

2Corinthians – Week 34

I. Quiz & Review

A. 2Cor. 8:22-24

- i. Paul's plan to send three brothers to Corinth to collect the funds:
 1. Titus: his partner in the gospel whom the Corinthians know and appreciate.
 2. Two unnamed brothers:
 - a. One who was well-known among the churches for his work in the Lord.
 - b. One well-known to Paul and his companions, a brother often tested and proved faithful!
 - c. These two brothers were messengers (apostles) of the churches
 - i. They were not apostles (ones sent from or forth) of Christ, but apostles (ones sent from or forth) of the churches they represent.
 - ii. Barnabas falls in this category as well.
 1. Barnabas – Acts 14:14, sent out by the church in Antioch (Acts 13:1-3)
 - iii. Jesus was an Apostle, in that He was sent from the Father to atone for our sins (cf. Hebrews 3:1)
 - iv. There were 14 apostles of Christ:
 1. The original Twelve (cf. Matt. 10:1-4).
 2. Judas was replaced by Mathias, who met the qualifications of apostleship and was selected by the Lord by way of the casting of lots (cf. Acts 1:21-26).
 3. Paul (Acts 9:1-20; 26:16).
 - d. They also were the glory of Christ, that is, they were great examples of Christ-likeness.
 - ii. Paul reemphasizes his appeal to them to complete the work and lets them know that he has utmost confidence in them...

II. Chapter 9

A. Paul begins to use a figure of speech called "*paraleipsis*"

- i. This is when one says they will ignore something but actually mentions it as a subtle form of emphasis.
- ii. We commonly use *paraleipses* (plural) without knowing it...
 1. For example:
 - a. "I'm sure you don't need to be reminded to set your clock forward one hour this weekend"
 - i. This statement indirectly reminded the hearer to set their clock.
 - b. "I'm not here to speak about Bill's drug or alcohol addiction"
 - i. This statement indirectly addressed Bill's addiction.
 - c. "Let's talk about the good that he has done"
 - i. This statement begs the question: "What bad things did he do?"
 2. It's not uncommon for Paul to do this:
 - a. In 1Thess. 5:1, Paul says he needs not write to them regarding the second coming of the Lord, but then proceeds to speak on the matter.
 - b. He does the same in 2Corinthians 9...

- B. 2Cor. 9:1-2 (ESV), “Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about the ministry for the saints,² for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them.”**
- i. Paul continues the topic of chapter 8 and tells the Corinthians that it was unnecessary for him to write about helping the poor Christians in Jerusalem (cf. Rom. 15:26).**
 - 1. Paul need not write to them of the importance of helping the Christian because they understood their need to help and they showed a desire to help...**
 - a. 2Cor. 8:10 (ESV), “And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it.”**
 - 2. It was their willingness that caused Paul to boast about the Corinthians to the Macedonians, causing them to participate in the collection as well.**
 - ii. The phrase “has been ready since last year” means the Corinthians had started collecting the funds, not that it was completed and ready to be sent off.**
 - 1. 2Cor. 8 clearly shows that they needed to complete what they started.**
 - 2. Their enthusiasm a year ago had faded since then (8:11), but they had been eager to participate in the collection.**
 - iii. It is this initial attitude that Paul commended here.**
 - 1. Apparently the Corinthian Christians were taking the lead in their province that also included churches in Cenchrea and probably other communities. This explains his reference to Achaia (Corinth was the capital).**