

Study 5

Read 2 Corinthians Chapter 5

SUMMARY

As Paul continues describing the nature of his ministry, he explains why he remains "hopeful" in spite of his suffering. He knows that should his "earthly house" be destroyed, there is a "house not made with hands" that God has prepared for him. For this he longs, being confident because God has already given the Spirit as a guarantee. So while he must walk by faith, and not by sight, he makes it his aim to be pleasing to the Lord, before Whom he knows he will one day stand to give an account (1-10).

Paul then describes his "devotion" as it pertains to his ministry. Motivated by his knowledge of the terror of the Lord, he persuades men. He endeavors to serve God and his brethren in such a way that the Corinthians will be able to provide a defense to those who judge only by appearance. Throughout it all, it is the love of Christ which constrains Paul to live no longer for himself but for the Lord. Unlike his detractors, he no longer judges people based upon appearances, for he knows that if one is in Christ, he is a new creation (11-17).

Finally, Paul depicts the work of God in Christ as one in which God is reconciling the world to Himself. Paul's own role is that of an "ambassador for Christ", who has been entrusted with the "ministry of reconciliation" so he might implore people on God's behalf that they be reconciled to God (18-21).

Questions:

- 1) Paul groaned (sighed) earnestly desiring to be clothed with what? (II Corinthians 5:2)

- 2) If we are clothed with this house from heaven how shall we not be found? (II Corinthians 5:3)

- 3) While in this tabernacle (physical body) we groan to be clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of what? (II Corinthians 5:4)

- 4) What has God given Christians as a guarantee of the eternal things he has for us? (II Corinthians 5:5)

- 5) As long as Christians are present with the body we are absent from whom? (II Corinthians 5:6)

- 6) State Paul's reason for being willing to be absent from the body. (II Corinthians 5:8)

- 7) State Paul's reason for laboring for the Lord? (II Corinthians 5:9)

- 8) How many must appear before the judgment seat of Christ? (II Corinthians 5:10)

- 9) Give the reason all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ? (II Corinthians 5:10)

- 10) Name 2 kinds of deeds that will be recognized before the judgment seat of Christ. (II Corinthians 5:10)

- 11) What caused Paul to persuade men? (II Corinthians 5:11)

- 12) For whose cause does Paul say "or whether we be sober?" (II Corinthians 5:13)

- 13) What fact proves the love of Christ? (II Corinthians 5:14)

- 14) Christ dying for all proved what fact? (II Corinthians 5:14)

- 15) Since Christ died for all those that live should not live unto them selves. How should they live? (II Corinthians 5:15)

- 16) What important fact followed the death of Christ? (II Corinthians 5:15)

- 17) In whom may one be a new creature? (II Corinthians 5:17)

- 18) What becomes of “old things” when one becomes a new creature in Christ? (II Corinthians 5:17)

- 19) Give 3 things that happen “if any man be in Christ.” (II Corinthians 5:17)

- 20) By what means or person does God reconcile us to himself? (II Corinthians 5:18)

- 21) Who gave Paul the “ministry of reconciliation?” (II Corinthians 5:18)

- 22) When God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, what was not imputed unto them? (II Corinthians 5:19)

- 23) The word of what was committed to Paul? (II Corinthians 5:19)

- 24) What office does Paul claim to possess for Christ? (II Corinthians 5:20)

- 25) According to Paul who was made to be sin for us, who knew no sin? (II Corinthians 5:21)

- 26) Give the reason Christ was made to be sin for us. (II Corinthians 5:21)

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?

2) What did Paul know he would have if his "earthly house" were destroyed? (1)

3) What was Paul's earnest desire? (2)

4) What has God given us as a "guarantee" of the "life" to come? (5)

5) What remains our condition while we are "at home in the body"? (6)

6) What does our present condition require of us in our daily "walk"? (7)

7) What is the desire of the "confident" Christian? (8)

8) What is the aim of "confident" Christian? (9)

9) Before what must we all one day appear? (10)

10) What moved Paul to try and persuade men? (11)

11) What motivated Paul to live for Jesus Christ? (14-15)

12) What is the condition of one in Christ? (17)

13) Through Whom has God reconciled us to Himself? (18)

14) What two descriptive phrases does Paul use in reference to the gospel that was committed to him? (18-19)

14) How has God reconciled us to Himself? (19)

15) How does Paul view his role in this "ministry of reconciliation"? (20)

16) How is it possible that we can become "the righteousness of God" in Christ? (21)