

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians – Finding *the New!*

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- ❧ Where do you find *comfort*?
- ❧ Where do you find *hope*?
- ❧ Where do you find *help*?
- ❧ *Finding the 'new' in Jesus!*

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians – Finding the New!

## Lesson 2: Welcome Back!



1. Forgiveness & restoration
2. Remember: we have an enemy!
3. Open doors
4. Smells Good!

## 2 Corinthians 2.5-17, NIV



✧<sup>5</sup> If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent – not to put it too severely. <sup>6</sup> The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. <sup>7</sup> Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.



✧<sup>8</sup> I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. <sup>9</sup> Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. <sup>10</sup> Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven – if there was anything to forgive – I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, <sup>11</sup> in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.



✠<sup>12</sup> Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me, <sup>13</sup> I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said goodbye to them and went on to Macedonia.



✠<sup>14</sup> But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. <sup>15</sup> For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.



✠<sup>16</sup> To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task? <sup>17</sup> Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

# 1. Forgiveness & restoration



- ☞ Paul's goal – the goal of the church:
- ☞ Repentance – turning point
- ☞ Forgiveness – released
- ☞ Restoration – new again

In a nutshell,



☞<sup>7</sup> Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

☞ I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him.

There is no use in  
talking as if  
forgiveness were easy.  
For we find that the  
work of forgiveness  
has to be done over  
and over again.

C S Lewis

## 2. Remember: we have an enemy!



- ❧ “I also forgive . . .<sup>11</sup> in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.
- ❧ Satan hates you!
- ❧ He knows forgiveness is from God, and it works!
- ❧ What are Satan’s “schemes?”

# Satan has 3 objectives:



- ☞<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to
- ☞ 1. steal and 2. kill and 3. destroy;
- ☞ I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- ☞<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

☞ **JOHN 10**

# 1 Peter 5.8-9, NIV



☞<sup>8</sup> Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

# 3. Open doors



- ✧ <sup>12</sup> Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me,
- ✧ Jesus opens doors for you too!
- ✧ Can you recognize an open door?
- ✧ Listen / watch for:
- ✧ People talking about their problems
- ✧ People asking what helps you

# The 'Smell' of Victory



- ✧ But thanks be to God,
- ✧ who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession
- ✧ and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere
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