

# The blessings of really getting right!

II Corinthians 7:2 **Receive us**; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man. 3 I speak not *this* to condemn *you*: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with *you*. 4 Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation. 5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but **we were troubled on every side**; without *were* fightings, within *were* fears. 6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; 7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more. 8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season. 9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be

repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. **11** For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

**12** Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, *I did it* not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you. **13** Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all. **14** For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which *I made* before Titus, is found a truth. **15** And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him. **16** **I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.**

- Know that all the work you do in the ministry is not you or your work but His. We work with Him. That is what you saw

so clearly in the last part of II Corinthians 5 **6:1** We then, **as workers together with him**, beseech *you* also that ye **receive not the grace of God in vain.**

- Don't waste the opportunities that God gives you to do ministry **6:1** We then, **as workers together with him**, beseech *you* also that ye **receive not the grace of God in vain.**
- There is no guarantee that you can be saved at any time except right now! **6:2** (For he saith, I have heard thee in a **time accepted**, and **in the day of salvation** have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the **accepted time**; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.) **Isaiah 55:6** Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, Call ye upon him while he is near:
- We should all live very carefully so as not to give offense to the ministry of God or the ministry of reconciliation **6:3** **Giving no offence in any thing**, that the ministry be not blamed:
- We are to live proving that we really are ministers of God **6:4** But in **all things approving ourselves** as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

- Notice the things that we prove our ministry. It is not the numbers or the applause of men but patience-endurance, afflictions, *Afflictions* are trials under pressure, when you are pressed down by circumstances. *Necessities* are the everyday hardships of life, and *distresses* refer to experiences that push us into a corner where there seems to be no escape.
- He spoke of the sacrifices that he made for the ministry
- He spoke of his desire to be holy and pure as he serves God
- We are to separate ourselves from unbelievers **14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:** for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
- We are to separate ourselves from sin but more than being from it is to. We separate ourselves to the Lord Jesus Himself
- We will love lost people. We will befriend them and show them the gospel but we will never participate in the things that are not pleasing to God
- There are great promises to us when we separate ourselves from the world and to Him! **7:1 Having therefore these promises,** dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all

filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

1. Receive me, accept me. Let's get back together. Let's be reconciled **7:2 Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.**
  - a. Paul wanted to have close fellowship with them again
  - b. Paul reminded them of his integrity. He had not taken advantage of them in any way
  - c. The legalists may have accused him but the accusations were not true
  - d. Paul loved the church, the people. It hurt him desperately that they would believe anything bad about him
  - e. He knew that they might be mad or hurt about what he had said to them but he had to say it
  
2. Paul never wanted to hurt them or walk away from them **3 I speak not *this* to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you. 4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.**

- a. Paul never wrote to condemn them but to encourage them to do what was right
  - b. Paul loved them and never wanted to be separated from them
  - c. He hoped to live and die and always be with them
  - d. He was proud of them and the work that God was doing in their lives
  - e. All the hurt that came with being their pastor and leader was worth it.
3. Titus had brought Paul the good news of them getting right
- 5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but **we were troubled on every side;** without were fightings, within were fears. 6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; 7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more. 8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season.

- a. Paul had been very worried. As pastor he wanted to know that they were really saved and enjoying the Christian life
- b. Titus arrived after his visit with the church to tell Paul that all was well
- c. Titus told Paul that the church had made the right decision **7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more. 8** For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season.
  - i. They did love God
  - ii. They were sorry when they saw their mistake
  - iii. They loved Paul and wanted to listen to him
  - iv. The letter Paul had written them caused them to see their mistake and get right
  - v. He was glad that they got it right and admits that writing the letter hurt him as he wrote it but he was glad that he did

4. True repentance versus false repentance **9** Now I rejoice, not that ye were **made sorry**, but that ye **sorrowed to repentance**: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. **10** For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the **sorrow of the world worketh death**. **11** For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a **godly sort**, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. **12** Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, *I did it* not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you.

- a. There are two kinds of repentance!
  - i. One is the godly sort
  - ii. The other is the sorrow of the world
- b. We can see the example of these two types of repentance in Peter and Judas. Both men were sorry but there were very different results

- i. Peter denied Christ but repented [Matthew 26:75](#) And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and **wept bitterly.**
- ii. Judas also realized that he had done wrong [Matthew 27:3-5](#) Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, **repented himself**, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, [4](#) Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, *What is that to us? see thou to that.* [5](#) And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and **went and hanged himself.**
- c. You are only saved if you have truly repented. Remember that now is the day and time of salvation and see to it that you really are not just sorry for your sins but sorry enough to turn from your sin to the Saviour
- d. Christians also need to repent of things in their daily lives
  - i. That is what Paul has called on this church to do
  - ii. [II Corinthians 12:21](#) *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

iii. Four of the seven churches in Revelation 2-3 are called on to repent

e. True repentance was shown through various characteristics **7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us **your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me;** so that I rejoiced the more.**

**11** For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

i. Their earnest desire or eagerness to do right

ii. Their mourning. They were sorry and made it very obvious that they knew they had done wrong and wanted to do right

iii. They showed a fervent mind. They were upset, angry about how they had fallen into the trap and intended not to fall into the trap again

- iv. They were careful, super concerned about what had happened **11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.**
  - v. They wanted to clear themselves, let it be known that what they had done did not represent who they were but had been wrong behaviour on their part
  - vi. They were indignant, angry about their sin and how it had hurt the cause of Christ and them
  - vii. They were showing great desire to do right *what vehement desire,*
  - viii. They had great zeal, emotion, excitement
  - ix. They wanted revenge or to make things right
  - x. They wanted it clear and obvious that they knew they were doing wrong and were going to get it right or had gotten it right
- f. These ought to be our reactions to our sin when we see it

5. Paul is comforted and the church is also comforted **13**  
Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all. **14** For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which *I made before Titus, is found a truth.*
- a. Paul was so excited to know that they church had realized their sin and gotten it right
  - b. He was glad to know that they still loved him
  - c. They had sinned in not disciplining sin and also in being divided over personalities
  - d. They also had began to follow legalistic teachings that were destroying the brethren
  - e. Paul was proud of them. Had bragged on them and was now happy to see that what he originally thought was really true
6. Paul believed in them **15** *And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye*

received him. **16 I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.**

- a. Paul was glad that Titus had been so blessed.
- b. Paul was happy to hear Titus tell of how they had obeyed what Paul told them to do
- c. Paul was happy that he had been right to believe in them