

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 12:16-21

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

BY THE WAY YOU WALK – PART 3

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Service, Dedication, Maturity, Discipleship

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 12:16-21

2 Corinthians 12:16-21

But be that as it may, I did not burden you. Nevertheless, being **crafty**, I **caught** you by **cunning**! **17** Did I take **advantage** of you by any of those whom I sent to you? **18a** I urged Titus, and sent our brother with him. Did Titus take **advantage** of you? **18b** Did we not **walk** in the **same spirit**? Did we not walk in the **same steps**? **19** Again, do you think that we **excuse** ourselves to you? We speak before God in Christ. But we do all things, **beloved**, for your **edification**. **20** For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be **contentions**, **jealousies**, **outbursts** of **wrath**, selfish **ambitions**, **backbiting's**, **whisperings**, **conceits**, **tumults**; **21** lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not **repented** of the **uncleanness**, **fornication**, and **lewdness** which they have **practiced**.

BY THE WAY YOU WALK

1.) They can tell by your witness

v. 16-18a

2.) They can see by your passion

v. 18b-19

How Can You Know If You Are a Real, Heaven Bound Believer?

Galatians 5:16-25

I say then: **WALK IN THE SPIRIT**, and you shall not fulfill (*not going to happen*) the lust of the flesh. **17** For the flesh lusts (*burns*) against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary (*at war*) to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. **18** But if you are **led** by the Spirit, you are not under the law. = *no condemnation* :**19** **NOW THE WORKS OF THE FLESH** are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. :**22** But **THE FRUIT (proof) OF THE SPIRIT** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24** And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also **walk in the Spirit**.

1 Californians 6:9-11

Do you not **know** (*common knowledge*) that the **unrighteous** (*those separated, the wicked*) will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived**. No fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, **10** nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

BY THE WAY YOU WALK THEY CAN SEE BY YOUR PASSION

2b.) **As you walk in the same steps** v. 18c

18c Did we not **walk** in the **same steps**?

To place your foot, (feet), in the step(s), that is, (are), before you, (us).

From Abraham, to the prophets, to Christ Jesus, to the Apostles, to Those before us, to the present (toward our children and grandchildren and...)

When Jesus (invited) the disciples to learn of life and heaven,
He said - - **“Come and follow Me”**

Mark 1:17-18

Then Jesus said to them, **“Come and follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”** 18 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

This “Come and follow Me” is where the Corinthians were failing.

Romans 6:11-14

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves (they weren't) to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (they lived for the moment, not for the promise) 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, (they were letting it) that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not (but they did) present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God (they were not) as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, (unless you allow it) for you are not under law but under grace.

The Application for us is – we must look head-on considering the path that we have chosen to live = we have to answer for it in the end.

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

Test all things; **hold-fast** what is good. **Abstain** from every form of evil.

BY THE WAY YOU WALK THEY CAN SEE BY YOUR PASSION

2c.) **As you walk in the same Christ** v. 18b-19

19 Again, do you think that we **excuse** ourselves to you? **We speak before God in Christ.** But **we do all things, beloved,** for your **edification.**

“But we do all things, beloved, for your edification.”

Everything we do, dear friends, is to benefit you, to strengthen you, not to position ourselves.

We all have to deal with our passions. We have **good ones** and **not so good ones.**

As you walk in the same Christ

Know that the good passions come from God.

(example, things that I do that encourage others around me)

If I walk in the same Jack

I know that the bad passions come from me. *(example, things that I do that discourage others around me)*

Galatians 5:24-25

And those who are Christ's **have crucified** (*they did and continue to*) the flesh with its passions and desires. **25**
If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

“...for your **edification**.”

It's a **Construction Term** meaning **to build-up** a building that will stay standing. It means to build up a structure that can endure.

When we were building this place,

I was shocked to see how much effort and labor and \$ went in to things that will never be seen – things that are all underground!!! But it was **Necessary** if we wanted you to be in here right now.

**BY THE WAY YOU WALK
THEY CAN KNOW BY YOUR LIFE**

3.) They can know by your life v. 20-21

3a.) Our lives need confrontation v. 20a

20a For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you - such as I wish,
and that I shall be found by you - such as you do not wish

Our lives need confrontation

“For I am really anxious that when I come I won't like the witness you guys are displaying, I am concerned that you're still carnal and worldly”

Galatians 6:1-2

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. **2** Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

I can't imagine being the pastor of the church at Corinth.

But who was he? (1) Either he was sick to his stomach over the sinfulness of the church, or, (2) he was just like the rest of them.

Sin must be dealt with in any church.

The church is a living, breathing organism, and things living can catch a cold or get cancer. What cancer is to the human body, sin is to a church.

I shall be found by you - such as you do not wish

“We don't want Paul coming here again and telling us how to live our lives. Why can't he just accept us as we are - say nice things, things that don't provoke us to have to face the reality of our chosen lifestyles.”

**BY THE WAY YOU WALK
THEY CAN KNOW BY YOUR LIFE**

3b.) Our lives need correction v. 20b

20b lest there be (1) **contentions**, (2) **jealousies**, (3) **outbursts** of **wrath**, (4) selfish **ambitions**, (5) **backbitings**, (6) **whisperings**, (7) **conceits**, (8) **tumults**;

Contentions ἔρις **eris**, *er'-is*; quarrel, wrangling, debate, strife, variance.

Jealousies ζήλος **zelos**, *dzay'-los*; heated envy.

Wrath θυμός **thumos**, *thoo-mos'*; breathing hard that leads to heat. fierceness, indignation.

Ambitions ἐριθεία **eritheia**, *er-ith-i'-ah*; one up men ship. To be on top or to end up with the last word.

Backbitings καταλαλία **katalalia**, *kat-al-al-ee'-ah*; to say something that defames another. To shrink someone before others. To back the back of someone (backbiting).

Whisperings ψιθυρισμός **psithurismos**, *psith-oo-ris-mos'*;
to whisper a slander; a secretly spoken detraction. A whispering cut.

Conceits φυσίωσις **phusiosis**, *foo-see'-o-sis*; to self-inflate, pompous, proud, puffed up, swollen, frog-like swelling.

tumults ἀκαταστασία **akatastasia**, *ak-at-as-tah-see'-ah*; someone who causes instability where there should be stability, he who causes disorder, confusion, arguments. One who stirs up the water.

Titus 3:10-11

Reject (refuse, shut out) a **divisive** man after the first and second admonition, **11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.**

Rom. 16:17-18

Now I urge you, brethren, **note** (*take aim, spy-out, keep an eye on*) those who cause **divisions** and **offenses**, contrary to the **doctrine** which you learned, and **avoid** them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly (desires), and by smooth words and flattering speech they **deceive** the hearts of the simple.

Here's the funny/sad thing about this kind of immaturity.

You will always find the greatest amount of sin in the lives of those who are the more legalistic.

**BY THE WAY YOU WALK
THEY CAN KNOW BY YOUR LIFE**

3c.) Our lives need contrition v. 21

lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have **sinned** before **and have (9) not repented of** the **(10) uncleanness**, **(11) fornication**, and **(12) lewdness** which they have **(13) practiced.**

contrition / shame / repentance / guilt-aware

repented μετανοέω **metanoeo**, *met-an-o-eh'-o*; to **think differently** or to **re-think**. to **reconsider** the course. to re-think the direction

re-think the direction

There were those who were just continuing on
in their sinful lifestyle and had not forsaken their old life.

Some of You This Morning Are All Alone

Isaiah 59:1-2 NLT

Listen! The LORD's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call. 2 It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.

1 John 1:9-10

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Ephesians 4:30 -31

And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. :31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior.

for many who have **sinned** before and have (9) not repented of the

They are Running The Risk of Actually Being What Their "Walk-Style" was Indicating.

(10) uncleanness, ἀκαθαρσία *akatharsia*, *ak-ath-ar-see'-ah*; from 169; impurity (the quality), physically or morally: — uncleanness.

(11) fornication, πορνεία *porneia*, *por-ni'-ah*; from 4203; harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively, idolatry: — fornication.

and **(12) lewdness** ἀσελγεία *aselgeia*, *as-elg'-i-a*; a deep burning for, a fixation, a mind that is locked on to evil-filthiness. wantonness.

which they have **(13) practiced**. πράσσω *prasso*, *pras'-so*; to regularly repeat. To perform to be prone to or accustom to doing.

This is a call to the Corinthian (Californian) Christian to return **!!! get home before it gets dark !!!**

It's Getting Bad Out There.

Christian come home - Do it quickly – It's going to be dark soon

1 Californians 6:11

And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

And God Also Says...

Hebrews 8:12

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

>>>> The Cross, The Christ, The Call <<<<

End of Study

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