

**The Book of 2 Corinthians**  
**2 Corinthians 1:14-18**

**Session 10: Notetaker**

**Fig. 1                      The Remedy for the Charge of Duplicity**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

## The Book of 2 Corinthians

### 2 Corinthians 1:14-18

#### Session 10: Paul's Rejoicing

Let's start by recapping what Paul is using to deal with the attacks against him. First, he is rejoicing in his conscience which verifies to Paul what is true, and this charge of duplicitousness is not true; Paul knows it is not true.

Secondly, Paul has an assurance that what he has written to them is a true reflection of the doctrine he has lived before them.

Thirdly, what we are about to read in verse 14 concerning Paul's genuine desire towards many in the church at Corinth is proof of his godly and singular desire toward them.

So, Paul has three things by which he deals with the first charge: his conscience, his life, and his goal with those who follow him. These then become the same for us:

- 1) **The testimony of our godly conscience** (which we still have more to learn about). When I say "godly conscience" it's what Paul means by his "conscience" which is by "the grace of God."
- 2) **Our godly living (as our actions reflect the doctrine** working in us). People should be able to look at any aspect of our life and see God's workmanship in us by the doctrine. Our manner of life should be "with simplicity and godly sincerity," just like Paul; even in the mundane area of our lives, and
- 3) **Our godly goal with those we are influencing** (which we are about to look at).

When it comes to this third issue, we are checking our initial motivation. The spiritual good of those we influence must be at the forefront of our thinking, with a view toward rejoicing in them in the day of Jesus Christ.

To get to this last point, we move into verse 14.

2 Corinthians 1:14 As also **ye have acknowledged us in part**, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also *are* ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

What does Paul mean, “ye have acknowledged us in part?” It does not mean that they only believe some of what Paul is saying, it means some (part) of the church is acknowledging Paul and his authority as an apostle.

As we read through the book, we will notice the complex nature of 2 Corinthians. It often switches in focus and tone, and this is because Paul is writing to two groups at once.

Paul is sometimes writing to the whole church. Other times, he is writing only to the majority of the church which responded positively to his “tearful letter.”

And other times Paul is writing only to that group within the church who still opposes him. At those times, for example, he will be confronting their rebellious unbelief.

So, who is Paul speaking to in verse 14? In verse 14, Paul is writing to the church as a whole; “ye have acknowledged us in part.” In other words, writing to the whole church, “Part of you have acknowledged us...” The “ye” is the whole church.

The “part” to which he is referring is the majority, which, after his “tearful letter,” has returned to follow Paul. Essentially, in verse 14, Paul is saying to the church as a whole, “the part of the church which has acknowledged us (Paul and company), in the day of the Lord Jesus, we will be your rejoicing, just as you will be ours.”

2 Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also *are* ours **in the day of the Lord Jesus.**

The day of the Lord Jesus is, in this context, a reference to the Judgment Seat of Christ (JSoC) which will take place in the heavenly places, after the Blessed Hope, but before we are installed into our positions in the Creature. By saying it this way, I do not mean that the day of the Lord Jesus is restricted to only the JSoC, but to the whole time period which contains it. That time period begins at the Blessed Hope and continues as the Lord Jesus and His heavenly army is casting Satan and his angels out of heaven, which takes place prior to His Second Advent on the earth to fight the Armageddon Campaign. But, in the context to which Paul

is referring, he is talking more specifically about the JSoC which takes place within the “day of the Lord Jesus.”

The day of the Lord Jesus is when we receive our rewards for our service while we were on earth. And according to Paul in verse 14, it is a day when we will “rejoice in one another.”

2 Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that **we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours** in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Why will Paul be their rejoicing? Because following Paul will result in an eternal weight of glory for those Corinthians who returned to follow Paul. At the JSoC, they will know that their decision to return to Paul was the best decision they could have made, as there will be eternal benefits. They will rejoice in Paul for the doctrine He taught them, and modeled before them.

And how is it that they will be Paul’s rejoicing in the day of the Lord Jesus? Because the thing that gives Paul the most joy is seeing the saints changed by the doctrine. Seeing the body of Christ (BoC) embrace the doctrine and live it makes everything Paul suffered worthwhile. And this is the next issue of Paul’s rejoicing in the midst of the phase 2 attack of the policy of evil. First, it was his conscience, and now it is the members of the church who are obeying the doctrine – because there is reward in view for them.

This is the third remedy to our dealing with category 1 of the SoC; that we examine our motives in why we are declaring the Mystery, giving the gospel, manifesting the manifold wisdom of God, speaking of the dispensational change, Paul’s unique apostleship and the mystery of Christ, because we want the people around us to be saved, because we want them to rejoice at the judgment seat of Christ. We want to rejoice in them in that day because God has been at work in them and that work will be reflected throughout eternity.

At the JSoC, we may all have people that we will “rejoice in” because of the impact they made on us as it pertains to godliness and spiritual understanding. But I think at the top of everyone’s list will be the apostle Paul. His ministry was built to last. There are his books which are written to us, to edify us unto

godliness and conform us to the image of God's Son. I also think that if we have been able to have an impact with anyone on this earth, seeing them get their reward will be cause for us to rejoice in them in the day of the Lord Jesus. All in all, that is going to be quite a day.

1 Corinthians 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. <sup>12</sup> Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; <sup>13</sup> Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. <sup>14</sup> If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you **will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:**

Philippians 1:10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that **ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;**

Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that **I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.**

I want us to think for a moment about what we have read in verse 14.

2 Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that **we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.**

Evidently, the Corinthians present acceptance of Paul becomes the criterion by which their edification will be measured in the Day of Judgment. If they rejoice in Paul (not in spite of, but because of his changes in plans); if they hold him up as a genuine apostle; at the JSoC, Paul will be able to rejoice in them as genuine believers who are worthy of reward. The implication is: for the members of the church who were still opposed to Paul, there isn't going to be much ground for rejoicing at the judgment seat of Christ.

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**The Most Important Decision**

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**Closing Prayer:**

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*Heavenly Father,*

*We pray to learn this doctrine, so that we might learn to order our lives by grace and not fleshly wisdom. And when we do, we will not be surprised when we also are attacked, for we know the Adversary wants us discouraged in a way that affects our influence on others. We pray to endure those fiery darts patiently without quitting, and put the power of Your grace on display for both men and angels. Thank you for the sufferings of our apostle, who did so out of a heart of love for You and for the benefit of the body of Christ, and may we do the same. Amen.*