

23 – FINAL WORDS (2 CORINTHIANS 13:1-14)

I. The Warning Concerning His Third Visit (2 Corinthians 13:1-10)

A. Concerning His Third Visit (2 Corinthians 13:1-6)

1. Paul's Intention to Visit (2 Corinthians 13:1a)

- Once again Paul tells them that he intends to visit them a third time.

2. The Warning to Those Who are Sinning (2 Corinthians 13:1b-3)

a. A Legal Summons (2 Corinthians 13:1b)

- Paul refers to the Old Testament to stress how accusations must be handled.
- Paul is referring to Deuteronomy 19:5.
- It may be that Paul is telling them that they should have witnesses to prove their accusations against him.

b. His Prior Rebuke (2 Corinthians 13:2a)

- Paul reminds them that on his last visit, he rebuked some of them for their sins.

c. His Future Rebuke (2 Corinthians 13:2b)

- Paul tells them that he will do the same on his next visit.

d. The Reason (2 Corinthians 13:3a)

- Some of Corinthians wanted Paul to prove that he was speaking for Christ.

3. The Example of Christ (2 Corinthians 13:3b-4a)

- Paul tells them that while Christ is powerful, he manifested it in the cross.

4. Paul's Condition (2 Corinthians 13:4b)

- Paul stated that though he is weak, he will live in the strength of Christ.

5. The Exhortation (2 Corinthians 13:5)

- Paul calls them to examine whether or not they are indeed believers in Christ.

6. The Encouragement (2 Corinthians 13:6)

God's Abundant Grace: Second Corinthians

- Paul encourages them by pointing out that they had not disqualified themselves.

B. Paul's Concern for the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 13:7-10)

1. Paul's Prayer for Them (2 Corinthians 13:7)

- Paul prayed that they would not be marked by sin.

2. Concerning the Will of God (2 Corinthians 13:8)

- Paul stated that he could do nothing against God's will, but rather according to it.

3. Concerning Their Maturity (2 Corinthians 13:9)

- Paul prayed that they would be complete in their spiritual maturity.

4. His Reason for Writing (2 Corinthians 13:10)

- Paul wrote to them because he would be stronger in person concerning these issues.

II. Final Exhortations (2 Corinthians 13:11-14)

A. Paul's Final Encouragements (2 Corinthians 13:11)

- Paul calls them to obedience and God will bless them because of it.

B. Greet One Another (2 Corinthians 13:12)

- Paul tells them to greet each other with a traditional kiss.
- This was a cultural custom.

C. Greetings From Others (2 Corinthians 13:13)

- Paul brings greetings from other believers.

D. The Final Blessing (2 Corinthians 13:14)

- Paul closes his letter with a blessing from the Trinity.