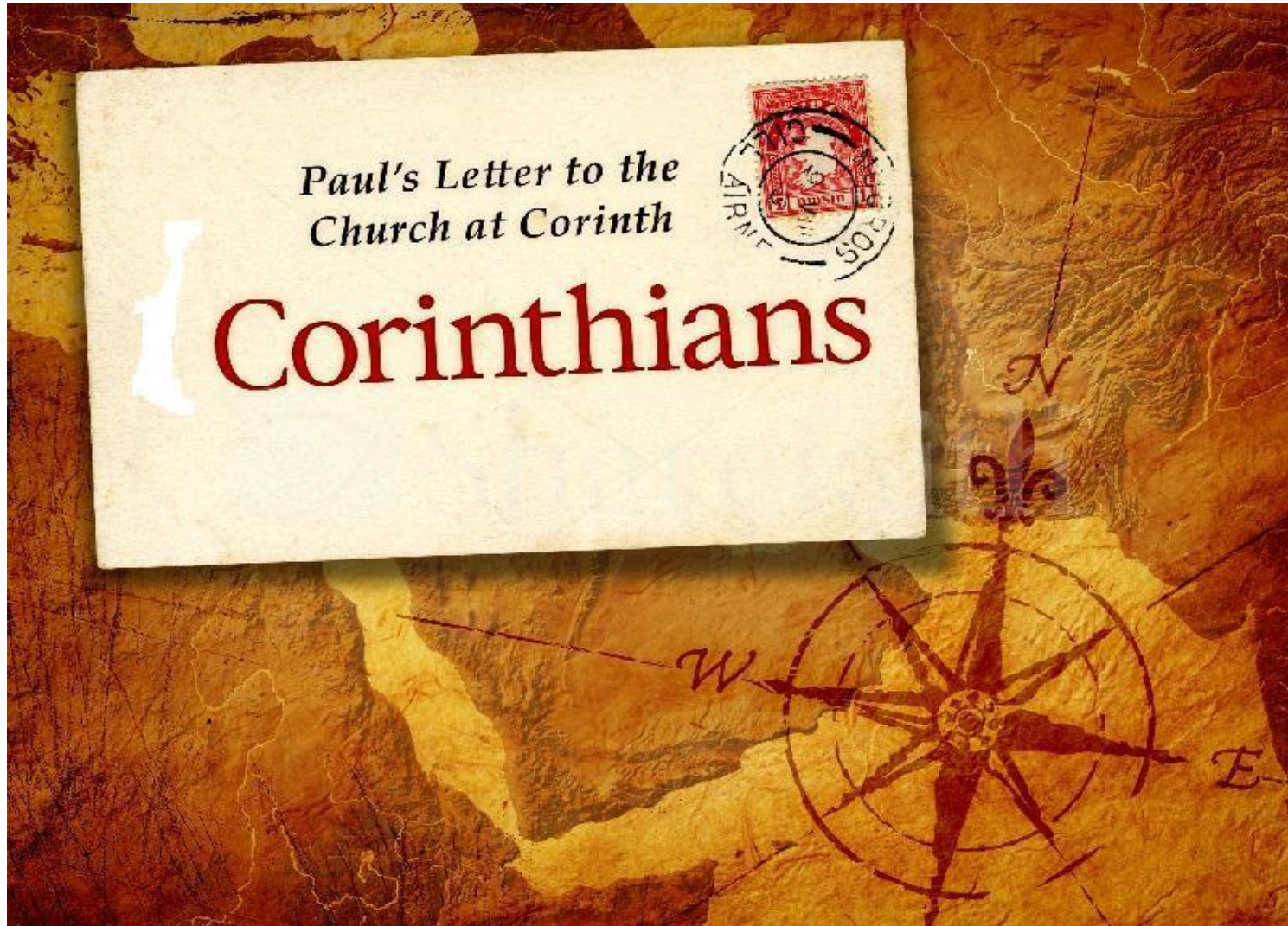


2 Cor. 1:21 -24 God Is Establishing Us in Christ and So Much More



Outline Chp 1:18 - 24



God is faithful in His character - v:18

The faithfulness of God to His promises - v:19-20

The faithfulness of God in His work - v:21-22

The loving motivation of Paul's conduct - v:23 -24

Today's Verses



¹⁸ But as God is faithful, our word to you is not yes and no.

¹⁹ For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silvanus and Timothy—was not yes and no, but is yes in Him. ²⁰ For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.

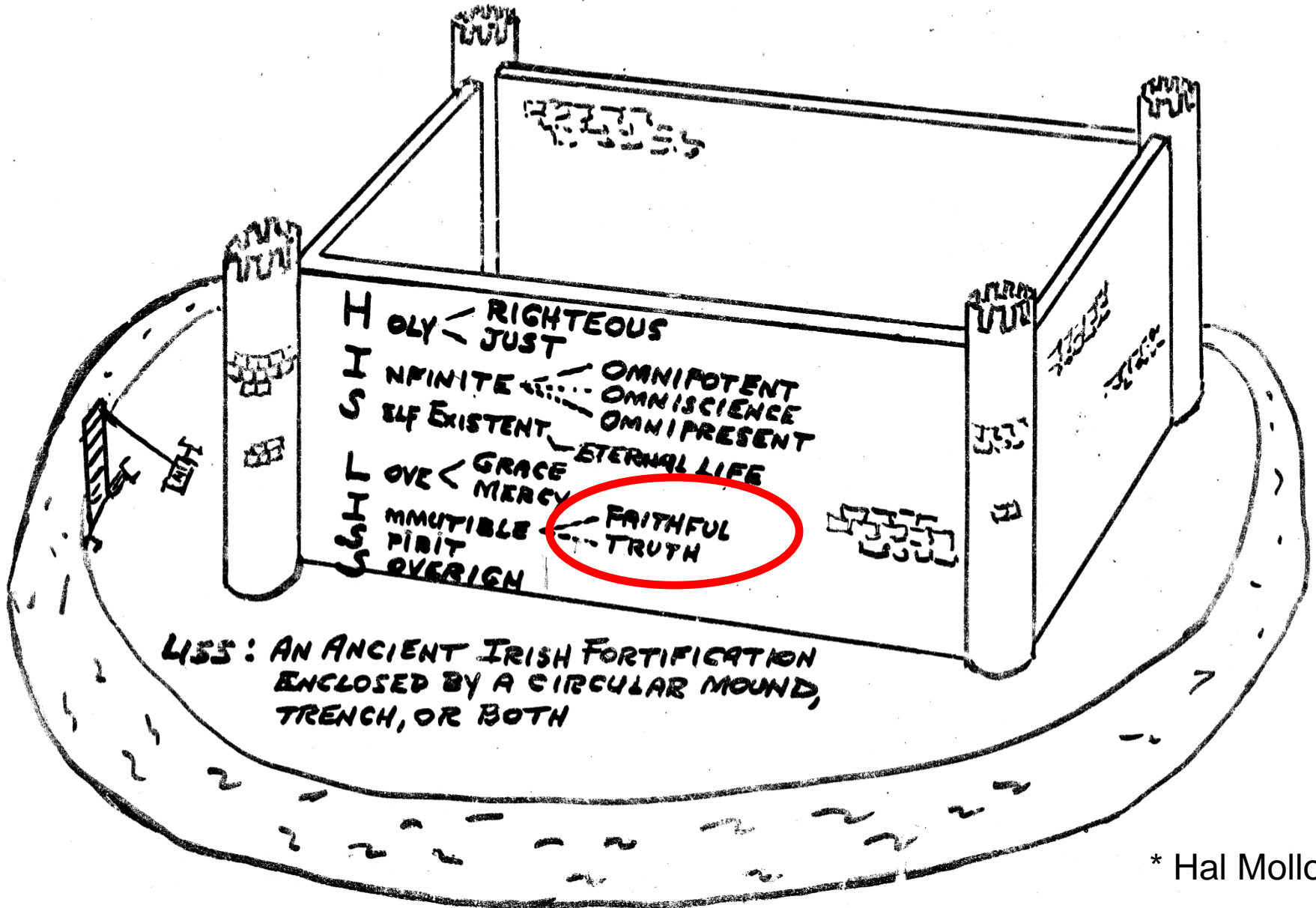
²¹ Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, ²² who also sealed us and gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge. ²³ But I call God as witness to my soul, that to spare you I did not come again to Corinth. ²⁴ Not that we lord it over your faith, but are workers with you for your joy; for in your faith you are standing firm.

¹⁸ But as God is faithful, our word to you is not yes and no.



- **But as** – in contrast to what you say about me
- **God is faithful** – reliable, absolutely true
- Paul will now identify himself with the faithfulness of God.
- Faithful is one of the attributes of God.

The Attributes of God *



* Hal Molloy

18^b God is faithful in respect to this, the word of us
to you is not yes and no.

Merryman



subject: the word of us [Paul] to you [Corinthians]

verb: is not

subject complement: yes and no [or vacillating]

Reliability of God from v:18 to v:20

Merryman

- God is faithful, that is He is certain or consistent.
- He proves himself to be true to His character and promises.
- God makes promises to man so that He can prove Himself consistent.
- His true ministers will manifest this true character.
- Just as God is true, so our words are true to you.



¹⁹ For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us - by me and Silvanus and Timothy - was not yes and no, but is yes in Him.

- Paul now says since the Father is true His Son is true

subject: For the Son of God, Christ Jesus

- Matt 16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

participle: who was preached / having been preached

modifiers: among you [Corinthians] by us

by me [Paul] and Silvanus and Timothy

- Silvanus was Silas who with Timothy joined Paul in Corinth shortly after his arrival there and helped him found the church along with Priscilla and Aquilla.



19 For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us - by me and Silvanus and Timothy - was not yes and no, but is yes in Him.

was not yes and no, but it has [always] been yes in Him

Interlinear

it has [always] been - *gínomai* - meaning simply to be, to exist

- Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- Christ as the Son is like His Father – He is consistently true to His Word.
- Christ is the embodiment of truth – “the truth” – John 14:6
- Paul is saying we preached a faithful and true Christ to you.

Merryman

²⁰ For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.



For as many *as are* God's promises in Him is the yes.

- He is the mighty yes Christ.
- He is positive truth.
- He is the yes of truth.
- God's promises in Christ are all yes [true]. Merryman
- The promises referred to here are evidently the ones that have found their fulfillment in Christ. Constable
- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.
- John 3:15 So that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.
- John 3:18 He who believes in Him is not judged.

²⁰ For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.



therefore also through Him the Amen

Interlinear

the Amen - *amen* – let it be so

- Deut. 7:9 – “the faithful (the Amen) God”
- Isa. 65:16 – “the God of truth” or “the God of Amen”
- Rev 3:14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this.
- Thus Amēn said by God “it is and shall be so,” and by men, “so let it be.”

Vine

for glory to God through us

- As we are faithful to God through Christ we bring glory to God.

Overview



verses: 18 to 20

- God is faithful
- Son of God Christ Jesus is true
- God's promises in Christ

verses: 21 and 22

- God is establishing us in Christ
- God the Holy Spirit's anointing
- God the Holy Spirit's sealing
- God the Holy Spirit as a pledge



21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ
and anointed us *is* God,

- Verses 21 & 22 gives us four participles.
- These are divine acts of God on behalf of every believer.*
- The first one is present tense and the remaining are Aorist (past point fact).

now or but – continues with an explanation of God's faithfulness toward believers

He [God] who establishes us with you [Corinthians] in Christ

- 1st - establishes - *bebaióō* - to make firm; to strengthen
- present tense – continually establishes – ongoing
 - note it is with you – both Paul and the Corinthians are being strengthened in Christ and with each other *

* Merryman₁₂

21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ
and anointed us *is* God,



More on God establishing us in Christ:

- Christ is the one who keeps on strengthening. *
- Notice that this grace blessing is “in Christ.”
- Or, in our living union with Christ.
- Gal 2:20b and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God.
- Col 2:7a having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and [constantly being] established in your faith.

* Merryman

21^b and [He who] anointed us is God,

Old Testament picture:

1 Sam 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of His brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David ---



2nd – anointed - *chriō* - set apart to the service and ministry of Christ by the gift of the Holy Spirit. [Aorist - past point fact]

- 1 John 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know ---
- Therefore it is implied that every Christian, being anointed, is indwelt by the Spirit (i.e. indwelling and anointing are in reality the same). Chafer
- The Holy Sprit is given to guide us into all the truth.

²² who also sealed us and gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

who [God] also sealed us

A seal in the Roman world signified ownership, authentication and security.*



3rd- sealed - *sphragizō* - middle voice shows interest of the Sealer [Holy Spirit] in His act; [past point fact]
lit: having sealed for Himself

- Eph. 1:13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.
- It is the very presence of the Holy Spirit in the believer which constitutes the seal. Chafer
- Thus the seal of God, in addition to the promise of God, guarantees the believer's eternal security. *Constable

22 who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.



[God] gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

4th - gave - *dídōmi* - spoken of God as the author or source of what one has or receives;
to give, grant, bestow, impart [past point fact]

2 Cor 5:5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

Rom 5:5b the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

- God has given us the Holy Spirit once for all to every believer.

Merryman

22b [God] gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.



pledge - *arrabōn* – The "pledge" was earnest money put down as a deposit that guaranteed the consummation of the contract.

- [God] gave us the token payment guaranteeing the payment in full of our salvation,
- which token payment is the Spirit in our hearts. Wuest
- In the NT it [a pledge] is used only of that which is assured by God to believers.
- Notice the Trinity is mentioned:
 - God in verse 18 – God is faithful
 - Son in verse 19 – Son of God, Christ Jesus
 - Spirit in verse 22 – the Spirit in our hearts

More thoughts about these grace gifts to every believer*



- Every one of the four parts in this passage speaks of security.
- The truth is asserted that the presence of the Spirit in the believer's heart is a foretaste of the knowledge-surpassing experience of divine blessing yet to be enjoyed in glory.
- The passage breathes no intimation of uncertainty either about present blessings or about a future consummation.

* Chafer



Four immediate results of the Spirit's indwelling are here suggested:

- (a) The baptism with the Spirit places the believer in Christ; thus each child of God is said now to be "stablished ... in Christ." (1 Cor. 12:13; 6:17; Gal. 3:27)
- (b) Likewise, by giving us the Spirit, God has anointed us.
- (c) Again, God through the Spirit has sealed us (Eph. 4:30), and the Spirit Himself is the seal.



(d) So, also, God is here said to have given us the Spirit as an "earnest,"

- and since an earnest is a part of the purchase money, or property, given in advance as security for the remainder,
- the Spirit is seen to be the earnest of the whole heavenly inheritance which belongs to every believer through infinite grace (2 Cor. 5:5; Eph. 1:14; 1 Pet. 1:4).

* Chafer