must be the pure word of God because the opinions of men are not sincere and will save nobody (v 17). James 3:1, *“My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.”* **When preachers do not preach the pure Bible, they will be lost and people who follow them will be lost.**

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **God's letters He wrote**

We write letters to let people know what we think. The Bible is God's letter to man and in the Bible he tells us what he thinks of us and what we should think of him and what we should do about it. The Bible contains **1)** the wonderful love and grace of God **2)** information about all origins, **3)** prophecies which have already been fulfilled **4)** promises to be granted by God and **5)** the conditions we must meet before we can receive the promises of God. Jesus was God's truth in the flesh (John 14:1,2), the Holy Spirit revealed God's truth to the writers of the Bible (2 Peter 1:21) and inspired men wrote the Bible for the good of all mankind.

Paul said he didn't really need letters from Corinth to recommend him to others (v 1) because others could look at his work for Jesus in Corinth and see what he had done (v 2). The Corinthian Christians were the work of the truth of God because Paul did not write his "letter" with ink, but with the power of God in their hearts (v 3).

God made Paul a servant of the New Testament (v 6) and that reminds us of Acts 9:15,16, *"But the Lord said unto him [Ananias, the man who baptized Paul], Go thy way: for he [Paul] is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel, for I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."*

#### **The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life**

There's a warning in verse 6 about the attitude we should have toward the truth of God. Some people are proud of their knowledge and brag about it to others. Some people have the attitude, "I know everything and you know nothing." Some people have a lot of Bible knowledge, but don't put it into practice. This is the hardest thing about being a Christian! Do you know what you ought to do, but don't do it? This is what Paul is warning about when he talks about the letter killing, but the spirit giving life – practice what you preach! (I have a series of sermons entitled "Can I Preach What You Practice?")

#### **The Old Testament and the New Testament**

We know that the two main divisions of the Bible are the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament was written for the Jews to prepare them for the coming of Christ into the world and the New Testament was written for all men everywhere. Paul speaks about the two Testaments from God in the next few verses to make these points to the Corinthian Christians:

- ✓ The Bible (the truth) is what sinful man needs (v 5)
- ✓ The Old Testament, which centered around the ten commandments, showed that God dealt death to those who disobeyed him, but it was still glorious because it came from God (v 7)
- ✓ The Old Testament was glorious, but the New Testament (the ministration of the spirit) is even more glorious (v 8-10).

**NOTE:** When religious people today try to go back to the Old Testament for their law, they deny the true glory of God, the New Testament. Some of the laws people are trying to pull over from the Old Testament are: not eating **pork**, worshiping God on **Saturday** instead of Sunday, tithing, instrumental **music** in worship and a perverted kind of **priesthood**. Why don't the same people be consistent and bring all of the Old Testament over such as incense in worship, **sacrificing** animals, the **ark** of the covenant and the **temple**? Remember that Jesus took away the Old Testament at the cross, as we learn in Colossians 2:14, "*Blotting out the **handwriting of ordinances that was against us**, which was **contrary to us**, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross.**"*

- ✓ Because of the better glory of the New Testament, Paul spoke very plainly (v 12) and there was no covering (veil) over anything that he taught like there was with the law of Moses (v 13).
- ✓ People who take the Old Testament as our law for today are blind because the "veil" is taken away by the cross of Christ (v 14)
- ✓ When people accept the New Testament as our law for today, they can see clearly what God wants them to do and be (vv 15,16)
- ✓ We will be free from the darkness of our sins (v 17; John 8:32) and all things will be clear when we listen to the New Testament (v 18)

#### **CHAPTER FOUR** **Blindness to the truth: Satan's weapon**

The devil hates truth. John 8:44 says, "*Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and **abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him**. **When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**"*

Make no mistake about it: **When a preacher teaches something not in the Bible and when people believe that lie, they serve Satan, the father of all lies.**

#### **Satan works by hiding the gospel**






v 3: "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost." Paul teaches us in verses 1 & 2 how not to hide the gospel.

- ❖ Don't ever give up (v 1)
- ❖ Do not be dishonest in preaching the truth. A dishonest preacher/teacher does not teach what the Bible clearly teaches (v 2a)
- ❖ When the truth is preached, no one is deceived; when the truth is not preached, everyone is deceived (v 2).

**False teachers/preachers hide the truth because they are serving Satan and Paul then teaches us how Satan hides the truth.**

- ❖ Satan is the “**god of this world**” which reminds us of Ephesians 6:12, “12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”
- ❖ The minds of false teachers/preachers are blind because of Satan
- ❖ Satan is afraid of the light of the gospel (v 4)

### Keys to preaching the gospel

-  Preach only Jesus’ gospel and thus be a true servant (v 5)
-  Only by teaching the truth can the light of God come into the world and only the light of the truth brings real knowledge of God (v 6)
-  The gospel truth is precious (v 7) because it’s the only way God’s power can come into the world as we are taught in Romans 1:16, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
-  Preachers/teachers must have the “spirit of faith” which is to trust God that he will keep his word and speak to the lost (v 13)
-  In the gospel truth is the glory of God and the grace of God (v 15) because of the resurrection of Jesus (v 14). If Jesus did not arise from the dead, we are nothing.

### Paul’s persecutions

**“...all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution”** (2 Timothy 3:12). Paul knew this fact, not only from the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, but from his personal experiences. A lot of preachers today base their entire religion upon their experiences, but none have gone through what Paul did for the truth of Jesus.

He was threatened with death (v 11). These death threats worked life for people whom he taught. He was physically exhausted, but it was worth it to be able to teach (v 16). He considered his persecutions as “light” or temporary (v 17) because *“While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal”* (v17)

**What a man..**

## CHAPTER FIVE

### Reasons

Paul served the Lord for many reasons and this chapter contains some of those faith-building reasons.

- ✓ If we die serving the Lord, we will go to heaven. If we die without obeying the truth, we will be lost (v 1). We may suffer while we're alive, but it's worth the pain (v 2), but only if we stick with what the Bible teaches (v 3,4).
- ✓ We have the “earnest of the spirit”, but what in the world is an “earnest?” Have you ever bought a house and put money down on it? What did they call that money? The earnest money. How is the Holy Spirit our earnest? Just like we guarantee payment in buying a house, the Holy Spirit guarantees something for us. But what does he guarantee? Jesus said the Holy Spirit would be the apostles' comforter (John chapters 14,15,16). This means that when they spoke by the Holy Spirit, it was guaranteed that what they said was really from God! Today we are comforted by the Holy Spirit through the word of God and, if we are faithful to God, we are guaranteed a reward in heaven. We'd better do what the Lord wants if we want to go to heaven.
- ✓ We look to the time when we will be home with the Lord (v 6) and we get there by trusting him that he will keep his promises (v 7). We would prefer to be with the Lord (v 8), but the most important thing for us is to work for him so that he will accept us (v 9).
- ✓ *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad”* (v 10).

No one will escape the judgment day as Jesus taught in John 5:28,29, *“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”*

We will receive the things done in the body – not what our **preachers tell** us to do, not what we **intend** to do, not what we **think** we'll do when the time is right, but **what we actually do**. Someone said, **“The road to hell is paved with good intentions”** and that's the way it's going to be for many. We hope it's not that way for you. Know what the Bible teaches you to do and then **do it**.

- ✓ ***“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God”*** (Hebrews 10:31) and God wants his children to teach the truth and persuade men to become Christians (v 11). Thousands are enrolled in this Home Bible School program and our sole purpose is to teach our students for the purpose of saving their souls that they may go to heaven when they die.
- ✓ Preachers must not brag about themselves, but always must put the cross and the gospel of Christ before everything else (v 12), because everything we do is for God (v 13). Why do Christians obey the Lord, work for him and teach others to obey the Lord? *“For the love of Christ constraineth us (pushes us); because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again”* (vv 14,15).
- ✓ When a person is a Christian, he is a new person (v 17). Read John 3:1-21 for Jesus’ discussion of the New Birth with Nicodemus, especially the parts about the wind blowing.
- ✓ Christians preach that sinful man can be reconciled to God. “Reconcile” is a word meaning “to change from being against to being for.” While people live in sin, God is against their sin, but when they become Christians, their relationship to God has been changed. That’s reconciliation (vv 18-20)

## CHAPTER 6

### Grace, purity and who Christians are

Christians don’t do the work of God alone (v 1), because Jesus said in Matthew 28:19,20, *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.”*

It is urgent that lost people be taught the truth so they can know it and obey because *“now is the day of salvation”* (v 2). After a person is converted to Jesus, he lives a Christian life so that the gospel won’t be blocked out by ungodly living (v 3).

God approves what we do when we do what he wants and Paul tells us how to do the work of God in verses 4 -10. While you read these verses, let’s make some comments about some of these things. “In **necessities**” means what needs to be done. “In **stripes**” means Paul was beaten. “In **tumults**” means Paul was attacked. “By **longsuffering**” means never give up. “By **love unfeigned**” means to be genuine in our Christianity.

“By the **armour** of righteousness” refers us to Ephesians 6:11-18). “As **unknown**” means don’t go on television and tell how great you are –and don’t listen to men or women who do that kind of thing. “As **chastened**” means being punished for our faith. Doing these things will make us rich indeed (v 10).

The real problem for the Corinthian Christians was not Paul - it was they themselves (v 12). “Straitened” means “held back” and Paul tells them in verse 12 that he didn’t hold them back, they held **themselves** back and he tells them these things because he loved them as children (v 13).

### **Christians are not hooked up to unbelievers**

“**Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers**” (v 14) means that a Christian must never put himself or herself into a position where a non-Christian has rule over them to such an extent that they give up their faithfulness to Jesus. That includes business dealings, marriages, family matters, friends, etc. If your friends want you to get drunk, don’t do it. If you’re married to a non-Christian and they want you to quit the Lord, don’t do it. These verses are some of the most practical in the whole Bible.

*“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” (vv 17,18).*

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **Real Christian living, real repentance and real friends**

Second Corinthians is a book which gives us the most detailed look into the heart of one of the greatest men who has ever lived, the apostle Paul. He bears his heart as he instructs his readers and when we read this book, we get the ultimate insider’s look at practical Christianity in the first century.

We’re trying as hard as we can to put that same kind of Christianity into practice today. That’s why we call these study courses “**predenominational**” because we want to know what the Bible says about things of doctrine and we want to know what the Bible says about living the Christian life. That’s why 2 Corinthians is such an important book. In chapter 7, Paul continues his wonderful teachings about living a wonderful life following a wonderful savior, Jesus, the Christ.

- ✓ Christians are holy and control our passions because we fear God (v 1). This kind of fear is not cringing, but it refers to holding God in reverence and awe. “*holy and reverend is his name*” (Psalm 111:9).

**A REMINDER NOTE:** Remember that the same original word that is translated “holy” is also translated “sanctified” which means “to be set apart from something.” A lot of what Paul says in chapter 7 tells us how to set ourselves apart from the world and thus be a holy people.

- ✓ Paul was strong in his teaching and was glad when they had done so much toward taking care of the problems he talked about in 1 Corinthians (v 4). Corinth had come to his assistance in Macedonia (vv 5,6) and Titus had brought word that they had taken care of their problems. When people are in the wrong, they have to take care of their sins – they did those sins, those sins are on their souls and they needed to take care of their problems (vv 7-9).

### **The business of taking care of problems (vv 9-16)**

- ✓ When a Christian sins, he’s sorry about it, but unless he’s sorry enough to really turn away from doing the sin (repentance), it’s not worth a thing (v 9) because “*godly sorrow works repentance to salvation*” but just being sorry without changing doesn’t do anything except condemn a soul to hell (v 10). **Judas Iscariot was sorry for betraying Christ, but he didn’t repent and died a suicide. Peter was sorry he had denied Jesus, but he repented and became a great man for Jesus.**
- ✓ Here’s what God wants a Christian to do when he’s sorry for his sins
  - ▶ **v 11: Be careful to do what God wants.** Clear the slate by confessing the sins (James 5:16). Be upset with yourself that you ever sinned in the first place. Fear God who has no sin. Be strong in your desire to never do that thing again. Pay the price for sin by repenting.
  - ▶ **v 12:** When sin is pointed out to us, it may be something we’re **personally** doing or it may be our **attitude** toward someone who has sinned like the man in 1 Corinthians 5 who had his father’s wife. In any case, **the sinner must change his thinking, his ways, his life and his direction.**
  - ▶ **v 13:** One way repentance is shown is by treating a truth-telling person right, like Titus was treated right by many of the Corinthian Christians
  - ▶ **v 14:** The truth-telling preacher is glad when genuine repentance takes place.

- ▶ **v 15,16:** Truth-telling preachers like Paul and Titus know the power of the gospel, that it will bring repentance **if the heart of the hearers is tender.**

## CHAPTER 8

### Helping Christians in need

Another thing about Christianity that sets it apart from all other world religions is found in Galatians 6:10, ***“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith [the church].”*** The current terrorist hatred of all things Jewish and Christian and the desire to destroy societies based upon this hate-filled principle is an indication that the God being served by these people is not the one true God.

About the money Paul is talking about, remember what happened in Acts 11:28-30? *“And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea, which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.”*

Paul had instructed the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 16:1,2 to help provide money for these starving Christians in Judea. About a year has gone by between the writing of 1 and 2 Corinthians, but the Corinth church had not sent their promised money. It is to this problem that Paul devotes a lot of space – **the proper use of the church’s money.**

The other churches in the Macedonia area (modern day Greece) were poorer than Corinth but still had given money (vv 1,2), after giving of themselves first (v 5). They couldn’t afford it but they wanted to help the poor in Judea anyway (v 4). Giving our resources to help the poor is part of the grace of God (v 6) and is a necessary part of Christianity along with faith, preaching, knowledge, sticking to what the Bible says and love (v 7).

Christians can be very sincere when they profess faith in Christ, but a bottom line of service is how much are Christians willing to give to help others (v 8). The true wealth of a Christian is following Christ in spiritual poverty or meekness (v 9), but when a Christian promises to give resources to help the poor, he must follow through on it (v 11).

Giving of our money is practical because it’s based upon what we have and not on what we may have (v 12). It’s like a man saying “I love Jesus with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, but I’m not going to do the rest of what he says.”

Our Christian lives are based on who we are and on what we're willing to give. When a Christian has resources, he must be willing to share them (vv 13-15).

*“But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you”* (v 16). This statement reminds us that our main interest is not money, but caring for people. This attitude is very unlike many so-called television preachers who make a lot of sweet sounds, but in the end always want to grab whatever money you can send to them.

In verse 18, who is “the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches?” We don't know. It could have been Timothy, Barnabas, Peter, Apollos or someone else, maybe Luke who wrote in Acts 20:5,6 that he was with Paul when he took the money to Jerusalem. What we do know is that a Christian doesn't seek the praise of men – he does his work and brings praise to God which is what Paul wanted the Corinthians to do with their money.

Paul knew he had a great responsibility for this money and wanted to handle it right (v 20) because a Christian is honest in all his business dealings (v 21). Christians prove our love when we give the right hand of fellowship to brethren who are likewise faithful and when we *“do good unto all men, especially those of the household of faith.”*

## CHAPTER 9

### The blessings of giving our resources for the Lord's work

Every thing Christians do in the name of Jesus brings a corresponding blessing. When we preach the truth and a sinner obeys it, the blessing is in seeing a soul snatched from hell. Paul now turns his attention to the blessings we receive when we are generous with our money for the Lord's work.

God doesn't make a Christian give his money, rather a Christian gives it willingly and here Paul gives some more guidelines about giving which we would do well to listen to.

- ✓ We must be ready in advance when a need arises (v 2)
- ✓ Sometimes we need encouraging to finish our promise (v 3)
- ✓ What we give is noticed by others (v 4,5)
- ✓ If we're stingy, we'll get a stingy man's reward, but if we're generous, we'll receive a rich reward from God (v 6)

- ✓ We are not forced to give, but as we purpose (decide) in our hearts – and the gift better not be “well, I have to do this” because “God loves a cheerful giver” (v 7) and God will bless people who are generous (v 8)
- ✓ Even people in the Old Testament knew that God blessed generosity (Psalm 112:9)
- ✓ God has given us the “seed which is the word of God” (Luke 8:11) and he also provides us with resources to help the needy (v 10) and we are made rich when we give (v 11)
- ✓ The way to be thankful to God for what we have is to give to those who do not have (v 12)
- ✓ When a Christian is committed to God, his father, we will give a physical gift because of the “unspeakable gift” of God which is his son Jesus Christ (vv 13-15)

A good man once said, “**Give till it hurts, then give a little more till it feels good.**” Good advice.

## CHAPTER 10

### Paul has to defend himself against his critics

I've often wondered how in the world a man who did as much for Jesus would be criticized by people whom he had converted to the Lord. Matthew 7:1,2 says, “*Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.*” Here was a man who, at his own expense, came to Corinth and baptized a few who were already pretty good folks and afterward many others who were rank sinners were baptized, but not by Paul (1 Corinthians 1, 6). He did write them a hard letter (1 Corinthians), but they had cleaned up their house by the time 2 Corinthians was written (2 Corinthians 7).

Well, why was he criticized? Because **people were people then just as people are people now**. They forget where they were and who brought them out of it. **They also don't want to hear the truth so they turn on the one who is telling them the truth.** Times don't change, do they? Paul felt it necessary to defend himself in this chapter.

While he was with them, he was humble and lowly (“base among you”), but he was strong in his first letter to them (v 1). Some Corinthian Christians think he was being too “fleshly” [harsh] in his teachings (v 2), but he reminds them that Christians do not fight the “good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:12) according to worldly principles (v 3). **We fight against fleshly things, but not in fleshly ways** (v 4)..

- ✓ Christians do not “imagine things” or speculate about the truth – we know the truth makes us free (John 8:32).
- ✓ Christians try to get people to humble themselves before God, not deny the truth of God
- ✓ Christians work to get people to obey Jesus instead of fleshly things (v 5)
- ✓ Christians do not ignore sin (v 6)
- ✓ Christians cannot be hoodwinked by outward appearances, but know that a true Christian follows Christ (v 7)

Some Corinthian Christians did think Paul was a little hard on them in his teachings (v 10), but the truth is the truth whether it’s spoken in person or written in a letter (v 11). Perhaps the greatest warning ever given to a Christian is found in verse 12, ***“For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”*** Christians measure ourselves and compare ourselves with Christ and the truth, not with each other (v 13).

Christians rejoice in the gospel preached to them (vv 14,15) and are happy when the gospel is preached in other places (v 16) because *“But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.”*

## CHAPTER 11

### False teachers, preachers getting paid and some awful punishments

There have always been religious people who claim to follow Jesus, but who do not **teach all** the gospel truth, or **leave out** some vital parts. **There have always been religious people who put their own opinions above and beyond the clear teachings of the Bible.** When a religious person decides to go this route, that person usually starts criticizing the teacher who is trying to go right by the Bible and just by the Bible. This is what happened to Paul by some of the Corinthian Christians and he now begins to talk to that kind of attitude.

Sometimes a good Bible teacher has to use other techniques to get God’s point across (v 1) because a good teacher wants his/her students to get only the message of God (v 2a) and nothing else. The relationship between a teacher and a convert to Christ is similar to that of a husband and wife (v 2b), a really close relationship. The teachings of Jesus are not complicated, but the devil tries to make them hard to understand (v 3).

**If you listen to someone who claims to be a preacher and wonder what in the world he's just said, maybe he's not teaching the truth!**

He may be preaching "**another Jesus**" such as religious people today who say that Jesus was **Michael** the Archangel. He may be preaching another "**spirit**" such as religious people who say that the Holy Spirit is not a person, but a "**force**." If he's preaching something that's not in the gospel or if he's preaching something that the gospel does not teach, he's teaching "**another gospel**" which reminds us of Galatians 1:8, "***But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.***" If he's doing it out of ignorance, "bear with him" (v 4), but when he becomes a false teacher, avoid him.

Paul was a genuine apostle (v 6) because of the mighty works of the Holy Spirit that he had done in their midst. He was "rude in speech" or just a very plain ordinary guy who was given knowledge by Jesus as Galatians 1:2 teaches, "*For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*"

The truth was so important to Paul that he didn't take money from the Corinthian church for his work, but got money from other churches (v 8) which Silas and Timothy brought to him (v 9). He didn't want the Corinthian Christians to criticize him for preaching for money (v 9) and we wish his attitude was present today. The great majority of the fellows on television always ask for money and it makes us wonder, **would Jesus wear an expensive Rolex watch on his television show?** With money or without money, Paul would always preach the gospel (v 12).

Now, these religious people who claim to follow Jesus, but don't preach the truth are false apostles and trying to fool people into listening to them (v 13). They make claims, as some do today, of being a prophet or being inspired of God or "being God's spokesman to this world" and Paul tells them that these kind of folks serve the devil because his servants (angels) sound good (14,15).

**NOTE:** it doesn't matter how somebody sounds or looks when they teach, but **what they teach** is the most important thing about them. If it's from the Bible, amen; if it's not from the Bible, have nothing to do with them. Even good folks and sincere folks can still serve Satan if they don't teach the Bible. Think about it.

Paul didn't brag about what he had done for Jesus (v 18), but he was going to be bold for Jesus in any situation (v 21). Here are some of the things Paul was and endured for the Lord:

- ▶ Some of the false teachers were Jews, but Paul was a Jew too (v 22)
- ▶ Some of the false teachers claimed to be servants of Jesus (v 23), but they didn't sacrifice nearly so much as did the apostle Paul
- ▶ Five times he was whipped with 195 strokes.

**NOTE:** The phrase "forty stripes save one" refers to the Jewish teaching that it was against the law of Moses to whip somebody over forty times, so they would only whip a person thirty-nine times, just to be safe in keeping the law.

- ▶ He was beaten three times
- ▶ One time, he had rocks thrown at him to kill him
- ▶ He was shipwrecked three times and almost drowned
- ▶ He had traveled a lot with many dangers from the Jews and the Gentiles
- ▶ He suffered in the city, in the country (wilderness), in the sea and from false brethren
- ▶ He was always in trouble for his work for the Lord; he was hungry and thirsty; he fasted; he was cold and he was naked.

But his physical suffering was nothing compared to his daily concern for the churches (v 28) and he did not lie about his devotion to the church (v 31), even when he had to be let through a window in the wall by a basket when he was in Damascus in Syria (v 32).

**We have no record of any man who has ever lived, with the exception of Jesus, who suffered so much physical harm in the name of Jesus Christ than the apostle Paul.**

## CHAPTER 12

### A man visits heaven, Paul's "thorn in the flesh", his miracles and his great love

Paul speaks about "visions and revelations" of the Lord in this chapter and he describes a Christian man fourteen years previously (v 2) who was suddenly taken up to Paradise (v 3) in the "third heaven" (v 2). Paul doesn't name this man, but by all indications it was he himself.

**NOTE ABOUT THE THIRD HEAVEN:** In the first century, the first heaven was the earth and our surrounding atmosphere; the second heaven was what we call space and the third heaven is said to be where wonderful things were. This third heaven is called "paradise" and you remember before Jesus died on the cross, he told the repentant thief, *"Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."* The word "paradise" is from an old Persian word meaning "beautiful garden" and heaven is also called "Paradise" in Revelation 2:7.

**Where does a soul go after death?** The best explanation is found in Luke 16 in the story of the rich man and Lazarus. In verse 22 we read, *“And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was **carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom**: the rich man **also died, and was buried.**”* The rich man was in a place of horrible torments which may be the “hell” (Greek - *Tartaros*) mentioned in 2 Peter 2:4, and Lazarus was in the place we know as “Paradise.” Every soul goes to either one of those two places depending upon how that soul dies – either in Christ or out of Christ. **We make our choice while we live and then wait for the judgment day** when *“every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad”* (2 Corinthians 5:10). Be **ready!**

One of the reasons we believe it was Paul who went up to paradise is because he says he was *“given a thorn in the flesh”* from an angel of Satan so that Paul could have nothing to boast about (v 7). He asked that it be taken from him three times (v 8), but the grace of God was sufficient to handle any physical weakness (v 9). Paul said he would gladly suffer being persecuted for Jesus’ sake because it gave him more strength to handle things (v 10). The visions, revelations and horrible suffering he went through also proved that he was a true apostle of Christ (v 11).

**NOTE:** What was this thorn in the flesh? Paul doesn’t say and anything we say is only guessing. It may have been an eye problem. It may have been false teachers (the angel sent by Satan). It may have been the persecution he went through. We just don’t know. What we do know is that he **never gave up serving Jesus, the Christ**, and that’s our example for today.

The miracles Paul did also showed that he was a real apostle, but why would people doubt that he was an apostle? As we’ve said before, when people don’t like the message, they will turn against the messenger! Rather than just give up on such silly notions, Paul makes sure they understood that he was a real apostle (v 12) and that they never had to pay Paul a penny when he worked with them (v 13).

**NOTE:** Remember that the definition of a miracle is the suspension of the course of natural things. If a person is born blind, he’ll die blind, but a miracle makes him see, thus reversing the natural course of things. Also remember that the apostles were the only ones who could pass on the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit; therefore, **there are no miracles today** because **there are no apostles living today!**

And what a beautiful thing Paul told them about his love, *“I will not be burdensome to you: for I seek not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children”* (v 14). The more they seemed to reject him, the more he loved them (v 15) and neither he nor Titus ever took advantage of them (v 17).

**Preachers today must not take advantage of people whom they serve; they must serve them and that’s another great lesson for us to learn.**

Paul wanted the Corinthian church to be holy before God and stop “debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults; and lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed” (vv 20,

**Christians may not be perfect, but we must try our best to live the Christian life.**

## CHAPTER 13

### Self-examination to be in the Faith

A note about “the third time” in verse 1: The best explanation is that Paul established the church in Corinth in Acts 18 (the first time), then he wrote 1 Corinthians and 2 Corinthians which must be the second and third time he “came” to them.

After having said so often that he loved them so much, now he says, *“I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time; and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other, that, **if I come again, I will not spare.**”* Sometimes a preacher has to get hard on people because we human beings are a stubborn lot. Just remember that we must not get upset with a man who is preaching the truth. We straighten out our lives when we hear the truth and obey it. It is God’s power, the truth, that is the most important thing in churches who are doing things by the New Testament (v 3,4).

What does the phrase “the faith” mean? Does it mean what our church teaches? Does it mean what we personally believe? Most often in the New Testament when the definite article “the” appears before the word “faith” it means “the gospel truth.” That’s why when people sin, preachers are to do what Titus 1:13, says, *“Wherefore **rebuke** them sharply, that they may be **sound in the faith**, not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that **turn from the truth.**”*

Also, in Jude 3, we read, “*Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **earnestly contend for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints.*” **The Corinthian Christians were to examine themselves whether or not they were doing what the truth taught them to do.** And this is the only way a Christian may “prove himself” (v 5).

Paul was confident that these Christians would continue to know the truth and be strong in it (v 6) and they would not be evil in their thinkings and their doings (vv 6,7).

And, nothing can be said against the truth because it is from God and everything we do is for the truth’s sake (v 8).

**NOTE:** The word “truth” appears in the New Testament 118 times and 117 times in the Old Testament, so God must think it’s important. Truth is from an original word which means “something which is and it can be nothing else.” When the Bible teaches something for us to do, we never should argue with it or try to change it because **truth cannot be changed.** It’s what makes us free from sin and the fear of death (John 8:32).

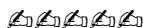
Paul ends 2 Corinthians by telling them to obey the truth, whether in person or by letter (v 10) and the truth is the only way Christians can “***Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you***” (v 11).

Without knowing and obeying the truth, no person can have God and that’s why we always say, “The Bible says it; that settles it and we believe it.”

**THIS COMPLETES YOUR STUDY BOOKLET  
ON 2 CORINTHIANS  
THE TEST QUESTIONS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE TEST QUESTIONS,**

**AND RETURN THEM TO US FOR GRADING  
IN THE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE**



**TEST QUESTIONS**  
**2 Corinthians**

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY/STATE/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WHERE DO YOU GO TO CHURCH?** \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 1: All questions will come from the introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2**

**FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1. 2 Corinthians chapters 1-9 seem to be written to people who \_\_\_\_\_ to listen to what Paul \_\_\_\_\_.
2. 2 Corinthians chapters 10-13 seem to be written to those who did \_\_\_\_\_ want to \_\_\_\_\_ to what Paul taught.
3. In chapter one, the word "comfort" appears \_\_\_\_\_ times and the word "consolation" appears \_\_\_\_\_ times.
4. 2 Timothy 2:19, "Nevertheless the \_\_\_\_\_ of God standeth sure, having this \_\_\_\_\_, the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ them that are his. And, let \_\_\_\_\_ one that nameth the name of \_\_\_\_\_ depart from \_\_\_\_\_."
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ himself can \_\_\_\_\_ be forgiven and doesn't want anyone else forgiven \_\_\_\_\_.

**TRUE FALSE (Check the correct answer)**

- |   |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|
| 1. The only way to handle problems in the church is with the truth        | T _____ | F _____ |
| 2. Fifteen years came between 1 and 2 Corinthians                         | T _____ | F _____ |
| 3. Achaia is in the state of Georgia                                      | T _____ | F _____ |
| 4. Paul never suffered persecution for the cause of Christ                | T _____ | F _____ |
| 5. Christians do not have to forgive each other                           | T _____ | F _____ |
| 6. Christians must forgive each other                                     | T _____ | F _____ |
| 7. The gospel and the opinions of men will both save sin                  | T _____ | F _____ |
| 8. Only the gospel truth will save sinful men and women                   | T _____ | F _____ |
| 9. Preachers who do not preach the pure gospel will be lost               | T _____ | F _____ |
| 10. Christian forgiveness makes Christianity special from other religions | T _____ | F _____ |

**PART 2: All questions will come from chapters 3 and 4**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE (Circle the correct answer)**

1. God's will in the Bible is **A** What he thinks **B** What he wants sinful men to do **C** What the Holy Spirit wants sinful men to do **D** All of these
2. Paul said he didn't need letters to recommend him because **A** He didn't want letters **B** Others could look at his work and see what he has done **C** He couldn't write himself
3. Our attitude toward the word of God should be **A** Pride in what we know **B** To have a lot of knowledge, but do nothing with it **C** Know what the Bible teaches and do it
4. The two main divisions of the Bible are **A** The law and the prophets **B** Doctrines and covenants **C** The Old Testament and the New Testament
5. The devil works by **A** Hiding the gospel from sinful men **B** Making people do bad things **C** Demons being in people today
6. The letter kills but the spirit gives **A** Nothing **B** Life **C** Opinions
7. False teachers/preachers hide the truth because they are serving **A** Their church **B** The devil **C** Themselves

**FILL IN THE BLANKS ON THE KEYS TO TEACHING THE GOSPEL**

1. Preach only \_\_\_\_\_ gospel and be a true \_\_\_\_\_
2. Only by teaching the \_\_\_\_\_ can the \_\_\_\_\_ of God come into the world and only light of \_\_\_\_\_ brings real \_\_\_\_\_
3. The gospel \_\_\_\_\_ is the only \_\_\_\_\_ God's \_\_\_\_\_ can come into the \_\_\_\_\_
4. Preachers must have the "\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_" which is \_\_\_\_\_ God that he will keep his \_\_\_\_\_ and teach the \_\_\_\_\_
5. In the gospel truth is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus

**TRUE FALSE (Check the correct answer)**

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Christians should preach once and then give up if nobody listens     | T _____ F _____ |
| 2. The minds of false teachers/preachers are blind because of the devil | T _____ F _____ |
| 3. Christians must use the laws of the Old Testament today              | T _____ F _____ |
| 4. Christians must use the laws of the New Testament today              | T _____ F _____ |
| 5. Both the Old and New Testaments are inspired of God                  | T _____ F _____ |
| 6. Christ "nailed the Old Testament" to his cross                       | T _____ F _____ |
| 7. The New Testament is more glorious than the Old Testament            | T _____ F _____ |
| 8. Christians ought to brag about their knowledge of the Bible          | T _____ F _____ |
| 9. People who take the Old Testament as our law today are blind         | T _____ F _____ |
| 10. All that live godly in Christ will suffer persecution               | T _____ F _____ |

**PART 3: All questions will come from chapters 5, 6 and 7**

**FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1. Today we are \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit through the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and, if we are \_\_\_\_\_ to God, we are \_\_\_\_\_ a reward in \_\_\_\_\_ because of what we read in the Bible.
2. 2 Corinthians 5:10, "For we must \_\_\_\_\_ appear before the \_\_\_\_\_ seat of \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ one may receive the \_\_\_\_\_ done in his \_\_\_\_\_, according to that he hath done, whether it be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_."
3. Hebrews 10:31, "It is a \_\_\_\_\_ thing to fall into the \_\_\_\_\_ of the living \_\_\_\_\_."
4. 2 Corinthians 7:14, "Be not \_\_\_\_\_ yoked \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_."
5. Truth-telling \_\_\_\_\_ like Paul and Titus know the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, that it will bring \_\_\_\_\_ if the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

**TRUE FALSE (Check the correct answer)**

1. All people, alive and dead, will appear before the judgment seat of Christ T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
2. If a person never obeys the truth, he will still go to heaven T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
3. "Reconcile" means "to change from being against to being for" something T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
4. Christians have no heavenly help to do the work of God T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
5. The real problem in Corinth was their bad attitudes T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
6. Christians can be holy and not control our passions T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
7. Judas Iscariot was not sorry that he betrayed Christ T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
8. Simon Peter did not repent for denying Christ T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
9. Simon Peter did repent for denying Christ T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_
10. The word "holy" means "to set apart from something" T \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 4: All questions will come from chapters 8, 9 and 10**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE (Circle the correct answer)**

1. One of the marks of Christianity that makes it different from other world religions is that **A** Christians do good only to other Christians **B** Christians do good unto all men as well as to other Christians **C** Christians don't do any good at all
2. Can must not only be sincere in our faith but we also must **A** Teach others the gospel of Christ **B** Help others with our money **C** Both of these
3. When Christians give money to help others **A** We are made rich **B** We go bankrupt **C** We bring glory to ourselves
4. Why was Paul criticized? **A** People don't change **B** Paul felt it necessary to defend himself **C** People don't want to hear the truth and turn on people who tell them the truth **D** All of these
5. Christians measure ourselves and compare ourselves **A** With each other **B** With other churches **C** With Christ and the gospel truth

**FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1. Galatians 6:10, "As we have therefore \_\_\_\_\_, let us do \_\_\_\_\_ unto all \_\_\_\_\_, especially unto them who are of the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith."
2. A good man once said, "\_\_\_\_\_ till it hurts, then give a little \_\_\_\_\_ till it feels \_\_\_\_\_."
3. 1 Corinthians 10:12, "For we \_\_\_\_\_ not make ourselves of the number, or \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with those that \_\_\_\_\_ themselves; but they measuring themselves by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ themselves among themselves, are not \_\_\_\_\_."

4. "But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you." This statement reminds us that our \_\_\_\_\_ interest is not \_\_\_\_\_, unlike many so-called television \_\_\_\_\_ who make a lot of sweet \_\_\_\_\_ but in the end always want to grab whatever \_\_\_\_\_ we can send to them.

**TRUE FALSE (Check the correct answer)**

- 1. Everything Christians do in the name of Christ brings a blessing T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 2. Christians can be stingy with their money T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 3. Christians can not be stingy with their money T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 4. The "seed" God has given us is he word of God T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 5. Paul was never criticized for doing the work of the Lord T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 6. Christians know the truth sets us free, but we still can speculate on things T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 7. Christians are to glory only in the Lord T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 8. God doesn't care how we feel about our money as long as we give it T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 9. God loves a cheerful giver T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_
- 10. The poor churches in Macedonia still gave money to help the church in Judaea T \_\_\_ F \_\_\_

**PART 5: All questions will come from chapters 11, 12 and 13**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE (Check the correct answer)**

- 1. Some religious people teach that Jesus was **A** Gabriel **B** Michael **C** Lucifer
- 2. Some religious people teach that the Holy Spirit is **A** Nothing to us today **B** A force **C** Not a person
- 3. The truth was so important to Paul that he **A** Took all the money they had **B** Begged for more money **C** Took no money from the Corinthian church
- 4. The miracles Paul did showed that **A** He was a true apostle **B** He was sent from Jesus **C** Both of these
- 5. Without knowing and obeying the truth **A** No person can have God **B** A person cannot be saved **C** Both of these

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Galatians 1:8, "But though \_\_\_\_\_ or an \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven preach any other \_\_\_\_\_ unto you than that which we have \_\_\_\_\_ unto you, let him be \_\_\_\_\_."
2. Luke 16:22, "And it came to pass, that the \_\_\_\_\_ died and was carried by the \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_ bosom."
3. The word "truth" appears in the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_ times and \_\_\_\_\_ times in the New Testament, so \_\_\_\_\_ must think it's important.
4. Sometimes a gospel \_\_\_\_\_ has to get hard on people because we human beings are a \_\_\_\_\_ lot.
5. Titus 1:13, "Wherefore \_\_\_\_\_ them sharply, that they may be \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, not giving heed to Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ and commandments of \_\_\_\_\_, that turn from the \_\_\_\_\_."

## TRUE FALSE (Check the correct answer)

1. People who follow Jesus must teach and practice all the Bible teaches T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
2. When you can't understand what preachers say, it's all right T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
3. When you can't understand what preachers say, they're probably not teaching the gospel truth T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
4. Paul was taught the gospel by revelation of Jesus Christ T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
5. Religious people who don't teach the truth are false apostles T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
6. "Forty stripes save one" means being beaten 39 times T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
7. After death, a soul either goes to Paradise or Gehenna T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
8. After death, a soul goes nowhere T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
9. Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was his mother in law T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
10. There are no miracles today because there are no apostles living today T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
11. Preachers today must take advantage of people whom they serve T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
12. Preachers today must not take advantage of people whom they serve T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
13. When a preacher preaches the truth, we must not get upset at him T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
14. Nothing can be said against the truth because it is from God T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
15. A person can not know the truth and still obey God T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_
16. A person can know the truth and obey God and be blessed T \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_