

May

1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians

May 1. 1 Corinthians 1:1- 2:5 - Christ crucified – For what does Paul give thanks? What divisions still happen in the church today? How was “the cross of Christ emptied of its power”? How is this a stumbling block and foolishness? What is “the message of the cross”? Why is it so important?

May 2. 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 – Spirit revealed – What is the “mature message”? What is the only way to know “spiritual truths”? How do we have “the mind of Christ”?

May 3. 1 Corinthians 3:1-23 – Foundation & Following – Are you ready for milk or solid food? How do you know? What causes divisions in the church? How can these be prevented? What is your foundation? How is this building (temple) coming? Are you wise or a fool?

May 4. 1 Corinthians 4:1-21 – Servants of Christ– What are “the secret things of God”? How are “servants of Christ” to be judged? Why was boasting going on? How does this still happen today? What is meant by “in Christ Jesus”? What does it mean “the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power”?

May 5. 1 Corinthians 5:1-13 – Church Discipline – Why was church discipline necessary then? Why would it be necessary today? What does it mean to be “assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus”? When does this happen today? How is a person “handed over to Satan”? What is the purpose of doing this? With whom are we not to “associate with”? Why is this? His is “judgment” different within the church and outside the church?

May 6. 1 Corinthians 6:1-20 – Law Suits / Freedom – How are believers to handle disputes? Why was Paul shaming the Corinthians? What is the good news to those who were caught up in sinful lifestyles? How can we “flee from sexual immorality” in our world today? What is the contrary message about our bodies being promoted in our world today?

May 7. 1 Corinthians 7:1-40 – Marriage – What “matters” did the Corinthians write to Paul? How does Satan seek to destroy marriages? Why is he so successful? Why did Paul write “it is better to remain unmarried”? What does this teach about divorce? How might a husband “save” his wife? A wife “save” her husband? What must be the primary concern of those married or unmarried?

May 8. 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 – No Stumbling Block – How does knowledge “puff up”? How does love “build up”? What would be a comparison in our day of “food sacrificed to idols”? How can “exercising our freedom” become a stumbling block to the weak? How can we avoid “wounding weak consciences”?

May 9. 1 Corinthians 9:1-23 – Paul’s Defense – How could the people be “the seal of Paul’s apostleship”? What is the purpose of so many questions here? Why is Paul boasting? How do v.19-23 apply to us today? Or do they?

May 10. 1 Corinthians 9:24 - 10:13 – Learn from History – What is the “strict training” that Paul went through? Does this apply to us today? How were those in the past “baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea”? What “spiritual food and drink” did they have? Do we have the same “spiritual baptism, food and drink”?

May 11. 1 Corinthians 10:14- 11:1 – Eating and Drinking – What is the difference between an idol feast and the Lord’s Supper? What is the difference today? How is the phrase “everything is permissible” also misused today? Although we have Christian “freedom / permission” what is the over-all message from God?

May 12. 1 Corinthians 11:2-16 – Honor & Dishonor – What is the meaning of “head” in these verses? What is the purpose of covering or uncovering one’s head? Why “because of the angles”? Is this talking about hair styles or something else?

May 13. 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 – The Lord’s Supper – What was the sin being addressed? How might this also happen in churches today? How might a person “eat and drink unworthily”? How serious is this? What does it mean “this is why some of you are weak and sick and a number of you have fallen asleep”?

May 14. 1 Corinthians 12:1-31 – The Body of Christ – What does it mean to say “Jesus is Lord”? How is this said falsely today? What is the purpose of spiritual gifts? How do Christians say “I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body” in today’s church? What is the result of people having this false idea? What are the “greater gifts” we are to eagerly desire?

- May 15.** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 – Love Is – How is love greater than speaking in tongues or the gift of prophecy, etc.? Why are these verses so often used in a wedding ceremony? Is that why Paul wrote them? How does this definition of “love” differ from the world’s definition? How is love greater than faith and hope? 16. 1 Corinthians 14:1-40 – Spiritual Gifts / Worship – Paul spoke in tongues (v.18), is this a gift still given to the church today? What are the dangers Paul warns about? What are the purposes of spiritual gifts? What is involved in keeping our church services “orderly”? What does it mean “women should remain silent in the churches”? What does it mean “be eager to prophecy”?
- May 17.** 1 Corinthians 15:1-58 – The Resurrection – Why did Paul need to remind them of the “gospel he preached to them”? What is “of first importance”? Why did Paul list all the appearances of Jesus? How are people today still saying there is no resurrection? What is the significance of Paul writing, “fallen asleep” instead of “died”? How are the dead raised? What will we look like? What is the “mystery” that God’s Word reveals? (v.51) How do these verses answer the false teachings of the rapture and “left behind”?
- May 18.** 1 Corinthians 16:1-24 – Now about... What questions are Paul answering in these verses? How are these answers of benefit to us today?
- May 19.** 2 Corinthians 1:1-22 – Yes in Christ – Why does Paul begin with writing about God’s comfort? What “sufferings” were they sharing? What is the positive outcome of sufferings? From comfort and suffering to “boasting” – about what? How would they benefit twice from Paul’s visit? How are “all of God’s promises ‘yes’ in Christ”?
- May 20.** 2 Corinthians 1:23- 2:11 – Forgiveness – What would make Paul’s visit “painful”? What Godly directives to church leaders do these verses give today? Refer back to 1 Cor. 5 – apparently what corrective did Paul need to give? What does this teach us in the church today? How do we allow “Satan to outwit us”?
- May 21.** 2 Corinthians 2:12-3:18 – The New Covenant – How did Paul know that “the Lord had opened a door”? What does this mean for us today, how do we know? How do you “smell”? From smells to “letters” – how do you “read” to others? Why did Moses wear the veil? How was it removed? Do you wear a veil?
- May 22.** 2 Corinthians 4:1-18 – Jars of Clay – What does it mean to “lose heart”? (v.1,16) Why can’t unbelievers “see”? Why “jars of clay”? How do we “carry around in our bodies the death of Jesus”? How do we “fix our eyes on what is unseen”? (look ahead to 5:7)
- May 23.** 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 – Heavenly Home – What does your “earthly tent” look like? How might we “be found naked”? What is our confidence? What is our goal? Is “standing before the judgment seat of Christ” comforting or scary? Why?
- May 24.** 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 – In Christ – New Creation - Why does Paul want them to “take pride in us”? Why might people say “you are out of your mind”? how can we answer them? What does it mean to “regard others from a worldly point of view”? What does it mean to “be in Christ”? We ARE ambassadors for Christ – what is the message we are bringing to the world?
- May 25.** 2 Corinthians 6:1-18 – Now is the Time – How might a person “receive God’s grace in vain”? What are [possible “stumbling blocks”? What are the “weapons of righteousness in the right and left hands”? How do we “open wide our hearts”? How might we “be yoked together with unbelievers”? How does this fit in with being “ambassadors” (5:20)?
- May 26.** 2 Corinthians 7:1-16 – Joy in Repentance – How do we “purify ourselves”? (see again 5:17) How can they “make room for us in your hearts”? How did Paul “cause them sorrow”? What was his purpose? What’s the difference between “Godly sorrow” and “worldly sorrow”? How does this show in our lives?
- May 27.** 2 Corinthians 8:1-24 – Grace in Giving – What is the “grace” God gave to the Macedonian church? Does He still give that “grace” today? How is this evident? How are our gifts “acceptable”? Why is it important not only to “do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, but also in the eyes of men”? How were Titus and “our brother” an honor to Christ/ How are we an “honor to Christ”?
- May 28.** 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 – Rich in Generosity – What does Paul mean “there is no need for me to write to you about this service”? What does he teach about leadership? What does this teach us about the examples we are giving? Why the difference between a “generous gift” and “one grudgingly given”? Why does God “make us rich in every way”? What all is included in “God’s indescribable gift”?
- May 29.** 2 Corinthians 10:1-18 – Take Captive Every Thought – What apparently were Paul’s opponents saying about him? What is the difference between “in the world but not of the world”? What are our spiritual weapons? How do we use them? What does it mean to “belong to Christ”? What is Paul’s goal with the Christians in Corinth? Our goal?

May 30. 2 Corinthians 11:1-33 – Paul’s Foolishness – Is boasting a sin? Why does Paul call his “foolishness”? Why does he write this at this time? Did Paul really “rob other churches”? How can we recognize and reject the “masquerades” of Satan and his servants? Note the biting irony of v.16-21. What “daily concern” did Paul bear? Do we have these “burdens” as well?

May 31. 2 Corinthians 12:1- 13:14 Thorn in the Flesh – What does this teach us about visions of heaven? How does it fit with all the books currently out? Why does Paul write this after his “foolish boasting”? How was Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” a curse? A blessing? What does it mean “when I am weak, then I am strong”? More biting irony – v.11-13. How can we “examine ourselves to see whether we are in the faith; test ourselves...” Note how Paul begins this letter (1:2) and ends this letter (13:14) – familiar words?