

After reminding those in Corinth of what the Lord has done to make His dwelling among them in 6:16-18, Paul argues for a proper response to that goodness of God. In an appeal to be free from defilement, he moves into a right approach to sin, namely grief towards it that produces repentance, leading to salvation.

2 Corinthians 7:1-16

Two

Kinds of

Grief

I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

MY EXPERIENCE...

YOUR EXPERIENCE...

In our world we will experience brokenness and grief. All around us there are injustices occurring- in our homes, communities, and throughout the world. For many, because we bear the image of our Creator, there tends to be a sense of justice, and it's from this sense of justice that we can experience grief for the things we've done that are wrong. However, the grief we experience can be worldly or Godly, and each produces very different outcomes.

II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

DO you ever find yourself grieved because of your sin?

HOW would you describe the grief you *do* experience when it comes to your sin? How about when you view the sin of others?

DO you ever struggle with past regrets of sins committed *by* you or *toward* you?

HOW does Godly repentance change the way you move forward after experiencing sin?

2 Corinthians

7:1-16

Two Kinds of Grief

Read 2 Corinthians 7:1-16

OBSERVATION

What is Paul's admonishment in vs. 1 and for what reason?

How does Paul say he is acting in regards to what he is about to say (vs. 4)?

What does Paul say he faced in Macedonia (vs. 5)?

How did God choose to meet Paul's need there, according to vs. 6-7?

In vs. 8 what does Paul say about the letter he sent to those in Corinth?

What was the response to Paul's letter sent?

According to vs. 10, what two kinds of grief exist, and what is the outcome if each?

How was Titus affected by the Corinthian's response to Paul's letter (vs. 13-16)?

INTERPRETATION

What does Paul mean when he says to, "Make room in your hearts for us" in vs. 2? Where else has he mentioned this? See 6:11-13.

Why is Paul filled with boldness, pride, comfort, and joy (vs. 4) because of those in Corinth?

Why did Paul's letter cause such grief to those receiving it? See 10:9-11 for insight.

Why did Titus' visit and report bring comfort to Paul (vs. 5-7)?

Was Paul upset about his letter bringing grief to its recipients? Was it necessary? Explain your response as you consider his words in vs. 8-10.

Describe the difference between Godly grief and worldly grief.

Explain how Godly grief eventually leads to comfort. Consider the progression Paul gives in vs. 10-13.

How was Titus' spirit refreshed at the "fruit" of Godly grief from those in Corinth?

APPLICATION

How are you grieved by sin in your life? Do you experience regret or comfort when you consider your past sins, and why? How do you treat others when it comes to the sin you observe in their lives?