**2 Corinthians Outline**

1. Introduction **(1:1-2)**
2. Authorship and Recipients **(v. 1)**
3. Greetings **(v. 2)**
4. Paul’s Ministry, Appeals, and Admonitions **(1:3-7:16)**
5. Suffering and Comfort **(1:3-11)**
6. Paul’s Plans and Charge of Fickleness **(1:12-2:2)**
7. Purpose for the Former Letter **(2:3-11)**
8. The Ministry of the New Covenant **(2:12-7:16)**
   1. Led in Triumph **(2:12-17)**
   2. Letter of Recommendation, and Sufficiency of Ministry **(3:1-6)**
   3. Contrast of OT Ministry and NT Ministry **(3:7-18)**
   4. Apostolic Conduct and Character **(4:1-5:11)**
   5. Ministry of Reconciliation **(5:12-6:10)**
   6. Call to Holiness – Proper Response to the Ministry **(6:11-7:4)**
   7. Joyous News **(7:5-16)**
9. Concerning the Collection for the Judean Saints **(8:1-9:15)**
10. Instructions Concerning Giving **(8:1-24)**
    1. Example of the Macedonians and Further Instruction **(8:1-15)**
    2. Commendation of Messengers **(8:16-24)**
11. Exhortations Concerning Giving **(9:1-15)**
    1. Readiness of the Gift **(9:1-5)**
    2. The Cheerful Giver Glorifies God **(9:6-15)**
12. Paul’s Authority VS False Apostles **(10:1-13:10)**
13. Authority Through the Gospel **(10:1-6)**
14. Nature and Limit of Authority **(10:7-18)**
15. Paul’s Defense VS False Apostles **(11:1-15)**
16. Paul’s Reluctant Boasting – A Contrast with the Judaizers **(11:16-33)**
17. Paul’s Vision and Thorn in the Flesh **(12:1-10)**
18. Conclusion of Boasting **(12:11-13)**
19. Paul’s Imminent Visit, and Expressed Love **(12:14-21)**
20. Final Warning to the Corinthians **(13:1-10)**
21. Conclusion **(13:11-14)**
22. Exhortation **(13:11)**
23. Greetings **(13:12-13)**
24. Blessing **(13:14)**

**Chapter Synopses**

*Synopses written by Stan Cox.*

1. After his greeting, Paul launches a discussion of suffering, both its reality, and the relief to be found in Christ. He then explains his future plans.
2. Paul refers to the sexually immoral man mentioned in his previous letter. The man had repented, and Paul instructs them to receive him back. He also writes of the triumph to be found in Christ.
3. Paul alludes to the Judaizing teachers, noting that he had no need to commend himself. He contrasts the glory of the New Covenant with the vain teaching of the Judaizers.
4. Paul contends the preaching of Christ brings light into the world. Though his preaching led to persecution, hope in Christ trumps despair.
5. That hope in Christ is made sure in the resurrection. Therefore, Paul’s aim was to prepare for the resurrection and judgment. He appeals to the Corinthians to be likewise ready.
6. Paul describes himself as a minister (servant) of God. He calls upon the Corinthians to be holy, and to avoid unequal yoking with evil.
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.
8. Paul calls upon the Corinthians to excel in giving, noting the Macedonian churches as examples. He calls them to be willing and abundant in their gift to the Judean saints, as an offering of love.
9. Paul exhorts them to have their gift ready so that they would not be embarrassed by being unprepared **(cf. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2).** He calls upon them to be cheerful and purposeful in their giving.
10. He points out that the warfare we engage in is not physical, but spiritual. As a spiritual warrior and apostle, Paul discusses the nature and limits of his authority.
11. Paul expresses his concern that they might be led away from his teaching by false apostles. He notes their deceptive ways, stating *“For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”* In defending his apostleship, he notes the travails he had suffered for Christ.
12. Paul describes his vision of Paradise, and the subsequent *“thorn in the flesh”* given him to keep him humble. He notes his *“boasting”* was necessary due to their questions regarding his authority. He reaffirms his love for them.
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.