

II Corinthians Chapter 5 and 6 - Handout #4

5th Chapter

Some ideas put forth: Temporal vs. Eternal; Absent or Present, but Accepted; Judging by externals (after the flesh); Ministry of Reconciliation (making peace with—God)

Reconciliation - Act of reconciling (making friendly again or winning over to a friendlier attitude; to settle (a quarrel, etc); appeasement; pacification; atonement

v. 1 - 4 - God has prepared a heavenly, glorified body for us. Paul expressed that given the nakedness of his humiliation and persecution, his spirit groaned in longing to be clothed in his promised immortality. (Ref. I Corinthians 15)

v. 5 - 8 - God's spirit is given as the earnest of our inheritance, so Paul is confident in God's promise eternal life, so he is willing to be absent from body to be present with God.

v. 9-10 - Absent or present, we will be accepted by him, for we all must appear before the judgment seat

v. 11 - We know how awesome God is, how much we should reverence him, and so we hope everyone would turn to God. God knows what I am like (Paul) and I hope you know as well (the Corinthians)

v12 - 16 - Paul further stated that he does nothing for his own sake but for the sake of those to whom he is ministering because the love of God compels him to do so. Christ died for all and we all should now live for him. We no longer should see each other after the flesh, as we no longer see Christ after the flesh.

v. 17 - If we are in Christ, we are brand new creations; the past is past.

v. 18 - 21 - The ministry of reconciliation is that God has reconciled us to himself by the blood of Jesus, having made him who knew no sin to be sin for us. Now we are ambassadors for Christ, made the righteousness of God in him.

6th Chapter

v. 1,2 - So don't receive the grace of God in vain, trying to partake of his grace and follow the law. This day of salvation is for all, Jews and Gentiles.

v. 3 - 10 - Paul characterizes further his ministry, his motivations, his suffering. Some prior references in this book are 4th chapter and 5:11-14. The word ministry means service.

Ministers of God

Trials - (v.4-5) (with endurance) Afflictions, necessities (hardship), distresses, stripes (whippings), imprisonments, tumults (riots), labors, watchings (sleeplessness) and fastings (hunger)

II Corinthians Chapter 5 and 6 - Handout #4

Page Two

Qualities (of Minister of God) - v. 6, 7 - Pureness, knowledge, longsuffering, kindness, Holy Ghost (fruit of the Spirit), love, word of truth (truthfulness), power of God, amour of righteousness.

Contrasting responses to his ministry or to ministry in general

v. 8 - 10 - honor or dishonor, evil or good report, deceiver or true, unknown yet known, dying but living, chastened but not killed. He was sorrowful but rejoicing, poor but making other rich in spiritual things, thus possessing everything by spiritual blessings.

v. 11, 12 - Paul loves them, and he wants them to love him back. My children make room for me in your hearts.

v. 13 - 18 - Maybe you are being influenced by the wrong people, so separate yourselves from those who don't believe as you believe, those who are of the darkness. How can you agree with pagans.