

Series: Words of Counsel and Correction

# THE VIEW OF VICTORY

## 2 CORINTHIANS 2

Text:

Introduction:

We will Lord willing consider this chapter this week as well as next week.

This evening will be more of an overview, next we will be more specific.

I would like to share some thoughts on this subject this evening: The Views of Victory.

Understand that Victory is found in how we look at the Saviour, the Scripture and also the Sinner.

Note:

# 1. THE COMPASSION OF PAUL (VS. 1-4)

## **2 Corinthians 2:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> *But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.* <sup>2</sup> *For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?* <sup>3</sup> *And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all.* <sup>4</sup> *For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you **with many tears**; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.*

Paul was a very compassionate man and this affected his conduct regarding his return to Corinth.

Note:

### A. The Waiting Because of His Compassion

## **2 Corinthians 2:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> *But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.* <sup>2</sup> *For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?*

The compassion of Paul was very involved in his delay in coming to Corinth because of the church discipline case.

- He Would Not Come In Heaviness (vs. 1)

### **2 Corinthians 2:1**

*<sup>1</sup> But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.*

Paul, himself, was sorrowful over the situation in Corinth and did not want to come to them when he would be heavy-hearted.

- He Would Not Come Without Happiness (vs. 2)

### **2 Corinthians 2:2**

*<sup>2</sup> For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?*

If Paul comes to Corinth in sorrow then he makes the people unhappy. But they are the very ones who could make him happy. Therefore, he delays his coming to Corinth, for he wants it to be a happy occasion.

## **B. The Writing in Compassion (vs. 3-4)**

Compassion also guided Paul as he wrote this epistle

Note Paul's:

- Passion In the Writing

### **2 Corinthians 2:4**

*<sup>4</sup> For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.*

This epistle was written with much compassion—both of sorrow and love. The love for his converts in Corinth produced the sorrow over the case of discipline in the church.

Note not only the Compassion of Paul but also:

## **2. THE COUNSEL OF PAUL**

### **2 Corinthians 2:5-11**

*<sup>5</sup> But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all.*

*<sup>6</sup> Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. <sup>7</sup> So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. <sup>8</sup> Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him. <sup>9</sup> For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. <sup>10</sup> To whom ye forgive any*

*thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; <sup>11</sup> Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*

Paul gives some counsel to the Corinthians about the case of discipline he had ordered in the first epistle.

From the reports Paul has received about the effect of the discipline, Paul believes it is time to stop the discipline. It had accomplished its intended objective.

Paul instructs them to forgive the offender.

### **2 Corinthians 2:7-8**

*<sup>7</sup> So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. <sup>8</sup> Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.*

I believe that we must do right and deal with things at times, but we too must be willing to forgive lest they be swallowed up in sorrow.

One of the purposes of this letter was to encourage the church to end the discipline and begin the restoration. Doing this would give proof of the church's obedience to the will of God regarding the situation.

As preachers we must remember that we are to preach the truth in love.

There is never a reason as preachers we should be hateful.

That leads to a third consideration:

### **3. THE CONCERN OF PAUL**

#### **2 Corinthians 2:12-13**

*<sup>12</sup> Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, <sup>13</sup> I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.*

Paul became greatly concerned that the discipling of this immoral member of the church may have caused trouble among the people and also for the one disciplined.

Paul was greatly upset in his heart about Corinth. This restlessness is often experienced by ministers who face many church problems. It hinders them from concentrating on the work before them. Satan endeavors to especially oppose any work in which "a door was opened... of the Lord"

Paul "expected to meet Titus at Troas, and to learn from him the state of things in Corinth, and especially the effect produced by his former letter."

Here no news was not good news. Not hearing from Titus about Corinth greatly concerned Paul.

The suspense of not hearing from Titus inspired Paul to leave Troas and go to Macedonia to meet up with Titus.

We have considered this evening the Compassion Counsel and Concern of Paul note lastly:

## **4. THE CONQUERING OF PAUL**

### ***2 Corinthians 2:14-17***

*<sup>14</sup> Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. <sup>15</sup> For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: <sup>16</sup> To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?*

*<sup>17</sup> For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.*

Paul has been giving some negative news and thoughts but Paul changes it here into the character of victory.

In spite of the difficulties, Paul enjoyed victory in the ministry.

Paul directs his thanksgiving to the right place. It is God and Jesus Christ Who have given him the victory. Whatever other helps he has been given for the conquering, the root source of the conquering is God through Jesus Christ so he starts by thanking God.

Close:

We too can be victorious but we must realize it is only God that makes it possible.