

10/7/12

**SERIES: II CORINTHIANS: THE HEART AND  
HUMILITY OF A MAN OF GOD, WEEK 33**

**TITLE: THE FRUITS AND JOY OF REPENTANCE**

**TEXT: II CORINTHIANS 7:11-16**

**INTRODUCTION: (1) IN PSALM 51:12, KING DAVID  
ASKED THE LORD “TO RESTORE UNTO HIM THE  
JOY OF HIS SALVATION.”**

**\* NOW WHAT PRECIPITATED THIS PLEA AND  
PRAYER TO GOD?**

**\*\* WELL, DAVID HAD SINNED AGAINST HIS HOLY  
GOD BY COMMITTING ADULTERY WITH  
BATHSHEBA AND THEN HAVING HER HUSBAND  
URIAH MURDERED BY SENDING HIM TO THE  
FRONT LINES OF A FIERCE BATTLE.**

**\*\*\* DAVID LOST HIS JOY THROUGH HIS SIN AND  
DID NOT REPENT OF IT UNTIL THE LORD SENT  
NATHAN THE PROPHET TO HIM TO CONFRONT  
HIM IN II SAMUEL 12.**

**\*\*\*\* WELL DAVID TRULY REPENTS OF HIS SIN IN RESPONSE TO NATHAN'S REPROOF, FOR IN II SAMUEL 12:13, DAVID SAYS TO NATHAN, "I HAVE SINNED AGAINST THE LORD."**

**(2) AND PSALM 51 GIVES US DAVID'S WORDS OF REPENTANCE IN DETAIL.**

**\* AND THEN IN PSALM 32 WE SEE DAVID'S AGONY OVER HIS SIN AFTER NATHAN'S CONFRONTATION.**

**\*\* NOW CLEARLY FROM THESE TEXTS, SIN TAKES AWAY A BELIEVER'S JOY. SIN ROBS US OF JOY, IT BLOCKS JOY AND TAKES AWAY GOD'S BLESSING ON OUR LIVES.**

**\*\*\* AND DAVID KNEW THE AGONY OF UNREPENTANT SIN.**

**\*\*\*\* HE REALIZED HIS SIN FIRST OF ALL WAS AGAINST GOD, NOT JUST BATHSHEBA AND URIAH, BUT FIRST AGAINST HIS LORD, QUOTE PSALM 51:4.**

**(3) BUT NOT ONLY WAS HIS SIN AGAINST THE LORD, HE KNEW THAT HIS FORGIVENESS COULD**

**ONLY COME FROM THE LORD AND HE  
CONFESSED HIS SIN, HAD GODLY SORROW AND  
TURNING FROM IT.**

**\* AND HE THEN COULD WRITE IN PSALM 32:1&2  
THESE WORDS:**

**V. 1 – HOW BLESSED IS HE WHOSE  
TRANSGRESSION IS FORGIVEN, WHOSE SIN IS  
COVERED!**

**V. 2 – HOW BLESSED IS THE MAN TO WHOM THE  
LORD DOES NOT IMPUTE INIQUITY.**

**\*\* NOW THE WORD “BLESSED” USED IN PSALM  
32:1&2 LIT. MEANS HAPPINESS, BLESSEDNESS.**

**\*\*\* AND FORGIVENESS BRINGS BLESSEDNESS,  
HAPPINESS, TRUE JOY, REJOICING AS WE SEE  
IN PSALM 32:11A, WHERE DAVID SAID: “BE  
GLAD IN THE LORD AND REJOICE, YOU  
RIGHTEOUS ONES, ONES THAT HAVE BEEN  
FORGIVEN.”**

**\*\*\*\* HENCE REPENTANCE OF SIN, BRINGS FORGIVENESS, WHICH BRINGS JOY.**

**(4) NOW AS WE SHIFT BACK TO THE N.T., INVOLVED IN REPENTANCE IS TRUE CONFESSION OF SIN, AGONIZING WITH GOD ABOUT THE HEINOUSNESS OF OUR SIN, THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR SIN.**

**\* IT INVOLVES GODLY SORROW OVER SIN AND TURNING FROM IT.**

**\*\* AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, JOY IS RESTORED AS THE LORD IN A SENSE WASHES OUR DIRTY FEET THAT GET DEFILED AS WE WALK IN A DIRTY WORLD.**

**\*\*\* WELL, THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH HAD SINNED AGAINST PAUL AND PAUL IN TURN WROTE THEM A SEVERE TEARFUL LETTER CALLING THEM TO REPENT.**

**\*\*\*\* AND YOU KNOW WHAT, THEY DID.**

**(5) WHY, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT TRUE CHRISTIANS DO, THEY ARE HABITUAL REPENTERS. REPENTERS REPENT, TRUE BELIEVERS ARE LIFELONG REPENTERS.**

**\* AND THE CHRISTIAN LIFE BEGINS WITH GOD GRANTING REPENTANT FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST, TURNING FROM SIN TO FOLLOW HIM.**

**\*\* AND AN EVIDENCE THAT GENUINE SAVING REPENTANCE HAS TAKEN PLACE IN SALVATION IS CHRISTIANS REPENT OF SIN. REPENTERS WILL REPENT.**

**\*\*\* AND I TALKED ABOUT THAT IN VV. 8-10 IN II CORINTHIANS 7 LAST WEEK.**

**\*\*\*\* AND TODAY IN A FOLLOW-UP OF THAT, WE'LL LOOK AT FRUITS OF REPENTANCE, RESULTS OF REPENTANCE, WHICH DEFINES WHAT IT TRULY IS, AND REJOICING THAT FOLLOWS AS A RESULT OF THAT IN II CORINTHIANS 7:11-16.**

**(6) AND BECAUSE OF THAT, I'VE TITLED OUR MESSAGE TODAY "THE FRUITS AND JOY OF REPENTANCE."**

**\* AND UNDER THAT THEME WE'LL LOOK AT 3 POINTS. NO. 1 THE RESULTS OF REPENTANCE, V. 11; NO. 2 THE REASONS PAUL WROTE THE SEVERE LETTER, VV. 12&13A; AND NO. 3 THE REJOICING REPENTANCE BRINGS IN PAUL AND TITUS' LIFE, VV. 13B-16.**

**\*\* SO WE'LL LOOK AT THE RESULTS, THE REASONS AND THE REJOICING UNDER THE TITLE AND THEME OF THE FRUITS AND JOY OF REPENTANCE.**

**\*\*\* AND WITH THOSE 3 POINTS AS OUR SPIRITUAL G.P.S., LOOK AT V. 11 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR FIRST POINT, THE RESULTS.**

**I. THE RESULTS, (READ V. 11)**

**A. NOW WHAT WE HAVE IN V. 11, AND THIS IS VERY PRACTICAL, WE HAVE THE RESULTS OF GODLY SORROW, WE HAVE 7 FRUITS OF REPENTANCE.**

**\* IN FACT, V. 11 LISTS SEVEN CHARACTERISTICS OF TRUE REPENTANCE AND IN ESSENCE PROVIDES A CLEAR DEFINITION OF REAL REPENTANCE, IN CONTRAST TO WORLDLY SORROW OR THE SORROW OF THE WORLD WHICH IS NOT A TRUE REPENTANCE.**

**\*\* AND NOTE THAT BEFORE EACH OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OR RESULTS, THE WORD WHAT IS USED 7 TIMES. AND WHAT UNDERSCORES THE INTENSE EMOTION PAUL FELT. HE HAS GREAT RELIEF AND JOY.**

**\*\*\* AND THE FIRST RESULT OF GODLY SORROW OR TRUE REPENTANCE IS EARNESTNESS.**

**\*\*\*\* AND THE WORD EARNESTNESS LIT. MEANS DILIGENCE, AN EAGERNESS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS ON THE CORINTHIANS' PART.**

**1. AND GUESS WHAT A THIRST AND HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS PRODUCES IN MATTHEW 5:6 IN THE BEATITUDES, TRUE SATISFACTION AND BLESSEDNESS, HOW HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY SHALL BE FILLED.**

**\* AND IT APPEARS THE CORINTHIANS WERE EAGER TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH PAUL, TO RESTORE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH PAUL.**

**\*\* NO.2, THE SECOND RESULT OR FRUIT OF REPENTANCE IS VINDICATION, AN EAGERNESS TO CLEAR THEMSELVES, AND THIS GREEK WORD IS THE SOURCE OF THE ENGLISH WORD APOLOGETICS AND LIT. MEANS A VERBAL DEFENSE, A SPEECH IN DEFENSE.**

**\*\*\* AND THE MEANING HERE IS, THE CORINTHIANS SOUGHT TO MEND THEIR WAYS**



**AND CLEAR THEMSELVES BEFORE GOD. THEY WANTED TO REMOVE THE STIGMA OF THEIR SIN.**

**\*\*\*\* AND IT APPEARS, THEY WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL WHO HAD KNOWN OF THEIR SIN, NOW KNEW OF THEIR REPENTANCE.**

**2. NO. 3, THEIR REPENTANCE RESULTED IN INDIGNATION, WHICH LIT. MEANS VEXATION, TO BE ANGRY, TO BE INDIGNANT.**

**\* AND THIS WORD DESCRIBES A HUMAN ATTITUDE THAT REVEALS RIGHTEOUS ANGER ABOUT SIN.**

**\*\* THE CORINTHIANS WERE OUTRAGED OVER THEIR SIN, THEY WERE ANGRY OVER THEIR SIN, THEY ABHORRED IT, THEY HATED IT.**

**\*\*\* AND BELOVED THIS IS SOMETHING WE ALL NEED, A HOLY HATRED FOR SIN. AND PRACTICALLY THIS COMES THROUGH THE FEAR, THE AWE, THE REVERENCING OF THE**

**LORD, A HIGH VIEW OF GOD RATHER THAN THE DOWNSIZING VIEW OF GOD WHERE HE IS SOME TEDDY BEAR THAT WE HUG.**

**\*\*\*\* AND YES WE NEED TO GROW IN SEEING HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US, BUT EQUALLY WE MUST GROW IN SEEING HIS HOLINESS, HIS PURITY, HIS OTHERNESS AND HIS TRANSCENDENCE, TO BE IN HOLY AWE OF HIM, TO REVERE AND RESPECT HIM.**

**3. AND THIS COMES THROUGH STUDYING HIS CHARACTER AND DOCTRINES ABOUT HIS ATTRIBUTES AND GROWING IN SEEING HIS SOVEREIGNTY.**

**\* AND IT RESULTS IN FEARING GOD, FOR PROVERBS 8:13 SAYS: (QUOTE IT).**

**\*\* PROVERBS 16:6 SAYS: “BY LOVINGKINDNESS AND TRUTH INIQUITY IS ATONED FOR, AND BY THE FEAR OF THE LORD ONE KEEPS AWAY FROM EVIL.”**

**\*\*\* THEN PSALM 119:104 SAYS: (QUOTE IT).**

**\*\*\*\* AND WE COME TO HATE THE FALSE WAY AND COME TO HATE SIN AS WE FEAR THE LORD. WE DEVELOP A HOLY INDIGNATION FOR SIN, WHICH IS A FRUIT OF REPENTANCE.**

**4. NO. 4, ANOTHER CHARACTERISTIC OR RESULT OF REPENTANCE IS FEAR WHICH GOES HAND IN HAND WITH HOLY INDIGNATION.**

**\* FOR GODLY FEAR MAKES US REALIZE THAT GOD CHASTENS CHRISTIANS WHO ARE UNREPENTANT AND JUDGES UNSAVED PEOPLE.**

**\*\* AND THIS FEAR IS NOT FRIGHT, BUT RESPECT, A REVERENCE FOR GOD. HE IS ABSOLUTELY JUST. HE HAS HOLY RIGHTEOUS ANGER AND WE NEED TO RESPECT THAT AND A HOLY GOD WILL DEAL JUSTLY WITH SIN.**

**\*\*\* MOVING ON, NO. 5 THE CORINTHIANS' REPENTANCE RESULTED IN A LONGING, A YEARNING, A STRONG DESIRE FOR SOMETHING.**

**\*\*\*\* AND CONTEXTUALLY IT APPEARS THAT THAT SOMETHING WAS TO HAVE THEIR**

**RELATIONSHIP WITH PAUL RESTORED, TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH PAUL, TO SEE HIM AGAIN.**

**5. NO. 6, THE CORINTHIANS IN THEIR GODLY SORROW OVER SIN EXPERIENCED ZEAL, A RENEWED ZEAL, A FERVENT ZEAL FOR HOLINESS.**

**\* AND UNFORTUNATELY WHEN WE ARE THINKING LIKE THE SOCIETY WE LIVE IN, WE ARE ZEALOUS FOR HAPPINESS HOWEVER BIBLICAL THINKING REALIZES WE NEED TO BE ZEALOUS FOR HOLINESS WHICH BRINGS TRUE HAPPINESS.**

**\*\* AND THEN LASTLY, NO. 7, A FRUIT OF REPENTANCE IS AVENGING OF WRONG IN THE NIV, A READINESS TO SEE JUSTICE DONE, VINDICATION.**

**\*\*\* AND SO YOU DON'T MISUNDERSTAND THE MEANING HERE, THIS IS NOT PERSONAL VENGEANCE WHICH GOD FORBIDS.**

**\*\*\*\* BIBLICAL VINDICATION IS A STRONG DESIRE TO SEE JUSTICE DONE AND TO MAKE RESTITUTION FOR WRONGS WE HAVE COMMITTED.**

**6. THE IDEA IS, INSTEAD OF PROTECTING SELF, WE ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR SIN.**

**\* AND WITH THE CORINTHIANS IT WOULD BRING ABOUT DEALING WITH SIN IN THE CHURCH.**

**\*\* AND PRACTICALLY, FOR ANY CHURCH, IT WOULD LEAD TO PRACTICING CHURCH DISCIPLINE IN LOVE WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE PRACTICED.**

**\*\*\* IN SUMMARY, GODLY SORROW, GENUINE REPENTANCE BRINGS FRUITS, RESULTS AND THEY ARE: EARNESTNESS, VINDICATION, INDIGNATION, FEAR OF GOD, LONGING, ZEAL AND AVENGING OF WRONG.**

**\*\*\*\* AND AT THE END OF V. 11, GENUINE GODLY SORROW, TRUE REPENTANCE LEADS TO A**

**CLEARING UP OF WRONGS DONE WHICH BRINGS ABOUT AN INNOCENCE, A PURITY.**

**7. IT IS TO SAY, THE CORINTHIANS DEMONSTRATED THE GENUINENESS OF THEIR REPENTANCE BY THEIR PURITY.**

**\* GODLY SORROW WHICH LEADS TO GENUINE BIBLICAL REPENTANCE HAD BROUGHT PURITY TO THE SINNING BELIEVERS IN THE CORINTHIANS CHURCH AND THEIR LIVES REFLECTED IT.**

**\*\* THEY WERE INNOCENT IN THAT LIGHT FOR THEY CLEARED THINGS UP THROUGH THEIR REPENTANCE OF THEIR SIN THAT PAUL WROTE TO THEM ABOUT IN HIS SEVERE TEARFUL LETTER, WHICH AGAIN WAS WRITTEN IN BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND CORINTHIANS.**

**\*\*\* THE CORINTHIANS NO LONGER WERE GUILTY IN THEIR OFFENSE AND SIN AGAINST THE LORD AND PAUL, THEY WERE CLEAR IN THIS MATTER.**

**\*\*\*\* AND BELOVED, THE FRUITS, THE RESULTS OF THE CORINTHIANS' REPENTANCE IN THEIR SIN WERE CLEARLY VISIBLE IN TITUS' REPORT TO PAUL IN RESPONSE TO PAUL'S SEVERE LETTER.**

**8. WHICH LEADS US TO V. 12, WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 2'D POINT TODAY, THE REASONS PAUL WROTE THIS SEVERE LETTER. WE GO FROM THE RESULTS OF THE SEVERE LETTER TO THE REASONS. LOOK AT V. 12 PLEASE.**

**II. THE REASONS, (READ V. 12)**

**A. NOW WHEN PAUL WROTE THIS SEVERE LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS WHICH WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT IN OUR STUDY OF II CORINTHIANS, IT WAS NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OR SAKE OF THE OFFENDER.**

**\* IN OTHER WORDS, PAUL DID NOT WRITE PRIMARILY TO CONDEMN THE MAN WHO HAD CAUSED HIM SO MUCH GRIEF DURING WHAT WE**

**HAVE CALLED PAUL'S PAINFUL VISIT TO CORINTH BEFORE WRITING HIS SEVERE LETTER.**

**\*\* NOW WHO WAS THIS MAN? WELL, AS WE GO BACK TO II CORINTHIANS 2:1-11, WE SEE THAT PAUL ADMONISHED THE CORINTHIANS TO FORGIVE AND COMFORT A MAN WHOM APPARENTLY HAD BEEN DISCIPLINED BY THE CORINTHIANS CHURCH.**

**\*\*\* AND IT APPEARS FROM AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF II CORINTHIANS, THIS MAN, A BELIEVER AND POSSIBLY A LEADER IN THE CHURCH GOT SUCKED INTO THE CRITICISM OF PAUL BY THE FALSE TEACHERS WHOM HAD INFILTRATED THE CHURCH AT CORINTH AND JUMPED ON THEIR BANDWAGON, AND PUBLICLY AND ZEALOUSLY, IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH CALLED PAUL (PAUL BEING THERE ON HIS PAINFUL VISIT) CALLED PAUL DISHONEST, FICKLE, AND NOT A MAN OF TRUTH, THAT HIS YES WAS NO AND HIS NO WAS YES, IN ESSENCE**



**THAT PAUL LACKED INTEGRITY, WHAT THE FALSE APOSTLES WERE SAYING.**

**\*\*\*\* THIS MAN APPEARS TO HAVE CALLED PAUL OUT IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE CHURCH.**

**1. AND FROM II CORINTHIANS 12:11 AND OTHER TEXTS, THE CORINTHIANS DID NOT DEFEND PAUL'S INTEGRITY, AND IF YOU HAVE INTEGRITY, THIS HURTS BIG TIME.**

**\* THE CORINTHIANS APPARENTLY GOT CAUGHT UP IN WHAT THE FALSE TEACHERS WERE SAYING ABOUT PAUL'S CHANGE OF TRAVEL PLANS WHICH WE TALKED ABOUT EARLIER IN THE BOOK, THEY WERE SWAYED BY THE FALSE TEACHERS.**

**\*\* AND THE CORINTHIANS DID NOT INITIALLY REBUKE THEIR OWN MAN, POSSIBLY A LEADER WHO GOT ON THE BANDWAGON OF THE FALSE TEACHERS, WHICH HAD TO KILL PAUL.**

**\*\*\* WELL, WITH THAT BACKGROUND, PAUL DID NOT WRITE HIS SEVERE LETTER FOR THE SAKE**

OF THE MAN WHO HAD SINNED BY DOING THIS. PAUL WAS HURT, FOR HIS PREACHING AND TEACHING CAME INTO QUESTION ABOUT ITS TRUTH AND VALIDITY.

2. NOR WAS, AS WE MOVE ON IN V. 12, WAS PAUL'S MAIN CONCERN FOR HIMSELF AS THE ONE OFFENDED, HE WAS NOT SEEKING PERSONAL VENGEANCE.

\* THE MAIN REASON PAUL WROTE THE SEVERE LETTER WAS AT THE END OF V. 12, WAS THAT THE CORINTHIANS EARNESTNESS ON HIS BEHALF MIGHT BE MADE KNOWN TO THEM IN THE SIGHT OF GOD.

\*\* MEANING: THE CORINTHIANS' SIN CAUSED THEM TO LOSE SIGHT OF THEIR LOYALTY AND LOVE FOR PAUL AND THE GOSPEL AND THE TRUTHS HE PREACHED TO THEM.

\*\*\* IT IS TO SAY, THEY HAD BEEN SO DECEIVED BY THE INFLUENCE OF THE MAN PAUL IS TALKING ABOUT AND THE FALSE TEACHERS,

**THAT THEY HAD SET ASIDE THEIR LOVE FOR PAUL AND THE TRUTH HE PROCLAIMED.**

**\*\*\*\* THEREFORE THE REASON FOR HIS SEVERE LETTER WAS TO PEEL BACK THE LAYERS OF LIES THAT HAD HARDENED THEIR HEARTS TO PAUL, AND REMINDED THEM OF THEIR TRUE FEELINGS FOR THE MAN WHO HAD LED THEM TO CHRIST AND TAUGHT THEM, SACRIFICING FOR THEM.**

**3. IN OTHER WORDS, PAUL'S SEVERE LETTER RESTORED THEIR SPIRITUAL SIGHT AND ENABLED THEM AGAIN TO SEE PAUL AS THE TRUSTED SERVANT OF GOD, A MAN OF INTEGRITY THAT THEY HAD ALWAYS KNOWN HIM TO BE BEFORE THE LIES THAT WERE PERPETUATED BY THE FALSE TEACHERS AND THE RINGLEADER AT THE CHURCH WHO HAD JUMPED ON THIS BANDWAGON.**

**\* PAUL WAS LOOKING FOR THEM TO RETURN TO THE TRUTHS HE HAD TAUGHT THEM. SO THE REASON FOR THE SEVERE LETTER WAS NOT**

**FOR THE MAN WHO SINNED AGAINST HIM, OR FOR SELF, BUT FOR THE CORINTHIANS TO ULTIMATELY TURN BACK TO THE TRUTH, WHICH PAUL HAD DELIVERED THEM.**

**\*\* AND THE CORINTHIANS SAW THAT, AND THEIR EYES WERE OPENED AND THEY REPENTED, AND FOR THIS REASON PAUL WAS COMFORTED. LOOK AT V. 13A PLEASE.**

**B. READ V. 13A. NOW THE BELIEVER'S REPENTANCE AT CORINTH, THEIR GODLY SORROW, TRUE REPENTANCE AND RENEWED LOYALTY TO PAUL, WHICH ULTIMATELY WAS TO CHRIST, BROUGHT COMFORT TO PAUL.**

**\* “FOR THIS REASON, WE HAVE BEEN COMFORTED.” AND “WE” MAKES REFERENCE TO PAUL AND HIS CO-LABORERS.**

**\*\* AND THEY WERE ENCOURAGED, IT HAD TO BE LIKE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR, THE RELIEF, THE COMFORT, THE ENCOURAGEMENT.**

**\*\*\* BUT IT WAS NOT ONLY A COMFORT TO PAUL AND HIS CO-LABORERS, BUT A JOY FOR TITUS WHOM DELIVERED THIS SEVERE LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS. LOOK AT V. 13B PLEASE AS WE WILL START TO SEE OUR THIRD POINT TODAY, THE REJOICING.**

### **III. THE REJOICING, (READ V. 13)**

**A. NOW REPENTANCE OF SIN, NOT ONLY BRINGS JOY TO THE REPENTER, BUT ALSO TO THOSE WHOM ARE AROUND THE ONE REPENTING AND TO THE ONES WHOM HAVE SPIRITUAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE ONE REPENTING.**

**\* FOR YOU SEE, PAUL AND HIS CO-LABORERS REJOICED EVEN MORE THAN FOR THEMSELVES OVER THE JOY AND REFRESHING THAT TITUS RECEIVED FROM SEEING THE FRUITS OF REPENTANCE IN THE CORINTHIANS' LIVES.**

**\*\* FOR REMEMBER, TITUS WAS PAUL'S EMISSARY, HE DELIVERED PAUL'S SEVERE LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS.**

**\*\*\* AND AS A YOUNGER LESS SEASONED MAN THAN PAUL, TITUS MUST HAVE HAD SOME APPREHENSION IN DELIVERING THIS KIND OF A LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS.**

**\*\*\* AND POSSIBLY, HE THOUGHT FIGURATIVELY, ARE THEY GOING TO KILL THE MESSENGER? TITUS HAD TO HAVE SOME TREPIDATION ABOUT THIS.**

**1. BUT WHEN HE SAW HOW THE CORINTHIANS RESPONDED TO THE LETTER IN REPENTANCE, HE NOT ONLY WAS RELIEVED, HE HAD JOY AND WAS REFRESHED, HE WAS REVIVED, IT WAS LIKE THE MORNING AFTER YOU'VE HAD THE BEST NIGHT'S SLEEP AFTER TOSSING AND TURNING FOR NIGHTS OR WEEKS.**

**\* BUT NOT ONLY WAS TITUS REJOICING AND REFRESHED, PAUL WAS RELIEVED, FOR LOOK AT V. 14 PLEASE.**

**B. READ V. 14. NOW ALTHOUGH NO DOUBT IN HIS HUMANNESS, PAUL HAD A CONCERN ABOUT IF THE CORINTHIANS WOULD RESPOND IN REPENTANCE TO HIS SEVERE LETTER, HE KNEW IN HIS SPIRIT, HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD THAT THE CORINTHIANS WERE TRUE BELIEVERS AND WOULD REPENT WHEN CAREFRONTED WITH THEIR SIN.**

**\* THEREFORE IN HOPE OF THAT, PAUL HAD BOASTED, LIT. HAD GLORIED TO TITUS BEFORE SENDING HIM TO CORINTH THAT THE CORINTHIANS WOULD BE OBEDIENT, THAT THEY WOULD RESPOND AND REPENT.**

**\*\* AND IN A SENSE, PAUL STAKED HIS REPUTATION THAT THEY WOULD REPENT, THAT HE HAD THE DISCERNMENT THROUGH THE LORD THAT THEY WOULD RESPOND TO HIS LETTER.**

**\*\*\* AND JUST AS PAUL ALWAYS SPOKE THE TRUTH TO THE CORINTHIANS, HE WAS REJOICING THAT HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE CORINTHIANS PROVED TO BE THE TRUTH.**

**\*\*\*\* IN OTHER WORDS, PAUL BELIEVED THE CORINTHIANS WOULD REPENT, THEY DID, AND THEREFORE WHAT HE TOLD TITUS AHEAD OF TIME ABOUT THE CORINTHIANS PROVED TO BE TRUE.**

**1. HE TRULY BELIEVED THEY WOULD REPENT, FOR HE TRULY BELIEVED THAT THE CORINTHIANS WERE GENUINE CHRISTIANS AND REPENTERS REPENT. TRUE CHRISTIANS ARE REPENTERS AND PAUL WAS RELIEVED AND REJOICED.**

**\* BELOVED, PAUL'S TRUTHFULNESS AND DISCERNMENT WERE VINDICATED BY THE CORINTHIANS' REPENTANCE.**



**\*\* AND THEIR OBEDIENCE CALMED TITUS' FEARS AND CAUSED HIM TO DEVELOP A STRONG AFFECTION FOR THEM. LOOK AT V. 15 PLEASE.**

**C. READ V. 15. NOW TITUS' INWARD AFFECTION TOWARD THE CORINTHIANS WAS ABOUNDING AS HE SAW THEIR RESPONSE OF REPENTANCE ON HIS VISIT WITH THEM.**

**\* I MEAN AS TITUS SAW THE CORINTHIANS' OBEDIENCE, THEIR RESPONSE, THEIR REPENTANCE, HE HAD A DEEP ABOUNDING LOVE FOR THEM.**

**\*\* BUT ALSO HIS ABOUNDING AFFECTION ALSO CAME FROM HOW THEY RECEIVED HIM, WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING.**

**\*\*\* FOR THE CORINTHIANS RECEIVED TITUS AS GOD'S AMBASSADOR WHO DELIVERED PAUL'S MESSAGE FROM GOD TO THEM. THEY HAD A HUMBLE AND RESPECTFUL UNDERSTANDING OF TITUS' POSITION AS PAUL'S EMISSARY.**

**\*\*\*\* THEY RECEIVED TITUS AS THE MESSENGER OF GOD AND OBVIOUSLY RESPECTED HIS POSITION IN THE WILL OF GOD IN THEIR LIVES.**

**1. AND IN RESPONSE TO THAT, TITUS' HEART WAS REJOICING, IT WAS FULL, ABOUNDING IN JOY AND IN LOVE FOR THE CORINTHIANS.**

**\* AND THAT ENCOURAGED PAUL EVEN THAT MUCH MORE FOR NOTICE WHAT PAUL SAYS IN V. 16. LOOK AT V. 16 PLEASE.**

**C. READ V. 16. NOW HERE IN V. 16, PAUL CLOSES OUT THIS FIRST MAJOR SECTION OF II CORINTHIANS BY SAYING, "I REJOICE."**

**\* PAUL HAD GREAT JOY. HE WAS SO GLAD AND SO ENCOURAGED BY THE CORINTHIANS' REPENTANCE, THAT HE COMMUNICATES NOT ONLY HIS COMFORT IN V. 13, BUT HIS JOY. TITUS' WORDS TO PAUL ABOUT THE CORINTHIANS TRULY WERE TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY.**

**\*\* AND THIS IN TURN GAVE PAUL EVEN GREATER CONFIDENCE IN THE CORINTHIANS THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WAS RIGHT, INCLUDING CHAPTERS 8&9 WHICH FOLLOW, THAT THEY FOLLOW-UP, THAT THEY WOULD FINISH UP THEIR COLLECTION FOR THE POOR SAINTS OF JERUSALEM.**

**\*\*\* AS PAUL WILL TALK ABOUT THE GRACE OF GIVING IN CHAPTERS 8&9 OF II CORINTHIANS.**

**\*\*\*\* AND PAUL'S REAFFIRMATION OF HIS TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THE CORINTHIANS TO CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WAS RIGHT BROUGHT CLOSURE TO THE ISSUE OF THE SEVERE LETTER HE WROTE TO THEM.**

**IN WRAP UP: (1) GODLY SORROW THAT BRINGS ABOUT REAL REPENTANCE BRINGS GREAT JOY.**

**\* IT BRINGS JOY TO THE REPENTER. IT BRINGS JOY TO THOSE AROUND YOU AND ALSO TO YOUR SPIRITUAL LEADERS.**

**\*\* IN LIGHT OF THAT, MAY WE KEEP OUR ACCOUNTS SHORT WITH THE LORD, CONFESSING, REPENTING OF SIN IMMEDIATELY RATHER THAN LETTING SIN BUILD UP.**

**\*\*\* AND MAY WE NOT BE SO FOOLISH TO THINK THAT SIN WILL EVER SATISFY US, THAT IT WILL BRING US JOY AND HAPPINESS.**

**\*\*\*\* THE TREE OF HAPPINESS DOESN'T GROW IN THE CURSED EARTH IT GROWS BY OBEDIENCE, BY REPENTANCE, AND BY SUBMITTING TO GOD'S WILL OVER OURS.**

**(2) AND BEING A REGULAR REPENTER SHOULD BRING US ASSURANCE OF SALVATION, THAT WE ARE TRULY THE LORDS.**

**\* AND NO REPENTANCE SHOULD REVEAL WE NEED THE LORD'S SALVATION. AND IF YOU DO, MAY YOU TURN IN REPENTANT FAITH IN CHRIST TODAY. (LET'S PRAY)**