**2 Corinthians 13**

*He warns them to self-examine to ensure they are right with God. He notes that when he visits them again, if they remain sinful, he will not* “spare,” *though his preference is that his visit be a pleasant and gentle one. (Synopsis by Stan Cox)*

1. Paul’s Authority VS False Apostles **(10:1-13:10)**
2. Final Warning to the Corinthians **(13:1-10)**
   1. Warning of Discipline **(vv. 1-4)**
      1. His imminent visit would be his third, and corrective discipline would be practiced if needed **(v. 1).**
      2. He will not spare those who are in sin from the exercising of his authority in Christ **(v. 2).**
      3. Since they seek proof of Christ in him he will display his authority in disciplining the impenitent **(vv. 3-4).**
   2. Exhortation for Introspection **(vv. 5-6)**
      1. They must give time to self-examination to prove whether they are in line with the faith – the gospel **(v. 5).**
      2. He is confident they will know he himself is not disqualified **(v. 6).**
   3. Paul’s Desire for Their Faithfulness **(vv. 7-10)**
      1. His prayer is for their faithfulness, not for his own appearance, but for their sakes. Regardless of how it makes him appear to others, he must not do anything against the truth **(vv. 7-8).**
      2. He would gladly appear weak to others if it meant they were strong, for he wants them to be complete **(v. 9).**
      3. He writes these things so he will not have to display the authority he has in Christ in such a severe way **(v. 10).**
3. Conclusion **(13:11-14)**
4. Exhortation **(13:11)**
   1. Be complete.
   2. Be of good comfort.
   3. Be of one mind.
   4. Live in peace.
   5. By doing these things, God will be with them.
5. Greetings **(13:12-13)**
   1. Greet each other with a holy kiss **(v. 12).**
   2. The saints greet them **(v. 13).**
6. Blessing **(13:14)**
   1. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with them.
   2. The love of God be with them.
   3. The communion of the Holy Spirit be with them.

**Questions**

1. Contrast the Calvinistic tenet of the “Perseverance of the Saints” with **verses 5 and 6.**
2. What is the *“holy kiss”* of **verse 12?** How might we follow this instruction today?
3. What does **verse 14** say about God and Christians?