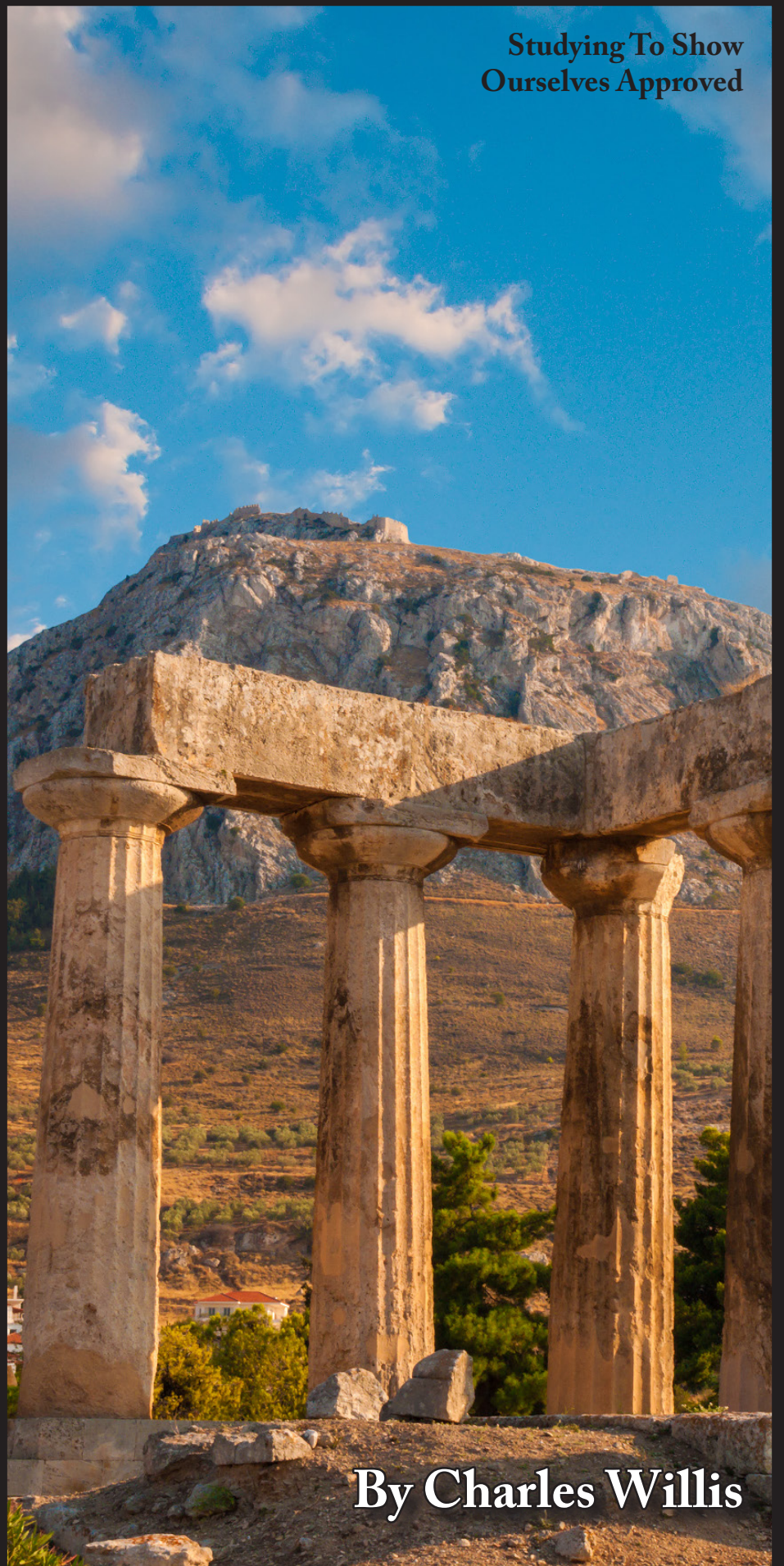


# 2 Corinthians

Studying To Show  
Ourselves Approved



By Charles Willis



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# Chapter 1

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1. What is the “comfort” spoken of in verses 3-7? How do we comfort others with it?
2. What do verses 9-10 indicate God did for Paul and Timothy?
3. Based on verse 11 do you think God hears our prayers about individuals? Is specific prayer of any use?
4. How did Paul say he behaved himself when with them?
5. Why would Paul include verse 13?
6. Why might some suppose Paul’s answer was “yes and no” (verses 17-19) and what was this answer about?
7. How are those in Christ “yes” (verse 20)?
8. How were the apostles “sealed” (verse 22)?
9. After studying First Corinthians in detail, with what strong positive statement does Paul end chapter one?

# Chapter 2

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1. What was Paul sparing them from by not coming to them any more (1:23-2:ff)?
  
2. How can the one Paul made sorrowful make him glad?
  
3. Verses 5-11 are believed to refer to what passage in First Corinthians?
  - A. What was Paul's attitude while writing this passage?
  
  - B. What part does love play when rebuking another?
  
4. What is the lesson about forgiveness here?
  
5. What advantage might Satan take during the process of forgiveness?
  
6. Explain the meaning of the "aroma" and "fragrance" described in verses 14-16.
  
7. With whom does Paul compare himself in verse 17?

# Chapter 3

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1. Explain Paul's meaning of "letters of commendation" being the Corinthians?
  - A. This was a commendation of what?
  - B. "Our adequacy is from God" (verse 5). What does this phrase mean?
2. How did the "ministry of death" come with glory (verse 7)?
3. How is the "ministry of the Spirit" come with glory (verse 8)?
4. What does Paul affirm "has no glory" (verse 10) and "fades away" (verse 11)?
5. What is "that which remains" (verse 11)? Give other New Testament passages to support this statement.
6. What is the "hope" Paul refers to in verse 12?
7. Boldness in speech is compared to what about Moses?
8. How can we use boldness of speech in teaching others? What does this mean?
9. Who removed the veil? What was the veil (verses 14-18)?
10. Do people today wear a veil over their heart (Verse 15)?
11. How are we being "transformed" (verse 18)?

# Chapter 4

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1. What is the “therefore” there for?
2. What did Paul say they renounced? What did they commend?
3. How is the gospel veiled (verses 3-4)?
  - A. Is understanding God’s truth within our ability or do we need guidance?
4. How do verses 5-6 relate to the statements in 1 Corinthians 1:12 and following?
5. What “treasure” was in earthen vessels (verse 7)?
6. Explain how Paul compared suffering with the death of Christ (verses 8-12).
7. What does verse 14 teach about the importance of the resurrection of Christ? What part of 1 Corinthians does Paul seem to be reminding them of?
8. Paul says the giving of grace to us should result in what (verse 15)?
9. How is the inner man renewed day by day (verse 16)?
10. Verses 17-18 indicate what should be our outlook on life. What does Paul tell us?

# Chapter 5

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1. What is the “earthly tent” and what is our “dwelling from heaven” in verses 1-5? Again, what portion(s) of 1 Corinthians can you see echoed in the first five verses of this chapter?
2. “Therefore” (verse 6) indicates a conclusion of a thought. What is Paul’s point?
3. What does “we walk by faith and not be sight” mean (verse 7)?
4. What should be our ambition in life (verse 9)? Why? How does “therefore” connect this to a preceding thought?
5. What would be the “answer” the Corinthians could give to those who take pride in appearance (verse 12)?
6. How did the “love of God” control them? How does it control us?
7. What attitude should Christians have toward those who come to Christ (verses 16-17)? What is the “therefore” concluding in verses 16 and 17?
8. Define “reconcile” or “reconciliation”. Explain the use in verses 18-19.
9. Finally, a fifth “therefore” in verse 20 leads Paul to make what conclusion?
10. Can you discern any major theme to the letter by the end of the fifth chapter?



# Chapter 6

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1. How can we “receive” the grace of God in vain?
2. “Now is the day of salvation” is a phrase often used by preachers. Do we miss-use this phrase?
  - A. What was its original context in Isaiah 49:8?
  - B. What is Paul’s meaning in verse 2?
3. How did Paul indicate they could discredit the ministry? How can we discredit the ministry?
4. How did Paul and the other apostles (and those traveling with them) commend themselves as servants of God?
5. How do we commend ourselves as servants of God? To whom do we commend ourselves?
6. What “restrained” the Corinthians and what was Paul’s plea for them?
  - A. What were the Corinthians having trouble believing?
  - B. What portion(s) of 1 Corinthians does this seem to relate to?
7. Verses 14-16 are often used in reference to marriage. What are the contextual meanings and implications?
8. Are these verses teaching we can have no association with someone in the world?
9. Some in the religious world look to verse 17 as justification for what unscriptural concepts and practices?

# Chapter 7

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1. What is the “therefore” there for?
2. How do we “cleanses ourselves” and “perfect” holiness?
3. Verse 2 indicates the motivating reason why this letter was written. What was that reason?
4. Though some in Corinth did not seem to love Paul, what remained his attitude toward them?
5. When Paul and Timothy were in Macedonia what were they feeling? What news encouraged them (verses 5-7)?
6. How does verse 8 show the humanity of Paul and his godly concern?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ produced \_\_\_\_\_ leading to \_\_\_\_\_. (v.10)
  - A. What is the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow?
  - B. What kind of sorrow did the Corinthians have after receiving the first letter?
8. Why does Paul say he wrote the first letter?
9. How did the Corinthians treat the messenger of Paul?

# Chapter 8

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1. What did Paul want the Corinthians to know about the brethren in Macedonia?
2. Before “participation in the support of the saints”, what did the Macedonians do? How did this compare with an apparent attitude existing in Corinth?
3. What does Paul say the Corinthians abound in (verse 7) and how does that seem to contrast with the first letter?
4. What was “not a command” (verse 8)?
5. How did Christ become poor (verse 9)?
6. From verses 10-14, what can be determined had not happened and needed to be finished?
  - A. “According to what a man has” sounds a lot like what other New Testament passage?
  - B. What does Paul mean about “by way of equality” (verse 13)?
7. Though some had trouble accepting Paul, who had the Corinthians accepted? Was their love for him mutual?
8. In the first century were there some preachers everyone wanted to have for a meeting (verse 18)? Is there anything wrong with a brother being famous among the churches?
9. Why did Paul say their famous preacher was travelling with them?
10. How do we show the “proof of our love”?

# Chapter 9

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1. Verses 1-5 for the first time identify what was hinted at in the first part of chapter 8. What was the “gift” and to whom was it “promised”?
  - A. What message about Corinth encouraged the Macedonians?
  - B. What does “not affected by covetousness” mean?
2. Tell what verse 6 means in context.
3. Is verse 7 referring to an offering on the Lord’s Day?
  - A. Was this gift a command or Paul’s opinion?
4. How do verses 8-11 compare with Matthew 6:25-34?
5. To whom was the Corinthians gift given?
6. Though the gift was from the Corinthians, who did they give thanks to? Why?
7. Once again, does verse 14 indicate we are to pray for individuals or not?
8. What gift is meant in verse 15?

# Chapter 10

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1. Do you think verse 1 was a statement Paul made of himself or a quote of a charge against him?
2. What is his wish in verse 2?
3. Christian warfare is a favorite theme of Paul.
  - A. “We do not war according to the flesh” (verse 3). How does this compare with the radical Islamic concept of religious warfare?
  - B. What are we to destroy when we go to war?
  - C. Taking “every thought” is referring to others (verse 5). Can it apply to our own thoughts?
4. Please explain verse 6.
5. What does Paul condemn the Corinthians of in regards to himself (verse 7)?
6. What was the authority of the apostles for?
7. What was the reputation of Paul’s writings?
8. What were the Corinthians instructed to consider?
9. Why are some “without understanding”? Were these people in Corinth?
10. What was the “measure” the apostles could boast in (verses 13-17)?
11. Who is approved? How does this fit the context of the preceding verses?

# Chapter 11

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1. What “little foolishness” did Paul want them to bear with him about?
2. Many religious teachers would have us believe that understanding God’s will is complicated and requires a teacher. What does Paul say?
3. What problem is being addressed in verse 4? Compare this with Paul’s teaching in Galatians 1:6-9.
4. Paul humbled himself while with the Corinthians in what way?
5. What were the false teachers claiming (verses 12-ff)?
  - A. Compare this with 2 Peter 1:3, 14.
  - B. How is it these were able to disguise themselves as apostles?
6. Though men are deceived by Satan’s tactics, their end “shall be according to their deeds”. Give two examples of how Satan disguises himself as an angel of light today.
7. What were some in Corinth calling Paul (verse 16)? How does Paul agree with that?
8. Verse 19 drips of sarcasm. Just like verse 4, what is Paul condemning again in verses 19-20?
9. How does verse 21 answer some of these accusations and comparisons against Paul?
10. Why did Paul say “I speak as if insane” (verse 23)?
11. Why are thirty-nine lashes significant?
12. What did Paul say was more pressing on him than the physical difficulties he endured?
13. What does Paul say he will boast of (verse 30)?
14. How do these ‘credentials’ of an apostle listed by Paul compare with the false teachers abounding today? Do we have apostles today?

# Chapter 12

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1. Why was boasting necessary though not profitable?
2. Why did Paul refrain from boasting about himself?
3. Why was Paul given a “thorn in the flesh”?
4. What does “power is perfected in weakness” mean (verse 9)? How is it we are strong when we are weak (verse 10)?
5. Is verse 11 demonstrating a sarcastic attitude reflecting what those in Corinth were saying about Paul? How had they compelled Paul to become foolish?
6. What are the signs of a true apostle?
7. In what one way did Paul behave differently in Corinth than he did with other congregations (verse 13)?
8. What is the point made in verses 14-15?
9. How did Paul “take them in by deceit” (verse 16)?
10. How did Paul think they would take this letter (verse 19)?
11. How might God humiliate Paul before the Corinthians?

# Chapter 13

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1. Why is Deuteronomy 17:6 quoted in verse 1? What application is made?
2. “I will not spare anyone” (verse 2) implies Paul would take what actions upon his arrival?
3. How can we know if we are in the faith? How is this accomplished? (see James 1:23-25)
4. What affirmation does Paul make about the apostles and himself in particular?
5. Was Paul more concerned about his reputation or the righteousness of the saints?
6. How can we be “made complete”?
7. The authority of the apostles given by God enabled them to have what attitudes and teaching styles (verse 10)?
8. What passages from the first or second letter are summarized by these phrases in verse 11:
  - A. Rejoice
  - B. Be made complete
  - C. Be comforted
  - D. Be like-minded
  - E. Live in peace
9. How important are these principles? Must they exist for us to be right with God? How well does the church today display all of these traits?
10. Despite all the bad feelings voiced against Paul, how does he speak of them in conclusion?