

## 2 Corinthians #14 (2 Corinthians 6)

Remember – no chapter divisions- Some put verses 1 and 2 with chap. 5

### I. Let Us Look at Verses 1 and 2.

- A. In verse 1 Paul returns back to the theme of Ambassador (5:20)
  - 1. We're laborers with God—I Cor. 3:6, 9 –We are commanded to preach
  - 2. God is One who effectually calls – but uses us as instruments- 5:20
  - 3. It is a great blessing for us to be used in winning one to Christ
- B. "Receiving the grace of God in vain" – believers or unbelievers?
  - 1. Believers can not receive the grace of God in vain
  - 2. Unbelievers can if they don't lay hold of gospel, but legalism
    - a. Must allow word to be understood – Matthew 13:19
  - 3. Gospel is means of proclaiming grace of God – Titus 2:11, 12
- C. V. 2 is quoted from Isaiah 49:8- God hears prayer of suffering servant
  - 1. Age of gospel is day of salvation and accepted time- Luke 4:18, 19
    - a. Also time for men to respond to it and repent (Acts 17:30)
  - 2. This day must end sometime – Jer. 8:20 – Gospel must be urged

### II. Let us Look at Verses 3-6

- A. Paul is concerned that his actions don't cause people to reject gospel
  - 1. Paul has appealed to his conduct among Corinthians several times
    - a. 2 Corinthians 1:12; 2:17; 4:1, 2-Satan uses minister's failings
- B. In verses 4,5 – Paul gives list of things he has endured for gospel
  - 1. First word "Patience" describes overall attitude in all these sufferings
  - 2. Then he lists three words that generally describe afflictions
    - a. Afflictions (Tribulations) Anguish (Constraints) Distresses
  - 3. Then he lists three particular kinds of afflictions that he had suffered
    - a. Stripes, imprisonments, tumults (Expulsions)
      - 1. 2 Cor. 11:23 – 25; Acts 13:50; 14:19; 21:30-32
  - 4. Then he lists three afflictions that he had put on himself
    - a. Labors (Perhaps tentmaker) I Cor. 15:10 Sleeplessness, Fastings

### III. Then Let us Look at Verses 6 - 10

- A. Paul first list 9 positive ways in which he was found approved
  - 1. Then he lists 9 different contrasts or paradoxes (Verses 8-10)
- B. Purity (chastity) Knowledge (Probably of Christ) 2 Corinthians 4:6
  - 1. Forbearance, Kindness, Sincere Love Holy Spirit (Fruits Gal. 5:22, 23)
  - 2. Word of Truth (Gospel) Power of God – Probably through preaching
    - a. 1 Cor. 2:1 – 5; I Thessalonians 1:5; Romans 1:16
  - 3. Weapons of righteousness (Word of God, Faith- Eph. 6:16, 17)
- C. Honor/Dishonor – Slander/Praise – Paul like Christ received both
  - 1. Imposters/True (Matt. 27:63) Unknown/Well Known
  - 2. Dying/Living – Chastened/Not Killed – Quoted from Ps. 118:17, 18
  - 3. Sorrowful/Rejoicing – Poor/Yet making many rich
    - a. Making rich is through the gospel – Ephesians 3:8 – 2 Cor. 8:9
  - 4. Having nothing/Possessing all things – I Cor. 3:21 – 23; Mk 10:29-31

**Conclusion:** We who are living are still in the day of salvation

- A. There are those who are last year were there – but now are in hell
  - 1. Their time of opportunity has past – also those in heaven