



PAUL'S HEART

2 CORINTHIANS

Corinthian Chronology

- 50-51 A.D. Church established (Acts 18)
- 54 A.D. Wrote “previous letter” (1 Cor. 5:9 – lost)
- 55 A.D. Wrote second letter (1 Corinthians)
- 55 A.D. After bad report made “painful visit” (2 Cor. 2:1; 12:14)
- 56 A.D. Wrote a third ‘tearful’ letter (2 Cor. 2:4 – lost)
- Later in 56, wrote from Macedonia his 4th letter (2 Cor.)
- 57 A.D. Made 3rd and final visit (for 3 months – Acts 20:1-4)

The Accusations of the Enemies

- Why is there so much suffering in his life?
- Why is his preaching so mediocre in comparison to the others (10:10)?
- How can he say that he is “lead by the spirit” when he is so fickle with his travel plans?
- What’s the deal with him not accepting payment for his services?
- Why can’t he provide any letters of recommendation like these others?

Answering the Opposition

- My pure conscience (1:12; 7:2)
- My love for you (1:23-24; 7:3-4)
- My ministry and it's glorious nature (2:16; 3:5-6; 4:1)
- My readiness to die and be with Christ (5:12)
- My willingness to suffer in the flesh (6:4-10)
- My knowledge (11:5-6)
- My financial sacrifice (11:7-12)
- [Bear with me...] My stat sheet is more impressive (11:22-29)
- My "third heavens" experience (11:1-6), which led to a thorn, and then a prayer, and ultimately a divine response!
- My apostolic signs I performed (12:12)
- Finally, you want proof, I'll give you proof, but you'll not like it.

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- Note the tenderness and graciousness of Paul's introduction (1:2).
- "Please pray for me." (1:11). I need your help.
- Everything Paul did, even by the authority of Christ, was for their edification (13:10; 10:8; 1:24)