

2 Corinthians

Chapter 13

I. Paul's Third Visit

A. Based on the Principle of Witnesses

1. Two or Three Witnesses

- a. Accusations against a murder – Nu. 35:29, 30
- b. Accusations against an Elder – 1 Tim. 5:19-21
- c. Trespasses against a brother – Matt. 18:15-20

2. The Corinthians' Behavior

- a. Some had already sinned – 2 Cor. 12:21
- b. Some had not repented – 2 Cor. 12:21

B. Paul's Warning: "...if I come again, I will not spare."

1. He had told them before: "I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time..."
2. He writes to them: "...and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other..."

Conclusion: Sufficient warning has been given; now discipline is necessary!

II. The Benefits of Discipline – John 15:1-8

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| A. Preservation | C. Quantity |
| B. Purity | D. Quality |

III. The Corinthians' Immaturity

- A. Unimpressed with Christ's Gentleness and Meekness – 2 Cor. 10:1, 10
- B. Impressed with False Apostles display of power – 2 Cor. 11:19-21
- C. They sought a sign as Proof of his Apostleship
 1. Miracles were proof of Paul's apostleship – 2 Cor. 11:12; Acts 4:33; 8:14-19; Gal.3:1-5; Heb. 2:4
 2. The Pharisees sought a sign from Jesus as proof of his apostleship – Heb. 3:1; Matt.

IV. The Relationship Between Christ and Paul's Authority

A. Christ was crucified because of "Weakness."

1. Not because of physical weakness or moral infractions - 2 Pet. 2:22
2. Crucified because of non-retaliation – 2 Pet. 2:21-23
 - a. Voluntarily – Isa. 53:7, 8; Jo. 10:17, 18
 - b. Obediently – Phil. 2:5-8
 - i. From divinity to humanity
 - ii. From being served to serving

B. Christ lives by the power of God

1. Christ's authority to discipline is connected to His resurrection – 2 Tim. 4:1, 2
2. Paul's authority is connected to the resurrection power of Christ by God