

July 17, 2022
II Corinthians 13:1-14
A Shot Across The Bow

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

What's inside this pericope?

A call for self-exam. Including an honest inspection of the fruits of our lives.

A call not to just appear to do right right, but to actually flesh out holiness in our daily walk.

A call to GROW UP!

A call to build the church up, not to tear down.

A call to biblical church discipline when needed for the welfare of the body.

REWARDS THAT FOLLOW:

Spiritual maturity. encouragement likemindedness the body at peace

God of love and peace with you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ

The love of God

The fellowship of the Holy Spirit

Question, did the church at Corinth ever get it right? Answer, Paul would visit them one more time, a three month visit in which he would pen the letter to the Romans. In **Romans 15:23** Paul wrote, "But now I no longer have any work to do in these regions, and I have strongly desired for many years to come to you . . ."

Apparently, Paul's appeal to the church for holiness had been heeded. The Corinthians were now obedient to the TRUTH and living in harmony.

Every matter that is before the church causing grief will be firmly established by 2 or 3 witnesses. None of this second handed nonsense currently going around.

When I return, the heads of the guilty are going to roll Paul warned; if things were not as they should be within the church body.. **Matthew 18** was put into play to bring about godly solutions to problems within the church.

Test yourself, are you genuinely genuine? As they ran this test Paul hoped they would firmly conclude that he was too; after all, he was their spiritual father. This would solidify once for all the genuineness of his apostleship and his gospel message. If they didn't fail nor could he, an indisputable, axiomatic truth.

Application:

Examine yourself, a person can confess Christ with their lips and die in their sins. Despite having knowledge of the gospel, they have never truly repented and confessed Jesus as Lord.

You can pray a prayer, walk the aisle, get all emotional, go through the motions of baptism, attend church, lead in the church, live morally, know a bunch of facts about Jesus, know a bunch of Bible verses, and believe about Jesus and still die and go to hell for eternity, separated from God. Thus the call to examine yourselves.

So what must I do to be saved? (See **Acts 16:29-34**) Repent of your sins, confess them, ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior. It is by grace through faith not of works that one is genuinely born again. (**Ephesians 2:1-10**) Read what Jesus said in **John 3**. Read about becoming a new creature with a new want to in, **II Corinthians 5:17-18**. Yielded to the teaching of Scripture. Obedient to simply do what Scripture teaches.

Beloved, please heed the God breathed words of the apostle Paul and EXAMINE YOURSELF to see if you are truly in the faith. Challenge those under the umbrella of your influence to do the same, **II Peter 1:10-11**. Friends don't let friends die without telling them about Jesus! You cannot make them drink, but please lead them to the water of life, living water that Jesus spoke of in **John 7:37-39**.