**2 Corinthians 7**

*Paul rejoices in the zealous repentance of the Corinthians in response to his first letter. The report brought to him by Titus gave him much comfort. (Synopsis by Stan Cox)*

1. Paul’s Ministry, Appeals, and Admonitions **(1:3-7:16)**
2. The Ministry of the New Covenant **(2:12-7:16)**
   1. Call to Holiness – Proper Response to the Ministry **(6:11-7:3)**
      1. Call to holiness **(v. 1).**
      2. Plea for open hearts **(vv. 2-3).**
         1. Again, Paul pleads with them to open their hearts, as Paul has done to them **(v. 2).**
         2. He does not say these things to condemn, but as an expression of love **(v. 3).**
   2. Joyous News **(7:4-16)**
      1. Comfort in the coming of Titus **(vv. 4-6).**
         1. Paul’s boldness and boasting is great toward them and about them because of the comfort he received from them in his tribulation **(v. 4).**
         2. Paul was troubled upon arriving in Macedonia **(v. 5).**
         3. However, he was comforted by the coming of Titus **(v. 6).**
      2. Comfort in hearing of their repentance **(vv. 7-12).**
         1. In addition to Titus’ coming, Paul was comforted by the comfort Titus received at the response of the Corinthians **(v. 7).**
         2. His letter had made them sorry, but he does not regret this **(v. 8).**
         3. His joy was not in their sorrow, but in the nature of their sorrow, and its outcome **(v. 9).**
         4. Their sorrow was of a godly sorrow which leads to salvation. This contrasts with the alternative sorrow of the world **(v. 10).**
         5. Their godly sorrow which produced repentance was observable **(vv. 11).** Observed by Paul was their:
            1. Diligence.
            2. Clearing of themselves.
            3. Indignation.
            4. Fear.
            5. Vehement desire.
            6. Zeal.
            7. Vindication.
            8. These things are proof of their being cleared of the matter.
         6. His letter was ultimately an expression of his love and care for the Corinthians **(v. 12).**
      3. Comfort in hearing of their reception of Titus **(vv. 13-16).**
         1. In addition to the Corinthians’ comfort comforting Paul, so did the news of Titus’ refreshment in the Corinthians **(v. 13).**
         2. The boasting about the Corinthians by Paul was not in vain, but was in truth. Their treatment of Titus proved such **(v. 14).**
         3. Because of this, Titus has grown closer to them **(v. 15).**
         4. Also, Paul has confidence in them **(v. 16).**

**Questions**

1. What are some examples of *“the sorrow of the world [which] produces death”* **(v. 10)?**
2. What does **verse 12** say about what the motive of rebuke should be? How should this affect the reception of rebuke?
3. What does the joy given Paul by the news of the Corinthians, and of Titus in relation to the Corinthians tell us about how the relationship of believers should be **(vv. 6-7, 13-15)?**