

Sermon Notes

The Hallmarks of True Repentance

2 Corinthians 7:5-16

Chris Steinle, 7/21/2024

Corinth's geographical isolation.

Background from Acts and observations.

Corinth's lapse of leadership.

Confusion of leadership: 1 Corinthians 1: 12 "I am of Paul," "I am of Apollos," "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ.";

Absence of leadership: 1 Corinthians 16:5-12 excerpts.

Paul's return dependent on news from Titus.

The search for Titus: 2 Corinthians 2:12-13.

Summary of Titus' report—Comfort: 2 Corinthians 2:5-7.

2 Cor. 7:8 The temporary nature of sorrow and regret.

Generic sorrow; Regret: "to care after"

2 Corinthians 7:9 Rejoicing when sorrow leads to repentance.

Sometimes when people realize they're not pleasing God they just get angry—like Cain with Abel. Paul had confidence they would repent, but he wanted to hear confirmation of their repentance.

2 Corinthians 7:10b A look at unproductive sorrow.

Performing a "show" of regret; the effect of sadness on lifespan; Sorrow in itself cannot save.

2 Corinthians 7:10a Sorrow that produces repentance unto salvation.

Who was saved and how were they saved?

Obedience to Paul's instruction.

The work of the Holy Spirit through submitting to God.

The couple who had sinned. The unsaved in the Church. (2 Corinthians 5:20 "be reconciled to God")

2 Corinthians 7:11 Observing a work of God.

The Hallmarks of repentance unto salvation:

Diligence: conscientious, consist...

Clearing: cleared by the sacrifice of Jesus, clear in conscience...

Indignation: toward sin...

Fear: the godly fear of the Lord...

Vehement desire: a heart to follow and love God...

Zeal: "excitement of mind, fervor of spirit"...

Vindication/justice: the turn-around God is looking for...

2 Corinthians 7:12-16 The Corinthian leadership re-submitted to Paul.

(2 Corinthians 7:7) Zealous for Paul!

The Corinthians received Titus as Paul's ambassador. Submitting to the authorities God has ordained is a recognition of submission to God; which led Paul to tell the Corinthians "Therefore I rejoice that I have confidence in you in everything."

Is there some area where you know you're not submitting to God?
Do you see how one act of obedience can lead to greater blessings?