

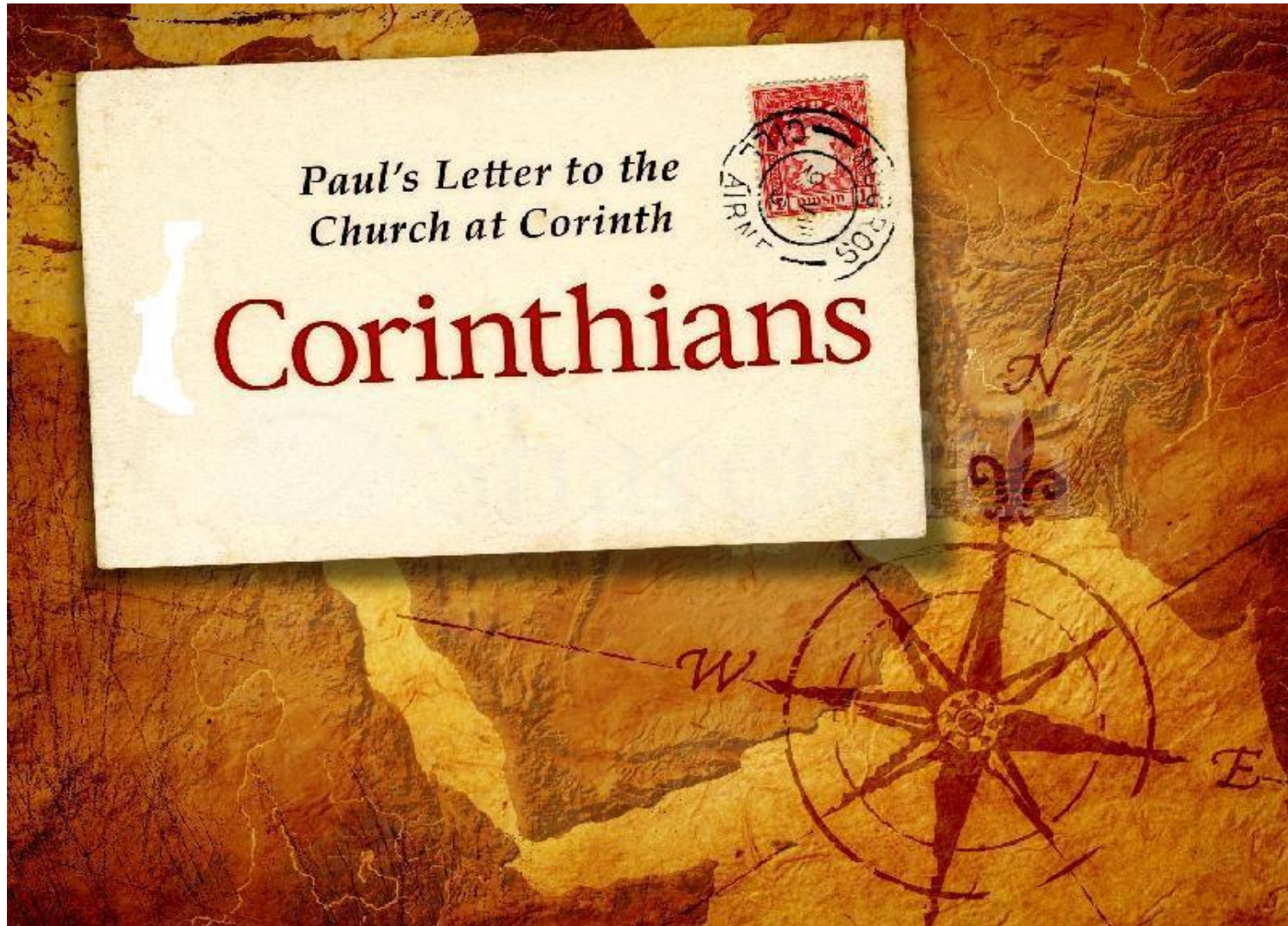
# Welcome to Holly Hills Bible Church

Service  
to start  
10:30 AM





# 2 Cor 7:5-10 Paul Finally Meets Titus and Rejoices



# Outline



7:5 Paul returns to the subject of his anticipated meeting with Titus in Macedonia from 2:13

7:6-7 Titus does come to Macedonia and Paul is comforted by his report

7:8-10 The sorrow that leads to repentance

7:11-16 More on Godly sorrow and comfort

8:1-6 Giving in the churches of Macedonia

# 2 Corinthians' Structure



## 2 Cor 2:12a

Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ

## 2 Cor 2:13

- I had no rest for my spirit,
- not finding Titus my brother;
- I went on [**departed**] to Macedonia.

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## 2 Cor 7:5

- When we **had come** into Macedonia
- our flesh had no rest,
- but we were afflicted on every side:
- conflicts without,
- fears within.

Paul describes what a true ministry for the Lord Jesus Christ looks like.



Macedonia

ROME

ITALY

THESSALONICA

PHILIPPI

BEREA

TROAS

GALATIA

ANTIOCH

ICONIUM

CILICIA

ATHENS

EPHESUS

LYSTRA

DERBE

TARSUS

CORINTH

MILETUS

PATARA

ANTIOCHE

MALTA

CRETE

CYPRUS

CILICIA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

TYRE

CAESAREA

SEA OF GALILEE

# PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

JERUSALEM

DEAD SEA

EGYPT

## Today's Verses



<sup>5</sup> For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.

<sup>6</sup> But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

<sup>7</sup> and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

<sup>8</sup> For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—*for* I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—

<sup>9</sup> I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of* repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of* God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

<sup>10</sup> For the sorrow that is according to *the will of* God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.



<sup>5</sup> For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.

our flesh [body] had no rest

rest - *anesis* - It signifies "rest," not from toil, but from endurance and suffering. lit: relief from anxiety

- 2 Cor 2:13 I had no rest for my spirit,

but we were afflicted on every side

being afflicted – *thlibô* - present, passive; You feel pressed by the circumstances in your life. Molloy

- 2 Cor 4:8 we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;

- One of the four trials that are true of all believers: perplexed, persecuted, being struck down.



<sup>5</sup> For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.



## conflicts without

**conflicts** – *máchē* - fighting, battle; maybe physical fighting

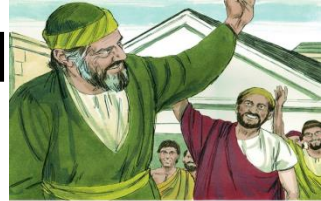
- The NT includes many kinds of battles such as legal battles as in Titus 3:9. Vine
- Titus 3:9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

## fears within

**fears** – *phobos* - fear, dread, terror; that which causes fear

- fears in relation to Titus's wellbeing Merryman

6 But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;



**TITUS**  
my true child in  
a common faith  
Titus 1:4

**But God** - now God in contrast to these afflictions  
**who comforts** - parakaléō - to exhort in the way of consolation, encouragement, to console, comfort

- present tense – continuous action
- 2 Cor 1:3b the Father of mercies and God of all comfort
- 2 Cor 1:4a who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction

Now he tells us who he is comforting:

**the depressed** - *tapeinós* - of the mind, meaning lowly, including the idea of affliction, depression of mind

- God comforts the cast down ones.\*
- Paul is saying that his mind was cast down at this point.\*

\* Merryman<sub>10</sub>

6 But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;



- This was not the only time Paul said this:
- 2 Cor 1:8 For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life.

comforted us [Paul and team] by the coming of Titus

coming - *parousia* - denotes both an "arrival" and a consequent "[physical] presence with."

- This same word used for the Lord's return at the Rapture.
- 1 Thess 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep<sub>11</sub>



7 and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

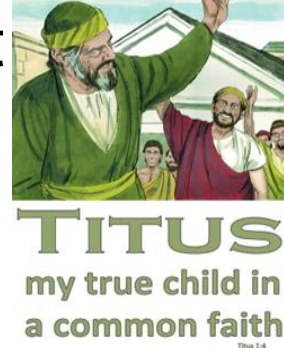
and not only by his [Titus] coming,

- Paul received God's comfort by Titus's coming and his personal presence with him.

but also by the comfort with which he [Titus] was comforted in you [Corinthians]

- Titus received God's comfort from his time with the Corinthian church and this comforted Paul.
- Next, we have more details of Titus's report to Paul.

7 and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.



as he [Titus] reported to us

reported - lit: to bring back word [from the Corinthians]

1<sup>st</sup> - your longing – earnest desire

2<sup>nd</sup> - your mourning – the idea is one of sorrow

3<sup>rd</sup> - your zeal for me [Paul]

- The Corinthians felt affection for Paul and wanted to see him again,

so that I [Paul] rejoiced even more

- The more Titus told Paul, the more the apostle's spirits revived.

Constable



<sup>8</sup> For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it —for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—

For though I caused you sorrow by my [the] letter

sorrow – *lypeō* - in the active voice, to cause pain, or grief, to distress, grieve - aorist tense

**What letter is Paul talking about?**

- Paul evidently wrote the letter between 1 and 2 Cor.
- Some call it the letter of sorrow or the stinging letter.

I do not regret it [letter of sorrow] – cont. action present time

regret – *metamélomai* – to feel regret; to be bothered or upset about something Merryman

- Regret is not the same as repentance [a change of mind]
- This is how Paul feels now as he writes this verse.

8 For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—



**though I did regret it** [letter of sorrow] – cont. action past time

- This is how Paul felt in the past before hearing Titus's report from Corinth.

**for I see that that letter** [of sorrow] **caused you sorrow,**

- It accomplished its objective.
- Verse 10 will tell us about that objective.

**though only for a while**

- though but for a season

Wuest



<sup>9</sup> I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of* repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of* God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

**I now rejoice** – I am glad now (present tense)

**not that you were made sorrowful** (aorist, ind., passive)#

- Paul is not rejoicing because of their state of sorrow.
- Sorrow was not the objective.

**but that you were made sorrowful# to [unto] repentance**

- Sorrow, the emotion, led to repentance.\*

**repentance** – *metanoia* - mental activity; a change of mind

- to change thinking (or viewpoint) and thus conduct\*
- This is not a repentance for salvation of their soul.





<sup>9</sup> I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of* repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of* God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

for you were made sorrowful# according to God

lit: for you were grieved according to God - **1<sup>st</sup> time**

- This is first of three times this expression will be used.
- It is sorrow according to the standard of God.
- Sorrow that ends up in a change of mind is the sorrow that is according to God.

Merryman

**so that** – with a purpose that

**you might not suffer loss in anything through us**

- If you continue in your current state you would suffer loss, but when you repent you now are back in the will of God.



<sup>10</sup> For the sorrow that is according to *the will of God* produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

**For the sorrow that is according to *the will of God***

lit: for the grief according to God - 2<sup>nd</sup> time

- to the standard of God
- This is the subject of the first statement in verse 10.

**produces** - *ergazomai* - to work something, produce

- to stimulate our minds to a change in thinking Merryman

**repentance to salvation not to be regretted**

Interlinear

- Repentance is a thinking change resulting in a conduct change.

McCalley

- God is changing the believer's mind through sorrow.
- Regret should not be part of the repentance. Matt 27:3

<sup>10</sup> For the sorrow that is according to *the will of God* produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.



to salvation

**What salvation is being talked about here?**

- This is salvation in the sense of “deliverance.”
- The Corinthians needed a change of mind about what they were taught and about their attitude toward Paul.

Merryman

but the sorrow of the world produces death

- This sorrow is not sourced in God.
- temporal spiritual death [or separation]
- The world's typical superficial response does not result in a change of mind, but leads to resentment and bitterness.

Constable

# Final Thoughts\*



- Paul said I wrote to you [Corinthians] a letter and God used it to bring you to sorrow.
- The sorrow reached its goal which is repentance, and repentance led you to a deliverance in your thinking.
- Repentance always leads to deliverance because your mind is changed.
- You are delivered from a false viewpoint or false doctrine.

\* Merryman

