

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 6: 11-7:1

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

COME OVER HERE !

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

Part 3

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Love, Heart, Ministry, Church, Family, Holiness

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 6:11-7:1

The Zeal, Life, and Influence of Saul of Tarsus

Was legendary among 1st century Jews and Romans.

And that Reality only Intensified When He was Converted to Jesus Christ – Saul, took on a New Name, the name Paul, and he Became the most Powerful witness of Christianity that the World has ever known.

Now a Father to Many in the Faith

1 Corinthians 4:14-16

I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. 15 For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. 16 Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

“my son in the faith” and “brothers and sisters” and “my beloved” – these terms of endearment became Paul's common language.

2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1

O Corinthians! We have **spoken openly** to you, our heart is wide open. 12 You are not **restricted** by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. 13 Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. 14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." 17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty." 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

1.) And hear v. 11-16

1a.) Hear the heart v. 11-13

1b.) Hear the wisdom v. 14

1c.) Hear the reality v. 15-16

16b For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will **dwell in them** And **walk among them**. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

This “**Dwelling**” and this “**Walking**” speaks of **Leisure** and **Rest**. (*it’ s a return to Eden – before the fall*)

:16 For you are the temple of the living God
temples are in association with the gods. It’ s the concept that the gods need a place to dwell – a house – a temple that kept their gods. BUT MAN IS THE DWELLING PLACE OF GOD

Acts 7:48-49

“However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: 49 “Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. What house will you build for Me? says the LORD, Or what is the place of My rest? 50 Has My hand not made all these things?”

This is The Foundational Doctrine of Christianity.

“I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God and they shall be My people.”

Christianity elevates the human being. Paganism devalues Humanity. (*and in some cases, paganism takes on the form of environmentalism which advocates the death of a human to preserve nature.*)

COME OVER HERE

2.) **And see**

v. 17-18

17 Therefore “Come **out** from **among** them And be **separate**, says the Lord. Do not touch what is **unclean**, And I will receive you.” 18
“I will be a **Father** to you, And you shall be **My sons and daughters**, Says the LORD Almighty.”

The bulk of verses 17 & 18 is from **Isaiah 52:11 & Ezekiel 20:34**

(*Paul quotes from memory here not verbatim*)

COME OVER HERE “AND SEE”

2a.) **See your real position**

v. 17a

Therefore “Come **out** from **among** them and be **separate**, says the Lord.

Israel’s Exodus from Babylon is what Paul is remembering here through the eyes of the prophet Isaiah. The LORD had called His people back to their promised land. A dedicated life was to be established on their way to the “Promises of God” and so the picture is the same for us today.

1st Century background will be good for us here. At the time of this writing, the church was made up of those who had been saved while under the sway of the roman empire.

We know from period writings that people such as stone masons became Christians but were expected to carve stone idols. Centurions had become Christians but were required to salute and shout that Caesar is lord. Butchers were to separate the best meats for pagan worship services.

Separate ajfori÷zw **aphorizo**, af-or-id´-zo; from 575 and 3724; to set off the boundary. To build a fence. To divide or make clear the division.

Colossians 3:2-3

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For (or because) you died, and your life is **hidden with Christ in God**.

Hidden kru/ptw **krupto**, kroop´-to; concealed. To keep secret. Known only to God

This “Separate” and “Hidden” is The Ultimate Liberty

Because A Separated Life is a Powerful Life

Israel, when they determined to be separated to God, was invincible. Biblical personalities like Abraham, Joshua, Samson, - as long as they were **separated** to God – they were victorious in whatever they did.

Church history proves the same – men and women **separated** to God are awesome tools in God’s hands to reach into a SIN SICK world.

For many years well-meaning but ill-informed Christians took this word “separation” to mean “isolation”

Christians were being told that they should stay away from unbelievers. Some Christian leaders, having a wrong view of the Scriptures began to teach “withdrawal” for fear of being tainted by the world.

There are Loons out there today, on-line, self appointed “Holy-Spirit Helpers” that think they have been called to attack every good work that reaches out into a lost world. **Isolationism breeds legalism**

COME OVER HERE “AND SEE”

2b.) See your real life v. 17

Do not touch what is **unclean**, And I will receive you.”

The command to “Not touch what is **unclean**,” Is a reference to the carnal, worldly or unsanctioned passions of life.

1 John 2:15-17 & Genesis 3:6

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world – **(1) the lust of the flesh, (2) the lust of the eyes, and (3) the pride of life**—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it;

Genesis 3:6

So when the woman **(1) saw that the tree was good for food**, that it was **(2) pleasant to the eyes**, and a tree desirable to **(3) make one wise**, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

John 17:15

I do not pray that You should **take them out of the world**, but that You should **keep them from the evil one**. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 **Sanctify** them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

Jesus’ Perfect Example

Hebrews 7:26 & Luke 7:34

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, **separate from sinners**, and has become higher than the heavens;

Luke 7:34

The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, “Look, a glutton and a winebibber, **a friend of tax collectors and sinners!**”

And you Christian - You’ re exactly what the world needs.

(we’ re to be going into a contaminated world, suited up in the righteousness of Christ)

COME OVER HERE “AND SEE”

2c.) See your real family v. 18

(1) “I will be a **Father** to you, And **(2)** you shall be **My sons and daughters**, **(3)** Says the **LORD Almighty**.”

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|---|
| (1) | What He says. | “I will be a Father to you |
| (2) | Who He is saying it to. | you shall be My sons and daughters |
| (3) | And consider Who’ s saying it | Says the LORD Almighty |

The relationship between a father and his child is a biblical model. The father loves the child. The father desires the best for the child. The father seeks to develop that child in the ways of God. But if that child refuses to honor or submit or to obey the father – that child will not have access to all that the father wants to give. Disobedience has separated many from the “father-child” relationship.

God, your Father wants to bless your life.

But much of what God wants to do for us and to do with us is prevented by our own disobedience.

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

COME OVER HERE

3.) And be v. 7:1

7:1 Therefore, **having these promises, beloved**, let us (1) **cleanse** ourselves from **all filthiness** of the flesh and spirit, (2) **perfecting holiness** in the **fear** of God.

COME OVER HERE “AND BE”

3a.) Be My **child**

v. 1a

Therefore, having **THESE** promises, **beloved**,

What promises is Paul referring to ? The answer is singular, yet encompassing totality. Paul points the Corinthians to the Epicenter of all Promises; vs. 14-18 – That Man is the Dwelling Place of God !!!

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the (Holy) Spirit of God, these are **sons of God**. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but **you received the** (Holy) **Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

2 Corinthians 1:20-22

For **all the promises of God** in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, 22 who also has **sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee**.

COME OVER HERE “AND BE”

3b.) Be My **witness**

v. 1b

let us (1) **cleanse ourselves** from **all filthiness** of the flesh and spirit,

this is a call for Christian maturity.

(too often Christians deal with the symptoms of sinful conduct rather than the cause.)

let us (1) **cleanse ourselves**

not “**save**” **yourselves** – but cleanse.

Christian Maintenance is a Daily Thing. Guard your hearts. Keep yourself in the love of God. Flee youthful lusts...

Ephesians 5:25-28

Husbands, love your wives, just (*like*) **as** Christ also loved the church and **gave Himself for her** (*the husband*), 26 that He (*the husband*) might **sanctify** and **cleanse** her with the washing of water by the word (*the husband*), 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So (*just like or as*) husbands ought to love their own wives

**the flesh
and spirit**

(**acts** = the things we do that we should not be doing)
(**thoughts** = the things our flesh imagines what could happen)

The sins of the flesh are obvious. But the sins of the spirit is where it all begins - lusts

Sometimes it is easier to deal with the filthiness of the flesh

than the filthiness of the spirit. During Jesus’ earthly ministry, those who were stained by the filthiness of the flesh (such as harlots and tax collectors) found it easy to come to Jesus. But those who are stained by the filthiness of the spirit (such as legalists, the scribes and Pharisees, the self-righteous) found it very hard if not impossible to come to Jesus.

COME OVER HERE “AND BE”

3c.) Be My **hope**

v. 1c

(2) **perfecting holiness** in the **fear** of God.

perfecting εἰς τέλεισιν **epiteleo**, ep-ee-tel-eh'-o; to bring to completion. To finish. To accomplish.

2 Peter 3:18

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Grow in the grace - Grow in the knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

And **F**ear God

fear φοβῶ **phobos**, fob'-os; from a primary φοβῶμαι **phobomai** (to be put in fear); alarm or fright: — be afraid, + exceedingly, fear, terror.

2 Peter 1:10

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

>>>> The **C**ross, The **C**hrist, The **C**all <<<<

————— *End of Study* —————

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