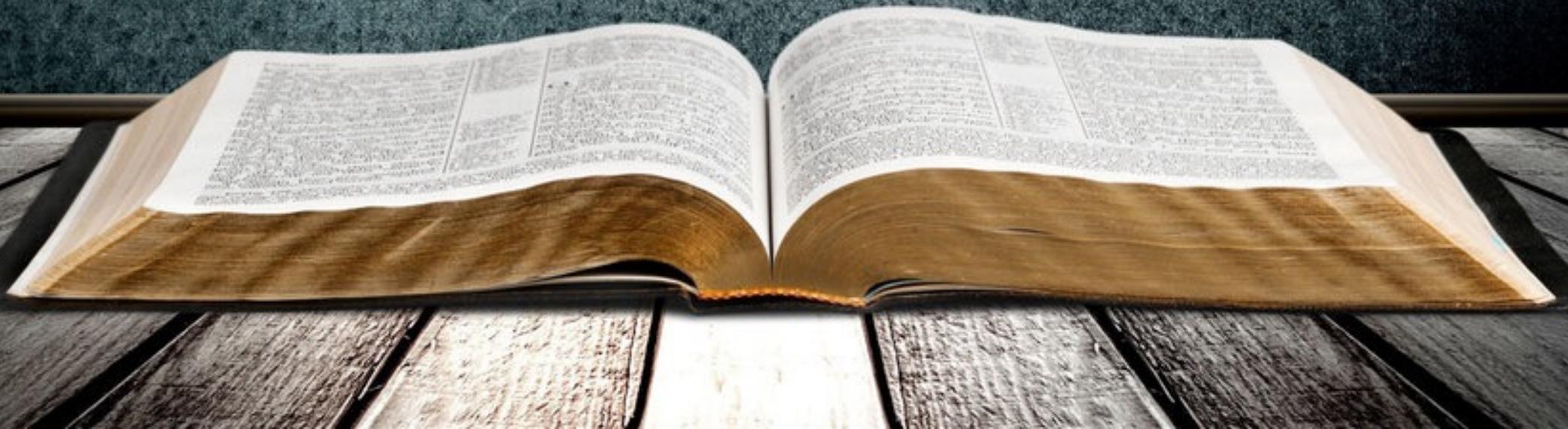


2 CORINTHIANS

A Verse-by-Verse Study



2 Corinthians 6: 1 (NASB)

*And working together with Him, we also
urge you not to receive the grace of God
in vain*

2 Corinthians 6: 2 (NASB)

for He says,

*“At a favorable time I listened to you,
And on a day of salvation I helped you.”*

*Behold, now is “a favorable time,”
behold, now is “a day of salvation”—*

2 Corinthians 6: 3 (NASB)

giving no reason for taking offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited,

Offense

Greek: proskope, pros-kop-ay'

- To trip up or to cause someone to stumble over something
- To create an obstacle that causes someone to fall down.

Question?

What happens
when our
actions causes
someone to
stumble in their
Christian walk?

2 Corinthians 6: 3 (NASB)

giving no reason for taking offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited,

2 Corinthians 6: 3 (NLT)

We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault with our ministry.

Question?

What are some
ways we can
cause others to
stumble?

A big stumbling block today is the fear of man or government which causes a church to ask questions like:

- What will others think?
- What if I upset a big giver?
- What if people don't like what I am teaching or preaching and they leave our church?

Matthew 5: 11 (NASB)

*“Blessed are you when people insult you
and persecute you, and falsely say all
kinds of evil against you because of Me.*

Question?

What should we
do when we are
persecuted for
our faith?

Matthew 5: 12 (NASB)

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in this same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Question?

Why should we
rejoice when
persecuted
because of our
faith?

Matthew 5: 12 (NASB)

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for **in this same way they persecuted the prophets** who were before you.*

Question?

Should we be
concerned if we
are loved by the
world?

Luke 6: 26 (NASB)

Woe to you when all the people speak well of you; for their fathers used to treat the false prophets the same way.

2 Corinthians 6: 3 (NLT)

We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault with our ministry.

2 Corinthians 6: 4a (NASB)

*but in everything commending ourselves
as servants of God,*

Question?

What does it
mean to
commend
ourselves as
servants of
God?

2 Corinthians 6: 4a (NLT)

In everything we do, we show that we are true ministers of God.

1 Thessalonians 2: 4-8 (NASB)

For we speak as messengers approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2: 4-8 (NASB)

Never once did we try to win you with flattery, as you well know. And God is our witness that we were not pretending to be your friends just to get your money! As for human praise, we have never sought it from you or anyone else.

1 Thessalonians 2: 4-8 (NASB)

As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but instead we were like children among you.

*Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children. We loved you so much that **we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too.***

Question?

Is it easy to be a
minister of God
in a godless
society?

2 Corinthians 6: 4 (NASB)

*but in everything commending ourselves
as servants of God, **in much endurance,**
in afflictions, in hardships, in difficulties,*

In much Endurance

Greek: hupomone (hoop-om-on-ay')

- A determined cheerfulness
- A hopeful endurance
- To endure patiently

2 Corinthians 6: 4 (NASB)

*but in everything commending ourselves
as servants of God, in much endurance,
in afflictions, in hardships, in difficulties,*

Afflictions

Greek: thlipsis (thlip'-sis)

- To be under applied pressure.
- To be burdened
- To be afflicted with the problems of daily life

2 Corinthians 6: 4 (NASB)

*but in everything commending ourselves
as servants of God, in much endurance,
in afflictions, **in hardships**, in difficulties,*

Hardships

Greek: anagke (an-ang-kay')

- Burdens placed upon you
- Meeting others needs
- To serve those who are incapacitated

2 Corinthians 6: 4 (NASB)

*but in everything commending ourselves
as servants of God, in much endurance,
in afflictions, in hardships, in difficulties,*

Difficulties

Greek: stenochoria (sten-okh-o-ree'-ah)

- In a narrow place of squeezing
- To be slowly crushed
- To have a weight or pressure placed upon you

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

Beatings

Greek: *plege* (play-gay')

- A beating
- To be struck on the face
- To be wounded; both physically or emotionally

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

Imprisonments

Greek: phulake (foo-lak-ay)

- To be under guard
- To be caged
- The loss of freedom and liberty

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

Mob Attacks

Greek: akatastasia (ak-at-as-tah-see'-ah)

- Public-civil instability
- Public-civil disorder
- A rioting mob of people

Department of Homeland Security warns of 'Night of Rage' after Roe



Allison Rallev | NurPhoto | AFP

Extreme Violence Promised in Wake of Dobbs Decision

Today, the Department of Homeland Security is warning that cells of a nationwide terror group have been casing churches for coordinated attacks.

“If abortion isn’t safe, you aren’t either. We are everywhere.”

–Jane’s Revenge, the self-proclaimed pro-abortion terrorist group promising a Night of Rage

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

*in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, **in labors**, in sleeplessness, in hunger,*

Labors

Greek: kopos (kop'-os)

- A cut or injury
- To reduce the strength
- To make weary

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

Sleeplessness

Greek: agrupnia (ag-roop-nee'-ah)

- Sleeplessness
- Being kept awake because of being on watch

2 Corinthians 6: 5 (NASB)

in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

Hunger

Greek: nesteia (nace-ti'-ah)

- To be denied food or water

Question?

What resources
did Paul rely
upon when living
under these
conditions?

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

Purity

Greek: hagnotes (hag-not'-ace)

- Cleanness
- To have a pure mind and motives
- To strive to be spot-free or without the blemish of sin

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

Knowledge

Greek: gnosis (gno'-sis)

- Knowledge gleaned from first-hand (personal) experience
- Connecting theory to application
 - ✓ Example: The knowledge of God applied to your life

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

Patience

Greek: makrothumia (mak-roth-oo-mee'-ah)

- Forbearance
- Fortitude
- Longsuffering
- Patience

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

Kindness

Greek: chrestotes (khray-stot'-ace)

- Thoughtfulness
- Excellence in character or demeanor
- Gentleness
- Courtesy

Just like Paul, these four things should characterize us as Christians:

1. Purity
2. Knowledge
3. Patience
4. Kindness

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

*in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, **in the Holy Spirit**, in genuine love,*

In the Holy Spirit

Paul has total dependence upon the Holy Spirit for everything!

2 Corinthians 6: 6 (NASB)

in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

Love

Greek: agape (ag-ah'-pay)

- The sacrificial love of Christ

2 Corinthians 6: 7 (NASB)

*in the word of truth, and in the power of
God; by the weapons of righteousness for
the right hand and the left,*

The Word of Truth

Greek: aletheia (al-ay'-thi-a)

- God's revealed word to man
- The scriptures
- The Bible
- The Word of God

2 Corinthians 6: 7 (NASB)

in the word of truth, and in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left,

The Power of God

Greek: dunamis (doo'-nam-is)

- The power, might, strength of God

Acts 1: 8 (NASB)

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and as far as the remotest part of the earth.”

Just like Paul, we have access to these
four things as Christians:

1. Holy Spirit
2. Love
3. The Word of Truth
4. The Power of God

2 Corinthians 6: 7 (NASB)

*in the word of truth, and in the power of
God; **by the weapons of righteousness** for
the right hand and the left,*

2 Corinthians 10: 3-4 (NIV)

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

2 Corinthians 6: 7 (NASB)

in the word of truth, and in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left,

Interesting Note

Historians tell us that during ancient times the right hand represented all that you did in public, for all to see; and the left hand symbolized all that you did in private.



2 Corinthians 6: 8 (NASB)

*by glory and dishonor, by evil report and
good report; regarded as deceivers and
yet true;*

Question?

What point is
Paul making
here?

Paul was popular among Christians
and the Church in a positive way,
and he was popular among false
teachers and society in a negative
way!

G. Campbell-Morgan

“Paul saw himself engaged in a spiritual, yet mortal combat both in public and in private; and he did not employ ordinary pressure tactics or legislative corrections, though these have their place. He used prayer and faith and love and righteousness as his confidence for effective ministry.

G. Campbell-Morgan

Paul's dedicated purity was used to the fulfillment of his calling – To Preach the Gospel. His faith and behavior combined, made him a powerful weapon in the hand of God by which he attacked the issues of sin and death. He did this in honor and dishonor, that is, whether he was popular or unpopular. Loved or hated.

G. Campbell-Morgan

Truly, Paul was
a heavenly Statesman and a Keen
Ambassador of Christ's kingdom.”

2 Corinthians 6: 9 (NASB)

*as **unknown and yet well known**, as dying
and yet behold, we are alive; as punished
and yet not put to death,*

Question?

How can we be
unknown and
yet well known?

2 Corinthians 6: 9 (NASB)

*as unknown and yet well known, as dying
and yet behold, we are alive; as punished
and yet not put to death,*

Question?

How can we be
dying yet alive?

2 Corinthians 6: 9 (NASB)

*as unknown and yet well known, as dying
and yet behold, we are alive; as punished
and yet not put to death,*

Question?

What does it
meant to be
punished but
not yet put to
death?

2 Corinthians 6: 10 (NASB)

as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things.

Question?

How can we be
sorrowful yet
always
rejoicing?

2 Corinthians 6: 10 (NASB)

*as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as **poor**
yet making many rich, as having nothing
and yet possessing all things.*

Question?

How can we be
poor yet make
many rich?

2 Corinthians 6: 10 (NASB)

as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things.

Question?

How can we
have nothing yet
have all things?

2 Corinthians 6: 11-13 (NASB)

Our mouth has spoken freely to you, you Corinthians, our heart is opened wide. You are not restrained by us, but you are restrained in your own affections. Now in the same way in exchange—I am speaking as to children—open wide your hearts to us, you as well.

2 Corinthians 6: 11-13 (NLT)

Oh, dear Corinthian friends! We have spoken honestly with you, and our hearts are open to you. There is no lack of love on our part, but you have withheld your love from us. I am asking you to respond as if you were my own children. Open your hearts to us!

As a Christian, we should open ourselves up to others which is a risky love. This is what some in Corinth were struggling with. Paul opened his heart to them and loved them, but there was no love being returned to him.

**They were likely superficial, cynical,
cold, shielded and/or guarded.**

2 Corinthians 6: 14 (NASB)

*Do not be mismatched with unbelievers;
for what do righteousness and
lawlessness share together, or what does
light have in common with darkness?*

2 Corinthians 6: 14 (NIV)

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

Question?

What does it
mean to not be
yoked together
or mismatched
with
unbelievers?

As Christians there are some associations with the world we have no choice but to endure, such as our government, our jobs or our culture.

**As Christians there are certain associations with the world we must not put ourselves in such as:
partnerships, religions and personal relationships.**

Question?

Why should we
not be yoked
together with
unbelievers?

2 Corinthians 6: 14 (NASB)

*Do not be mismatched with unbelievers;
for what do righteousness and
lawlessness share together, or what does
light have in common with darkness?*

2 Corinthians 6: 15 (NASB)

Or what harmony does Christ have with Belial, or what does a believer share with an unbeliever?

2 Corinthians 6: 16a (NASB)

Or what agreement does the temple of God have with idols? For we are the temple of the living God;

Question?

What is Paul
saying here?

2 Corinthians 6: 16a (NASB)

*Or what agreement does the temple of
God have with idols? For we are the
temple of the living God;*

2 Corinthians 6: 16b (NASB)

just as God said,

“I will dwell among them and walk among
them;

And I will be their God, and they shall be
My people.

2 Corinthians 6: 17 (NASB)

*Therefore, come out from their midst and
be separate,” says the Lord.*

“And do not touch what is unclean;

And I will welcome you.

And I will be a father to you,

And you shall be sons and daughters to

Me,”

Says the Lord Almighty.

Question?

Why do you think God wants us to be in the world, but not yoked with the world?