

II Corinthians - Handout #1

II Corinthians Outline

- I. Greetings and Thanksgiving (1:1-7)
- II. Explanations for Paul's seemingly inconsistent actions (1:8 - 2:13)
- III. Not our glory but God's (2:14 - 4:12)
- IV. Basis for Paul's confidence (4:13 - 5:10)
- V. His motivation (5:11 - 21)
- VI. Appeal for a response (6:1 - 7:4)
- VII. Paul's joy and confidence in the Corinthians church (7:5 - 7:16)
- VIII. The collection (giving) (8:1 - 9:15)
- IX. Warning against false prophets (10:1 - 13:10)
- X. Closing greetings (13:11 - 14)

(outline from New Bible Dictionary, Inter-varsity Press, Tyndale House Publishers)

Account of the establishing of the Corinthians church found in Acts 18:1-17 during Paul's 2nd missionary journey, around 53 a.d.

The book of II Corinthians has a much different tone than I Corinthians, much more personal and conciliatory. Paul asserts the love he has for them, the suffering he has gone through for the sake of the gospel. He is even put in a position where he has to defend himself against false accusations. He seems also to defend his apostleship..

v. 4 - 6 - God being his comfort, all of the sufferings and comfort he has experienced has been for their sake.

v. 7 - 11 - They as partakers of the suffering shall also be consoled. God has, is and will deliver all.

v. 12 - 24 - Paul writes in anguish, not wanting to make them sorrowful because they are his joy even as, he hopes, he is at least in part their joy. He was not being inconsistent for a little thing (for he had planned to come to them on his way to Macedonia and again on his way from Macedonia) but he changed his plans out of consideration for them. He is a man that usually keeps his word. (He mentions Silvanus and Timotheus as those who helped preach to them in the beginning)

Note: Besides I Corinthians and II Corinthians, there were probably two other letters to the Corinthians, one mentioned in I Cor. and the other mentioned in II Cor.