

2 CORINTHIANS

A Verse-by-Verse Study



2 Corinthians 7: 10 (NASB)

For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.



What signs of Godly sorrow did Paul see in the Corinthians after they had read his letter?

2 Corinthians 7: 11 (NASB)

For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

Earnestness

Greek: spoude (spoo-day)

- To make-speed or haste
- To dispatch with eagerness and determination

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*For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: **what vindication of yourselves**, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.*

Vindication

Greek: apologia (ap-ol-og-ee'-ah)

- The “offering up” of a guilty plea
 - ✓ Not to be confused with an excuse or a cover-up, this an intentional dealing with sin.
 - ✓ It is a willful admitting and exposing of the wrong you committed for the sake of healing.

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Indignation

Greek: aganaktēsis (ag-an-ak'-tay-sis)

- An intense emotional state induced by displeasure
- The grief and pain caused by sin

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Fear

Greek: phobos (fob'-os)

- To be put in a healthy or reasonable fear
- Terror due to your offense
 - ✓ This is exemplified by our terror in recognition of our depravity in the presence of God's holiness

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Longing

Greek: epipothesis (ep-ee-poth'-ay-sis)

- An earnest longing for
- A strong and undeterred desire
- ✓ A burning heart that longs for purity of thought and deed. The pursuit of God.

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Zeal

Greek: zelos (dzay'-los)

- A burning emotion
- A boiling over
- ✓ This is describing an intense passion to turn away from sin or sinful lifestyle toward the pursuit of God.

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Punishment of wrong

Greek: ekdikesis (ek-dik'-ay-sis)

- A willingness to accept the justice, judgment and punishment for the crime (sin) committed.

Seven Signs of Godly Sorrow

- 1) An eagerness for forgiveness
- 2) A desire to expose your sin
- 3) A grief and sorrow over your sin
- 4) A fear of sinning in the presence of God
- 5) A desire to change
- 6) A burning desire to pursue God
- 7) A willingness to accept punishment for your sin

Many today claim that they cannot help living a sinful lifestyle because it is so deeply ingrained that it is an inescapable condition for them.

Because of this they conclude that the Church should accept their sinful lifestyles as normal and natural.

They insist it is unfair to condemn people for what they cannot help doing because “God made me this way.” How can Christians, then, condemn a condition that God himself created?



What is wrong with
that way of thinking?

Genesis

3: 12



Genesis 3: 12 (NASB)

*The man said, “The woman **whom You gave to be with me**, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”*

Worldly Sorrow

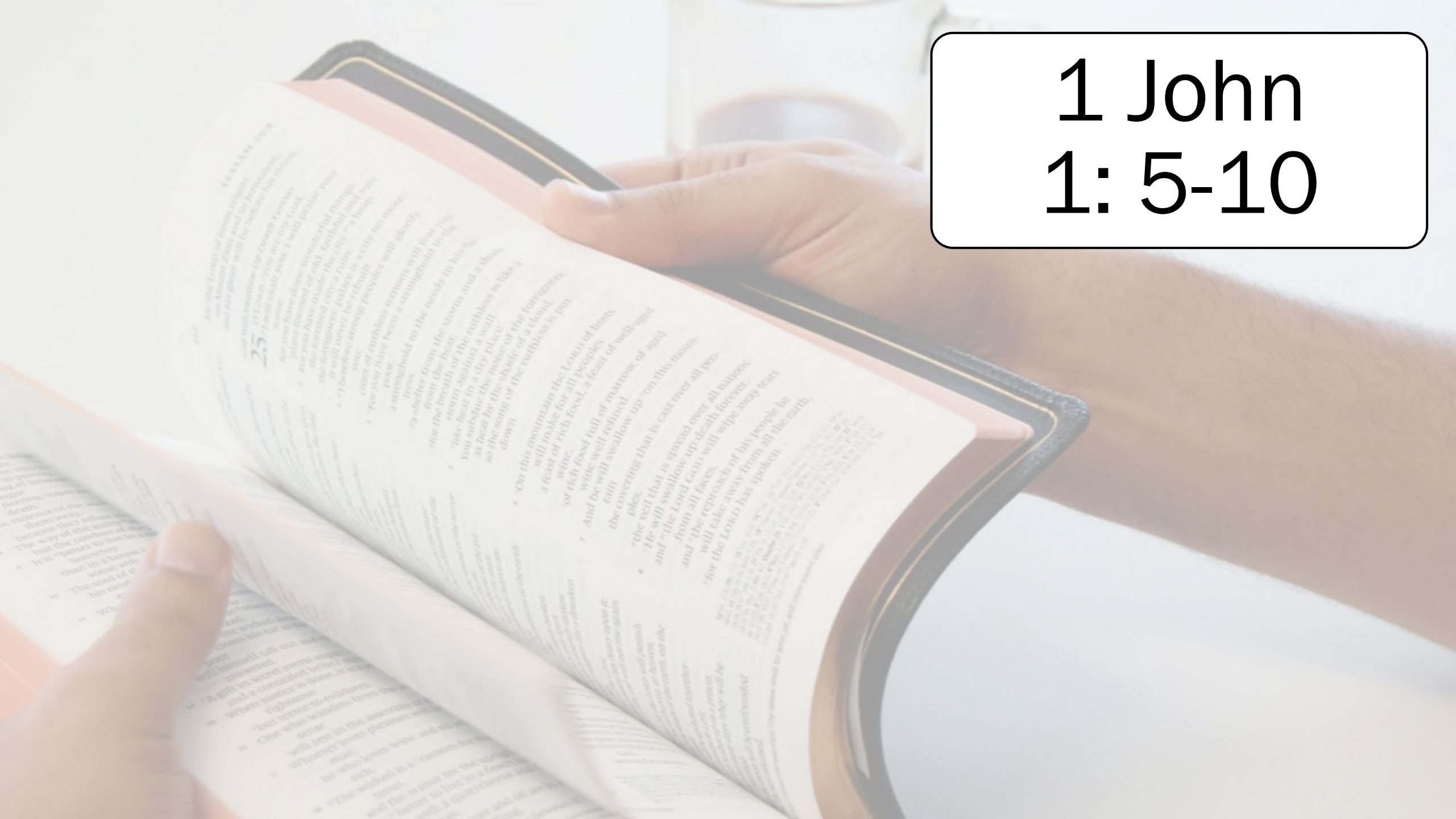
This is worldly sorrow. A failure to accept your guilt for sin. A blaming of God for your sinful desires!

Worldly sorrow leads to death,
Ask Adam!

Godly Sorrow	Worldly Sorrow
Godly sorrow <u>brings</u> change	Worldly sorrow <u>avoids</u> change
Godly sorrow sees sin as a <u>crime</u> against God	Worldly sorrow seeks to excuse sin and <u>dodge</u> its consequences
Godly sorrow is <u>God</u> -focused	Worldly sorrow is <u>self</u> -focused

1 John

1: 5-10



1 John 1: 5-10 (NASB)

This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

1 John 1: 5-10 (NASB)

but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1: 5-10 (NASB)

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

Charles Spurgeon

“Sorrow in itself cannot produce anything except sadness of feeling. But godly sorrow produces change. Now repentance is a change within us both of thinking and of doing. We can tell if true sorrow is actually that, by seeing if it produces repentance.

Charles Spurgeon

So godly sorrow cannot be measured by feelings or by tears, but by what it produces. What happens after the confession is what defines if the man be new.”

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For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

Demonstrated yourself to be innocent

Greek: sunistao (soon-is-tah'-o)

- To establish
- To prove
- To exhibit
- To stand with

The Church in Corinth had proven
their Godly sorrow by their actions,
they had changed!

2 Corinthians 7: 12 (NKJV)

Therefore, although I wrote to you, I did not do it for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you.



Why did Paul write
that first letter to the
Church in Corinth?

2 Corinthians 7: 12 (NKJV)

Therefore, although I wrote to you, I did not do it for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you.

2 Corinthians 7: 13 (NASB)

*Because of this, we have
been comforted.*

*And besides our comfort, we rejoiced
even much more for the joy of Titus,
because his spirit has been refreshed by
you all.*



What brought comfort
to Paul?

2 Corinthians 7: 13 (NASB)

*Because of this, we have
been comforted.*

*And besides our comfort, we rejoiced
even much more for the joy of Titus,
because his spirit has been refreshed by
you all.*



How did the
Corinthians bring joy
and refreshing to
Titus ?

2 Corinthians 7: 14 (NASB)

For if I have boasted to him about you regarding anything, I was not put to shame. But as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved to be the truth.



What do you think
Paul was boasting to
Titus about?



Knowing the
rebellious history of
the Church in Corinth,
do you think Titus was
concerned about
going there?



Should he have
listened to Paul?

2 Corinthians 7: 15 (NASB)

His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

2 Corinthians 7: 16 (NASB)

*I rejoice that in everything I have
confidence in you.*



How does it bring joy
when you have
confidence that loved
ones are following
God?

Chapters 8 and 9

- During the time Paul is writing this letter there was a series of droughts that had brought on a severe famine in Jerusalem and areas of the middle east, so the Churches in that region were suffering.

Chapters 8 and 9

- The Churches in the Macedonia cities such as Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea, were blessed with rain and was not suffering the severe drought that had hit the middle east.
- Because of this the Churches in this area wanted to send financial support to the Church in Jerusalem.

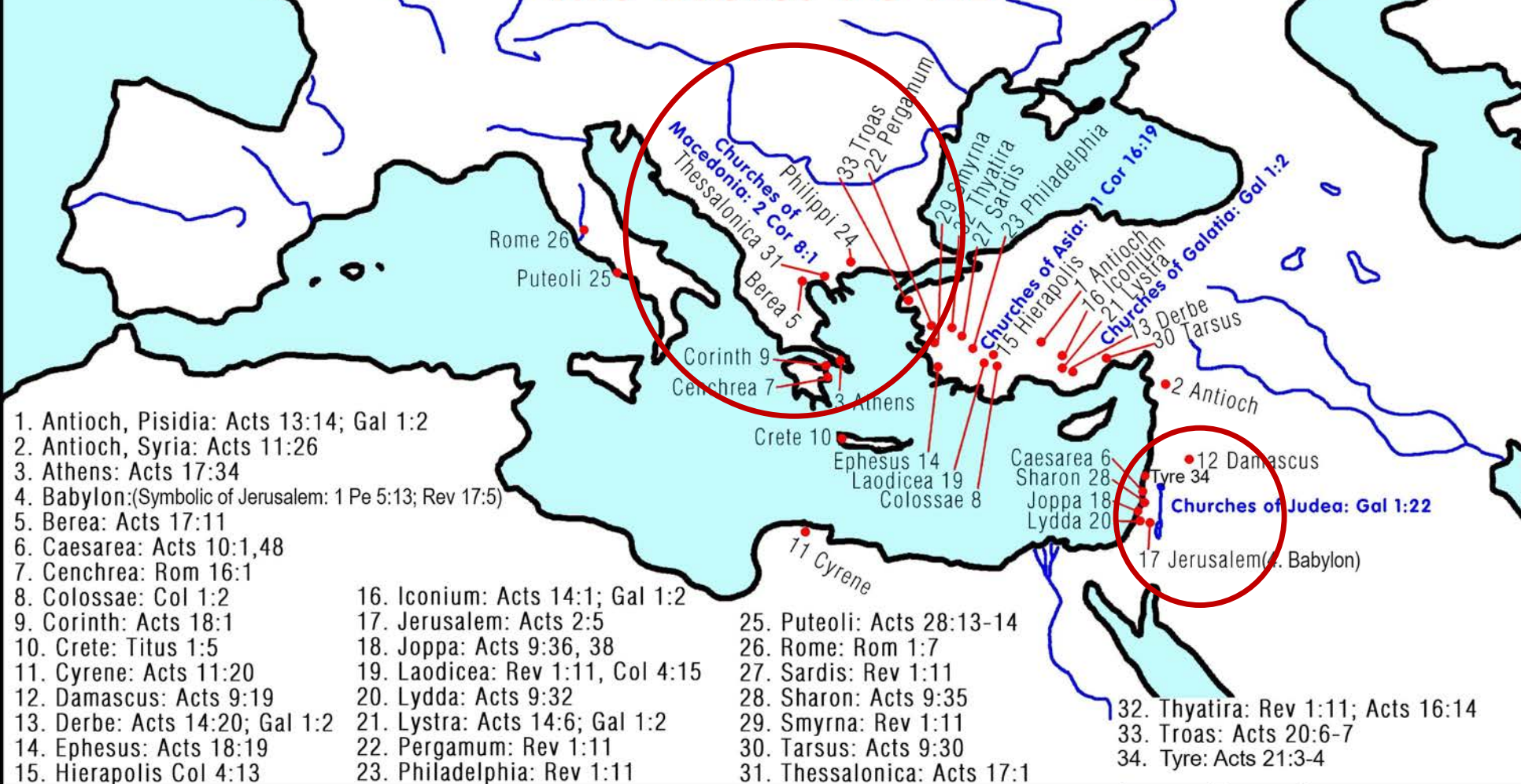
Chapters 8 and 9

- At the same time, the Corinthian Christians had never supported any ministry outside of Corinth.

Regions of Churches

- A. Region of Phoenicia: Acts 11:19
- B. Region of Samaria: Acts 8:14, 25
- C. Churches of Judea: Gal 1:22
- D. Churches of Galatia: Gal 1:2
- E. Churches of Asia: 1 Cor 16:19
- F. Churches of Macedonia: 2 Cor 8:1

Local churches of the Bible: 70 AD



Financial need in Jerusalem

- People from all over the world had become Christians and were staying in Jerusalem.
- The believers sold everything they owned and distributed the cash among everyone in need in the Church, however eventually the money ran out.

Financial need in Jerusalem

- Christians could not get a job because if you were a craftsman, a woodworker or store owner, it was expected of you to belong to a guild that worshiped the false God of your craft, and you were required you to buy and sell idols of these gods.

2 Corinthians 8: 1 (NASB)

Now, brothers and sisters, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia,



What is the Grace of
God?

Ephesians

2: 8-9



Ephesians 2: 8-9 (NLT)

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

2 Corinthians 8: 1 (NASB)

Now, brothers and sisters, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia,



What is Paul referring
to?

2 Corinthians 8: 2 (NLT)

They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.



How can they be poor,
yet be full of joy and
overflowing in
generosity?



Who has the tendency
to be more generous,
the rich or the poor?



Why?

2 Corinthians 8: 3 (NASB)

*For I testify that according to their ability,
and beyond their ability, they
gave voluntarily,*



What kind of heart do
the Churches in
Macedonia have?

2 Corinthians 8: 4 (NLT)

They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.



Is giving about the
money?

John 6: 4-9



John 6: 4-9 (NLT)

(It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration.) Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, “Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?”



Do you think Jesus is
concerned about the
money?



Do you think Philip is
concerned about the
money?

John 6: 4-9 (NLT)

He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.



What was Jesus
testing Philip about?

John 6: 4-9 (NLT)

Philip replied, “Even if we worked for months, we wouldn’t have enough money to feed them!”



Did Philip pass the
test?

John 6: 4-9 (NLT)

Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"



Did Andrew pass the
test?



What were Andrew
and Philip focused
on?



What did Jesus do to
prove his point?

John 6: 10-13 (NLT)

“Tell everyone to sit down,” Jesus said.

*So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) Then Jesus took the loaves, **gave thanks to God**, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted.*

John 6: 10-13 (NLT)

After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, “Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted.” So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

Giving is about the heart and not
the amount.

If you give generously, with a
cheerful and gracious heart, God
will take care of the rest!

Luke 21: 1-4 (NLT)

While Jesus was in the Temple, he watched the rich people dropping their gifts in the collection box. Then a poor widow came by and dropped in two small coins.



Who do you think the
people would say had
the giving heart?

Luke 21: 1-4 (NLT)

“I tell you the truth,” Jesus said, “this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them. For they have given a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she has.”



Which one did Jesus
say had the giving
heart?

2 Corinthians 8: 4 (NLT)

They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 8: 5 (NASB)

*and this, not as we had expected, but
they first gave themselves to the Lord
and to us by the will of God.*



What does Paul mean
when he says “*they
first gave themselves
to the Lord*”?



How does someone
devoted to the Lord
view their money?



“We make a living by
what we get. We make a
life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

Matthew

6: 25-33



Matthew 6: 25-33 (NLT)

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

Matthew 6: 25-33 (NLT)

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Matthew 6: 25-33 (NLT)

*“And why do you worry about clothes?
See how the flowers of the field grow.
They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you
that not even Solomon in all his
splendor was dressed like one of these.*

Matthew 6: 25-33 (NLT)

*If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So **do not worry**, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ **For the pagans run after all these things,** and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.*

Matthew 6: 25-33 (NLT)

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2 Corinthians 8: 5 (NASB)

*and this, not as we had expected, but
they first gave themselves to the Lord
and to us by the will of God.*