

## Outline of II Corinthians

- I. Greeting & Thanksgiving (1:1-11)
- II. Defense of Apostleship: Answering the Critics' Charges (1:12–7:16)
  - A. The Defense of Paul's Conduct (1:12–2:13)
    1. Explanation of Altered Plans (1:12–2:4)
    2. The Forgiveness of the Offending Brother (2:5-11)
    3. Missing Titus in Troas (2:12-13)
  - B. The Nature of a True Apostleship (2:14–7:16)
    1. The Glory of the Ministry (2:14–4:6)
    2. The Frailty of the Ministers (4:7–5:10)
    3. The Message of Reconciliation (5:11–6:10)
    4. Paul's Appeal to the Corinthians (6:11–7:4)
    5. Meeting Titus in Macedonia (7:5-16)
- III. Exhortation to Give: Collection for Believers in Jerusalem (8:1–9:15)
  - A. The Necessity for Generosity (8:1-15)
  - B. The Mission of Titus to Corinth (8:16–9:5)
  - C. The Results of Generosity (9:6-15)
- IV. Affirmation of Apostolic Authority (10:1–13:10)
  - A. In Spite of an Unimpressive Appearance (10:1-11)
  - B. Boasting Only in the Lord (10:12-18)
  - C. Vindication of Authenticity of Paul's Apostleship (11:1–12:13)
  - D. The Planned Third Visit (12:14–13:10)
- V. Final Exhortation and Greetings (13:11-14)

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Next Week: Class 13 -- Overview of *Philippians*

## Core Seminars—New Testament

### Class 12: 2 Corinthians: The Weakness of the Kingdom



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2 COR. 12:9: *My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.*

#### I. BACKGROUND



#### II. PURPOSES

- To address **public conduct** of the Corinthians
- To respond to **personal criticism** against Paul
- To express **practical concern** for believers in Jerusalem

### III. THEMES OF 2 CORINTHIANS

#### A. Kingdom Apostles Display God's Power in Weakness

- *Critiques of Paul:*
  - Paul was **fickle** (1:17)
  - Paul was **harsh** (2:7-8)
  - Paul lacked **credentials** (3:1-2)
- *Characteristics of true Kingdom ministry:*
  1. The glory of Kingdom ministry = **The Gospel** (2:14-17)
  2. The power for Kingdom ministry = **God's grace** (3:4-6)
  3. The focus of Kingdom ministry = **Jesus Christ** (4:5-6)
  4. The concern of Kingdom ministry = **The heart** (4:16-18)
  5. The agent of Kingdom ministry = **God** (5:20-21)
  6. The result of Kingdom ministry = **Changed lives** (6:14, 7:1)
- *Chapters 10-12: Weak Apostles Vs. "Super-Apostles"*

#### B. Kingdom Citizens Display God's Generosity in Weakness

- *Give sacrificially, like Jesus (8:9)*
- *Give generously, like the Macedonians (8:2-4)*
- *Give cheerfully, relying on God's grace (9:7-9)*

#### C. Kingdom Churches Display God's Grace in Weakness

- *A passion for weakness (12:8-10)*
- *A passion for the Gospel (5:14-15, 18-21)*
- *A passion for repentance (7:8-13)*