

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

July 27, 2022

Series - *The Life and Writings of the Apostle Paul*

The Corinthian Letters

The Last Letter (Second Corinthians)

Text – 2 Corinthians 6 – *The Expectations for a New Creature*

Memory Verse – 2 Corinthians 6:17

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

Introduction

In chapter 5 Paul explained that those that have truly trusted Christ as Savior are in fact new creatures. This does not mean that the believer no longer possesses a sinful nature; but it refers to the fact that the genuine Christian has the indwelling Holy Spirit of God that will begin the work of transformation immediately after salvation. Here in chapter six Paul challenges the Corinthians to make a full surrender to the Holy Spirit of God. This full surrender cannot come about without a complete separation from the things of the world. (1 John 2:15 – 17). Many Christians today have the same problem; they want to be a part of the bride of Christ, while they keep up their love affair with the world. Christians need to get in all the way. Paul reminds them here again of his commitment to them and to the Lord. He had truly surrendered everything for the Lord, so he was not asking them to do anything that he was not already doing.

I. Paul's Warning Against an Empty Salvation (vv1 & 2)

A. **Lost People** – Some people will associate themselves with the church; but have never turned from sin to the Savior. (Matthew 13:24 – 30; 36 – 43)

B. **Saved People** – Some people are genuinely saved; but they care more about pleasing themselves and other men than they do about pleasing God. (Matthew 13:18 – 23; James 2:14 - 20)

II. Paul's Ministry Involved a Total Submission (vs. 3 – 10)

Here we will see what Paul's life of ministry was all about; and we see what we can expect our lives to be as we submit ourselves completely to the Lord.

Help Wanted – Minister for the Lord

A. The ministry will require patience. (patience; longsuffering)

- B. The ministry will involve persecution. (afflictions; stripes; imprisonment; tumults; chastened)
 - C. The ministry will require perspiration. (labours; watchings; knowledge; the word of truth)
 - D. The ministry will require prayer (watchings; by the power of God; by the Holy Ghost)
 - E. The ministry will involve personal sacrifice. (necessities; fastings; dying; sorrowful; poor; unknown; dishonor; having nothing)
 - F. The ministry will require purity. (pureness; armour of righteousness)
 - G. The ministry will require passion for people. (kindness; love unfeigned)
- III. Paul's Unrestricted Affection for the Corinthians (vs. 11 – 13)
- A. Paul's love for the Corinthians was not limited or restricted. (straightened)
 - B. The Corinthians had a restriction on their love. Paul challenged them to "be enlarged" to both the Lord and to the Lord's servants.
- IV. Paul's Plea for a Full Separation (vs. 14 – 18)
- A. Separation from:
 1. The world's morality (1 Corinthians 6: 15 – 20)
 2. The world's idolatry
 - B. Separation to: {Submission to} (Romans 1:1; 12:1 & 2)
 1. The Word of God
 2. The Working of the Spirit of God (Ephesians 5:18)
 3. The Will of God