

2 CORINTHIANS

A Verse-by-Verse Study



Paul is Beheaded at Rome by the Order of Emperor Nero



2 Corinthians 1: 20 (NLT)

For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!"
And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory.

Question?

What are some
promises of
God that you
hold onto in
difficult times?

Psalm

34: 7

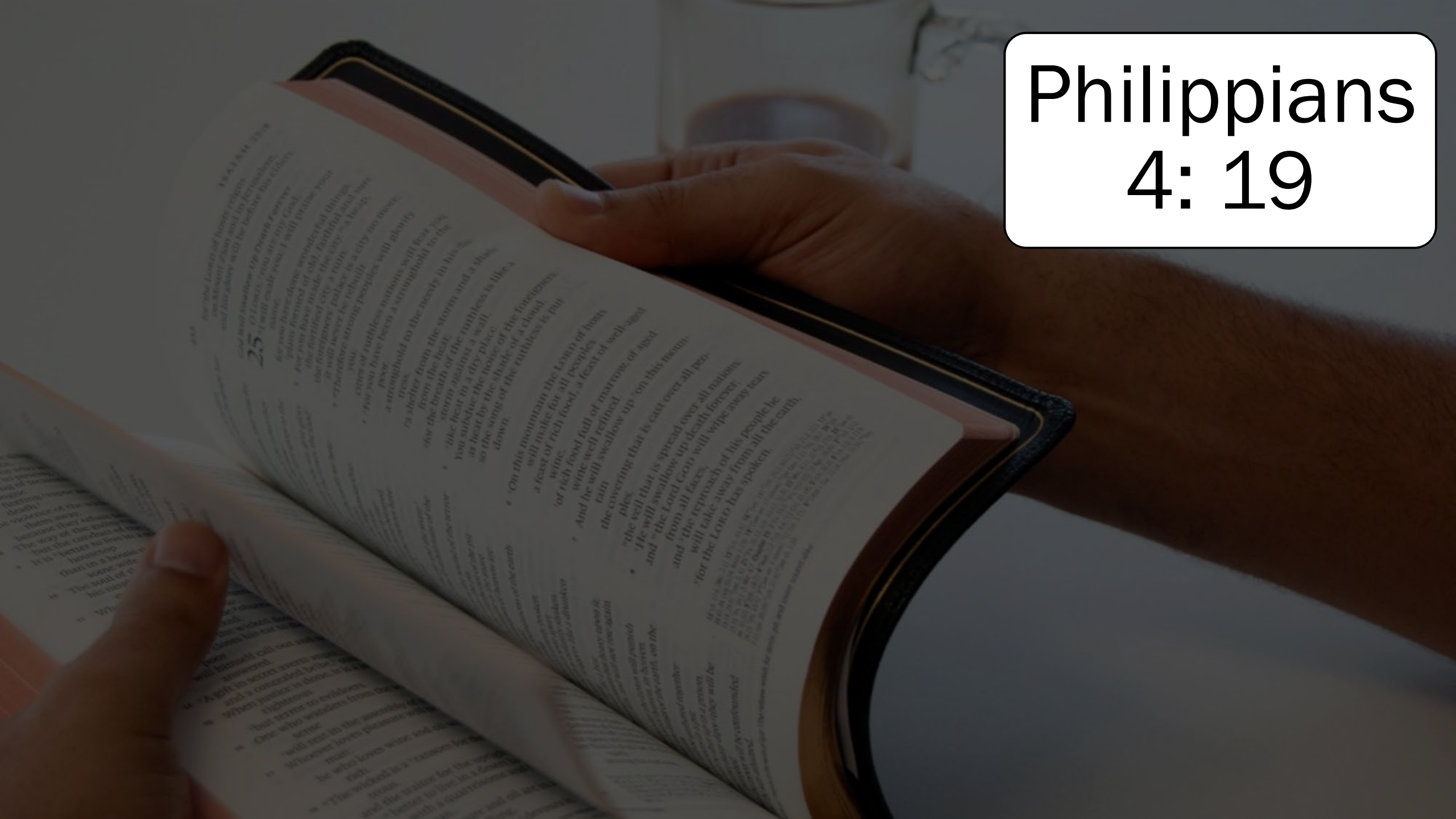


Psalm 34: 7 (NASB)

*The angel of the LORD encamps around
those who fear Him, And rescues them.*

Philippians

4: 19



25

For the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and his glory will be before him forever.

For you have done wonderful things, O Lord, you are my God.

I will praise you, for you have done wonderful things, the fortified city is a ruin, the foreigners' palace is a ruin, it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you, cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a stronghold to the needy, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat, as a dry place as heat by the shade of a cloud.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, wine well refined, like the covering that is cast over all peoples.

And he will swallow up on this mountain the veil that is cast over all peoples, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

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For you have been a stronghold to the needy, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat, as a dry place as heat by the shade of a cloud.

Philippians 4: 19 (NASB)

*And my God will supply all your needs
according to His riches in glory in Christ
Jesus.*

A person with dark hair tied back is seen from behind, looking out over a blurred landscape of green trees and hills under a soft, hazy sky. The person is wearing a grey t-shirt. The text is overlaid on the image.

GOD IS IN CONTROL,
Even WHEN LIFE ISN'T

2 Corinthians 1: 21-22 (NASB)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

2 Corinthians 1: 21-22 (NASB)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

Question?

What does it
mean to be
sealed?

Esther 8: 8 (NASB)

Now you write to the Jews as you see fit, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for a decree which is written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's signet ring may not be revoked."



*Sealed means
irrevocable
ownership by
the King!*

Ephesians

4: 29-30



Ephesians 4: 29-30 (NASB)

Let no unwholesome word come out of your mouth, but if there is any good word for edification according to the need of the moment, say that, so that it will give grace to those who hear

Ephesians 4: 29-30 (NASB)

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians

1: 13-14



Ephesians 1: 13-14 (NASB)

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of the promise, who is a first installment of our inheritance, in regard to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

2 Corinthians 1: 21-22 (NASB)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

Question?

How would you
describe the
leadership
style of Jesus?

2 Corinthians 1: 23-24 (NASB)

*But I call God as witness to my soul,
that it was to spare you that I did not
come again to Corinth. Not that
we domineer over your faith, but we are
workers with you for your joy; for in your
faith you are standing firm.*

2 Corinthians 1: 23-24 (NASB)

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that it was to spare you that I did not
come again to Corinth. Not that
we domineer over your faith, but we are
workers with you for your joy; for in your
faith you are standing firm.*

Question?

What does it
mean to be
standing firm
in your faith?

2 Corinthians 2: 1 (NASB)

*But I decided this for my own sake, that
I would not come to you in sorrow again.*

Question?

What would
cause Paul to
come to
Corinth in
sorrow?

2 Corinthians 2: 2 (NASB)

For if I cause you sorrow, who then will be the one making me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me?

Question?

How can this
Church turn
Paul's sorrow
to joy?

2 Corinthians 2: 3 (NASB)

This is the very thing I wrote you, so
*that when I came, I would not have
sorrow from those who ought to make me
rejoice; having confidence in you all that
my joy was the joy of you all.*

Scholars agree Paul wrote another letter to the Church in Corinth after writing 1 Corinthians, which is now lost. It is believed that in this letter he told the Corinthians of his anguish and displeasure.

He apparently sent this lost letter of condemnation with Titus to deliver to the Church in Corinth.

Question?

Why did Paul
write a similar
challenging
letter in 1
Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 2: 3 (NASB)

This is the very thing I wrote you, so that when I came, I would not have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy was the joy of you all.

Question?

What was
causing Paul
sorrow in this
Church?

2 Corinthians 2: 4 (NASB)

For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would be made sorrowful, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.

Question?

When you hear of
false teachings
and approval of
sin in those
proclaiming to be
Christians, does it
break your heart?

Question?

Is it easy to
point out sin or
false teachings
seen in the
lives of others?

Question?

What should
be our
motivation to
address sin or
false teaching?

2 Corinthians 2: 4 (NASB)

For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would be made sorrowful, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.



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2 Corinthians 2: 5 (NASB)

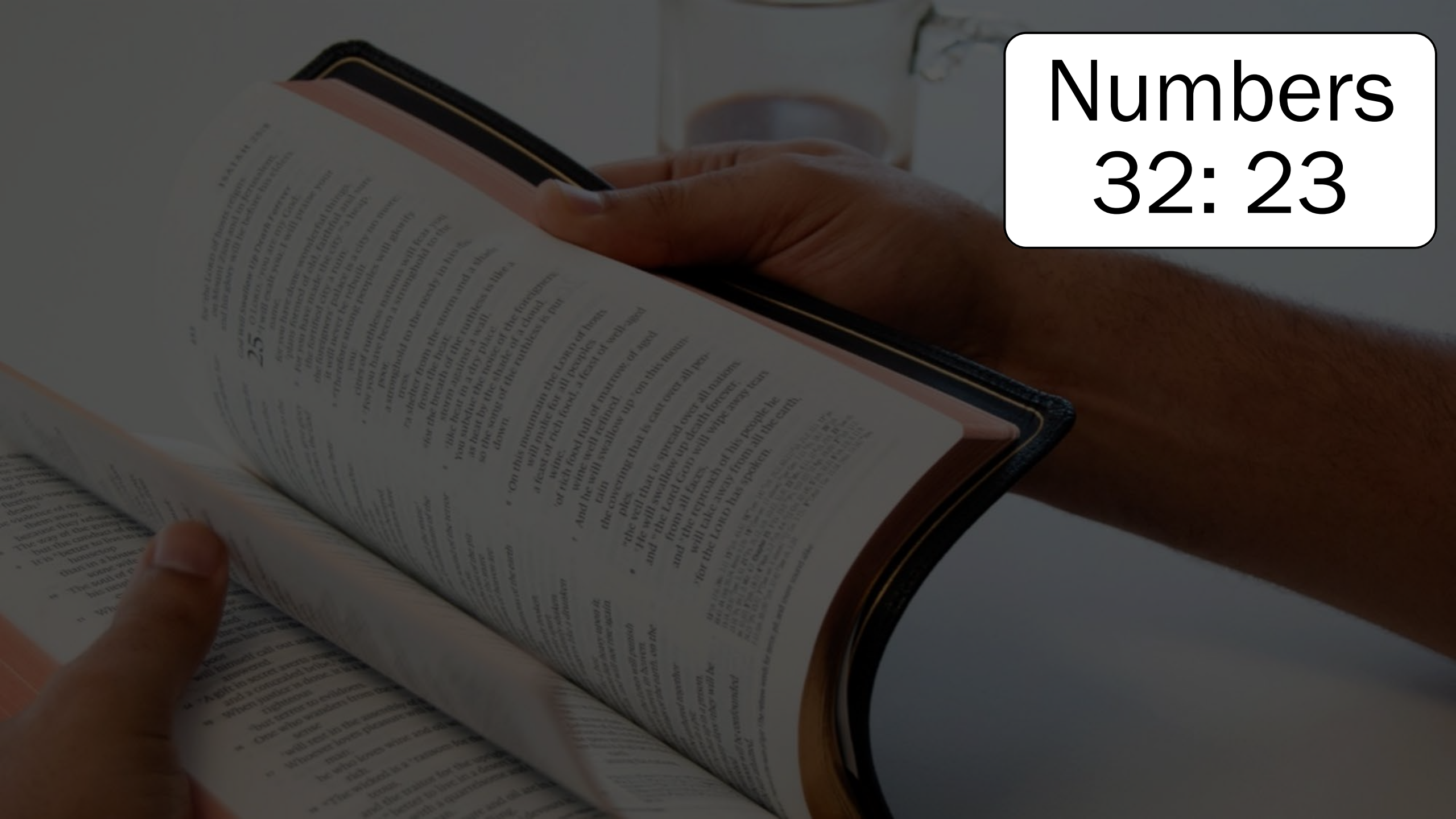
But if anyone has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not for me, but in some degree—not to say too much—for all of you.

Question?

Who does false
teachings or
sinful lifestyles
ultimately
produce sorrow
in?

Numbers

32: 23



Numbers 32: 23 (NASB)

*But if you do not do so, behold, you have sinned against the LORD, and **be sure that your sin will find you out.***

Question?

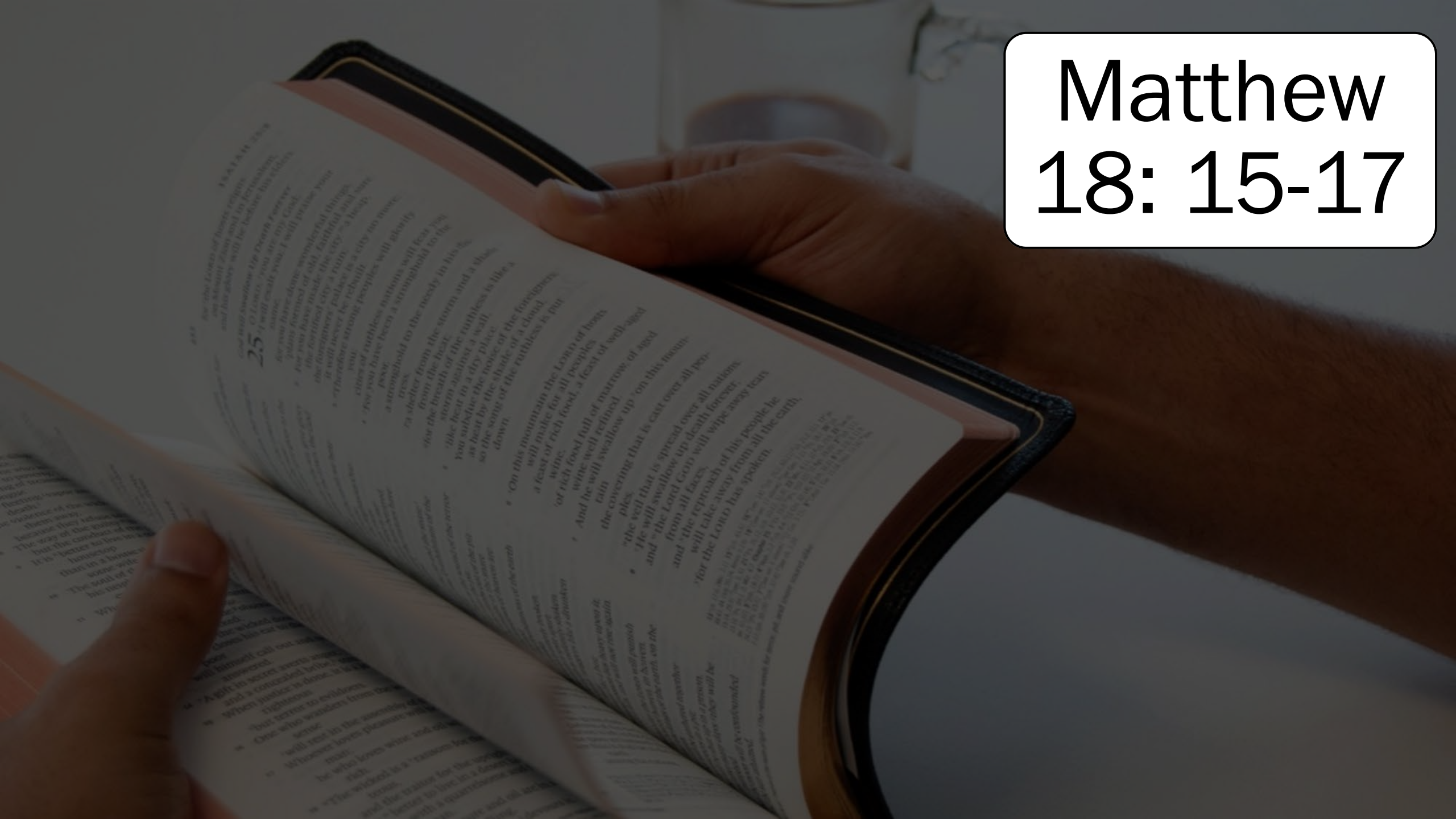
What should
the Church do
when someone
refuses to
repent?

2 Corinthians 2: 6-7 (NASB)

Sufficient for such a person is this punishment which was imposed by the majority, so that on the other hand, you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a person might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

Matthew

18: 15-17



Matthew 18: 15-17 (NASB)

“Now if your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

Matthew 18: 15-17 (NASB)

But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that on the testimony of two or three witnesses every matter may be confirmed.

Matthew 18: 15-17 (NASB)

And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, he is to be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Question?

What should
you do before
you confront
someone
about their
sin?

Matthew

7: 1-5



Matthew 7: 1-5 (NASB)

“Do not judge, so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

Question?

When does
correcting
become
judging?

Matthew 7: 1-5 (NASB)

*Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, **but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?***

Matthew 7: 1-5 (NASB)

*Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and
look, the log is in your own eye?*

Correcting becomes judging when it is done with a sinful purpose or by one living with unrepentant sin.

Question?

What is
someone called
that is living
with
unrepentant sin
but wants to
correct others?

Matthew 7: 1-5 (NASB)

You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye!

Question?

How should
the Church
respond when
someone
repents?

2 Corinthians 2: 6-7 (NASB)

Sufficient for such a person is this punishment which was imposed by the majority, so that on the other hand, you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a person might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

Question?

How difficult is
it to forgive?

Question?

How important
is forgiveness
of others?

Matthew

6: 15



Matthew 6: 15 (NIV)

*But if you do not forgive others their sins,
your Father will not forgive your sins.*

2 Corinthians 2: 6-7 (NASB)

Sufficient for such a person is this punishment which was imposed by the majority, so that on the other hand, you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a person might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

Question?

What else
should we do
after forgiving
someone who
has repented?

2 Corinthians 2: 8 (NASB)

*Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love
for him.*

◀ 2 Corinthians 2:8 ▶

2 Corinthians 2 - Click for Chapter

1352 [e]	3870 [e]	4771 [e]	2964 [e]	1519 [e]	846 [e]	26 [e]
dio	parakalō	hymas	kyrōsai	eis	auton	agapēn
8 διὸ	παρακαλῶ	ὑμᾶς	κυρῶσαι	εἰς	αὐτὸν	ἀγάπην .
Therefore	I exhort	you	to confirm	toward	him	love
Conj	V-PIA-1S	PPro-A2P	V-ANA	Prep	PPro-AM3S	N-AFS

The Holy Spirit will not
be present in any
actions taken for the
purpose of producing
condemnation instead
of repentance.

2 Corinthians 2: 9 (NASB)

*For to this end I also wrote, so that **I might put you to the test**, whether you are obedient in all things.*

Test

Greek: dokime, *dok-ee-may*

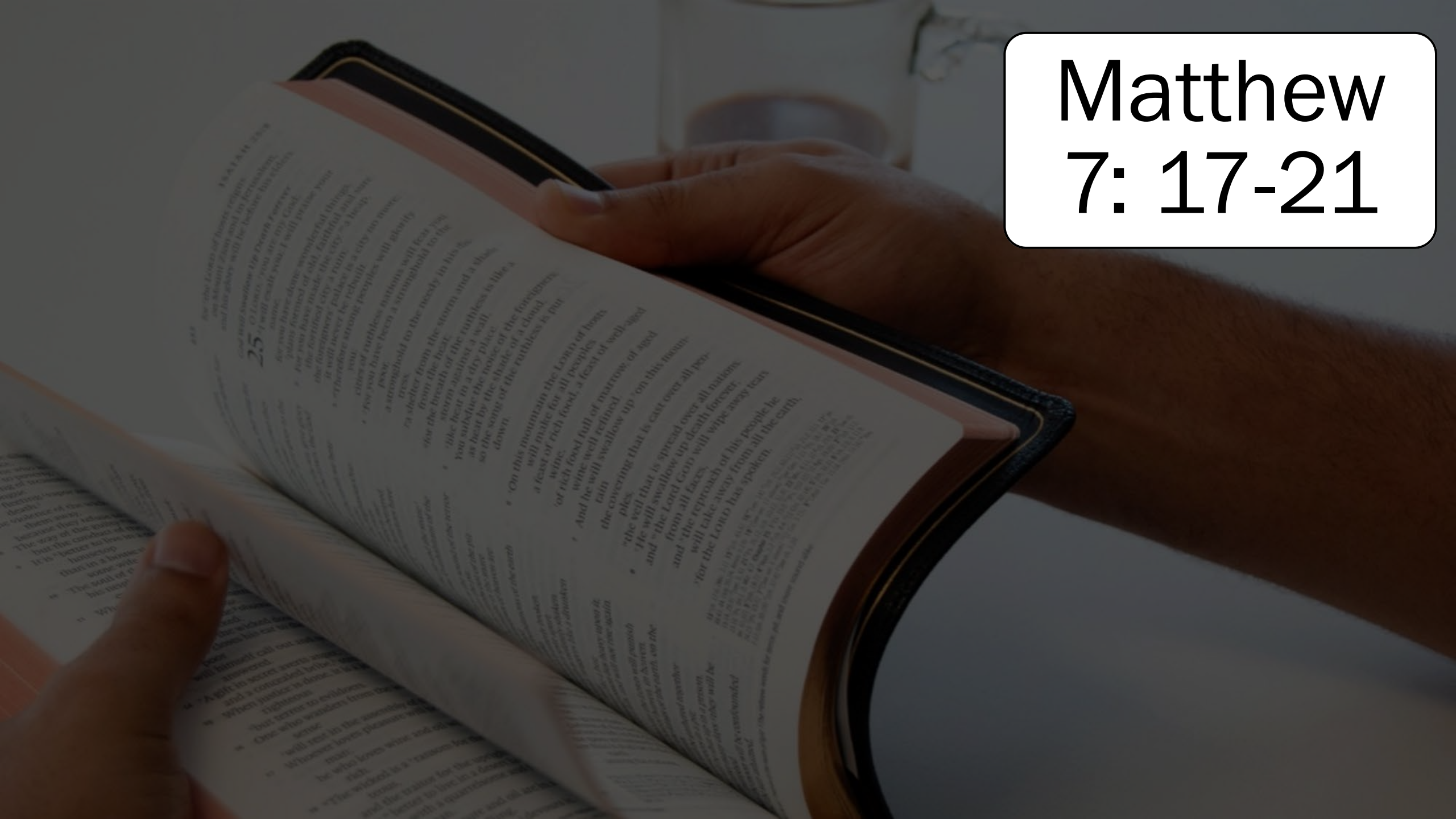
- Trustworthiness
- To match the word to the action.
- To transfer from theory to reality.

Question?

How can you
test the
truthfulness of
someone
claiming to be
obedient to
Christ?

Matthew

7: 17-21



Matthew 7: 15-23 (NIV)

***Beware of the false prophets**, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **You will know them by their fruits**. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they?*

Matthew 7: 15-23 (NIV)

Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Question?

What is Jesus
talking about
when he uses
the word
“fruits”?

Matthew 7: 15-23 (NIV)

So then, *you will know them by their fruits.*

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but *the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.*”

Matthew 7: 15-23 (NIV)

*Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; leave Me, **you who practice lawlessness.**'*

Question?

Where do we
find the law?

Paul is testing the Church in
Corinth by observing their
actions!

Do their actions line up with
Scripture?

2 Corinthians 2: 10 (NASB)

But one whom you forgive anything, I also forgive; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I did so for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

Question?

What happens
when only part
of the Church
forgives
someone who
has repented?

2 Corinthians 2: 11 (NASB)

so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

Question?

What advantage
does satan gain in
a Church where
there is not total
forgiveness for
one that has
repented?



DIVISION!

2 Corinthians 2: 11 (NASB)

*so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, **for we are not ignorant of his schemes.***

Question?

Should we be
aware of satan's
schemes?

Question?

What are some
examples of the
schemes of
satan?

satan

- Satan means "adversary"
- Devil means "accuser or slanderer"
- He is crafty
 - ✓ Genesis 3:1
- He is the tempter
 - ✓ Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5
- Jesus called him "the evil one"
 - ✓ Matthew 6:13; John 17:15
- His desire is to steal, kill and destroy
 - ✓ John 10:10

satan

- He blinds the minds of the unbelieving so they can't see the light of the gospel
 - ✓ 2 Corinthians 4:4
- He is ruler of this world and prince of the power of the air
 - ✓ Ephesians 2: 2
- He disguises himself as an angel of light
 - ✓ 2 Corinthians 11:14
- His servants (demons) disguise themselves as servants of righteousness
 - ✓ 2 Corinthians 11:15

satan

- He is the accuser of the brethren
 - ✓ Revelation 12:10
- He deceives the whole world.
 - ✓ Revelation 12:9
- His sin was pride
 - ✓ Isaiah 14
- He prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking to devour people
 - ✓ 1 Peter 5:8

satan

- He is beautiful
 - ✓ Ezekiel 28: 17
- He can be resisted
 - ✓ 1 Pet. 5:9
- He is on a leash. He can't do anything without God's permission
 - ✓ Job, Jude 6

Question?

What should you
do when being
attacked by
satan?

James 4: 7-8a (NASB)

Submit therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God and He will come close to you.

2 Corinthians 2: 12-13 (NASB)

*Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and **when a door was opened for me in the Lord**, I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but saying goodbye to them, I went on to Macedonia.*

Question?

What does Paul mean when he says “*a door was opened for me*”?

Question?

Who opened the
door?

2 Corinthians 2: 12-13 (NASB)

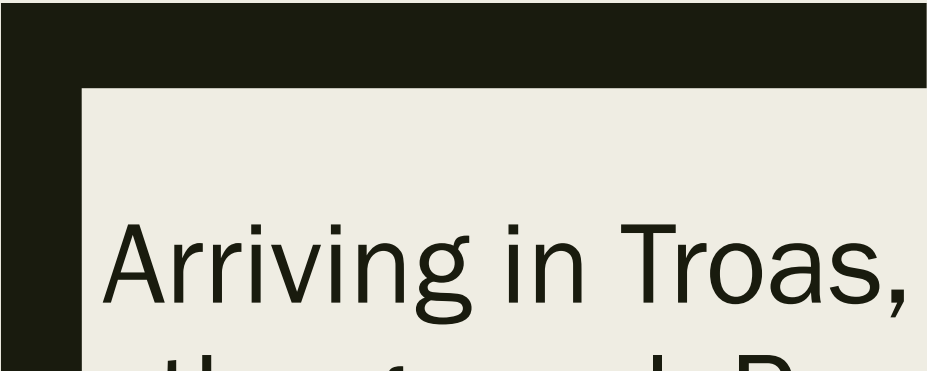
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Question?


What does Paul mean when he says “*he had no rest for his spirit*”?

Question?

Why do you think
he was worried
about Titus?



Arriving in Troas, Paul found an open door to the gospel. People were responding to the Gospel. However, Paul did not find Titus and was apparently deeply concerned because his co-worker in the ministry was missing.



This caused Paul to feel restless in his spirit. I am sure he was wondering if things were going badly for Titus in Corinth after he delivered Paul's letter of rebuke and was also likely concerned about Titus being attacked or injured.

Question?

So who does
Paul turn his
worry over to?

2 Corinthians 2: 14 (NASB)

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place.

2 Corinthians 2: 15 (NASB)

For we are a fragrance of Christ to God
*among those who are being saved and
among those who are perishing:*

Question?

What does it
mean that we
are *a fragrance*
of Christ to God?

Hebrews

10: 10



Hebrews 10: 10 (NLT)

For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.

2 Corinthians 2: 16-17 (NASB)

*to the one an aroma from death to death,
to the other an aroma from life to life.*

*And who is adequate for these
things? **For we are not like the
many, peddling the word of God**, but as
from sincerity, but as from God, we speak
in Christ in the sight of God.*

Question?

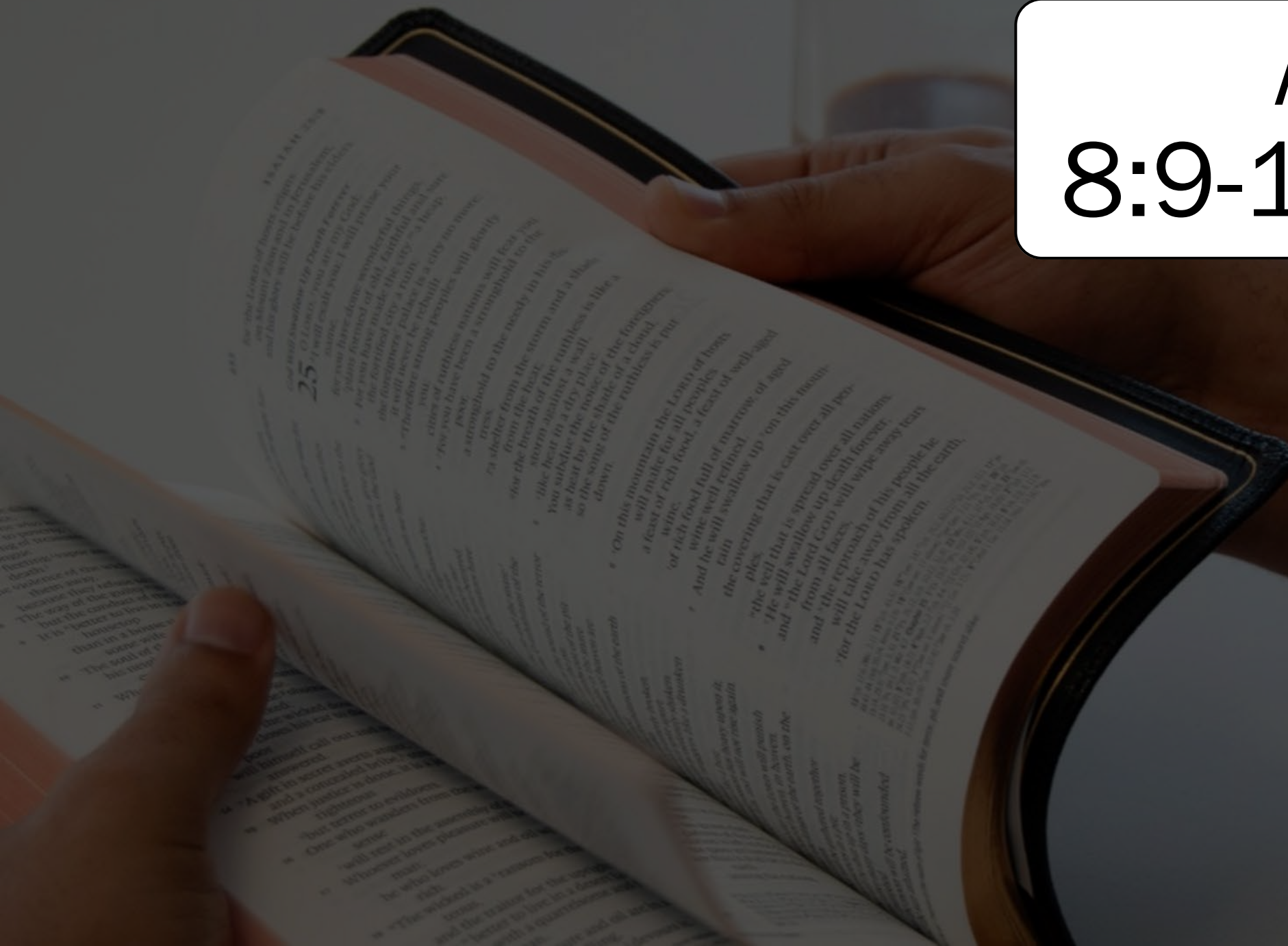
How do you
peddle the Word
of God?

Peddlers

- Grandiose claims
- Deceptive advertising
- Fake reviews
- False actions
- Flashy shows
- Pressure or intimidation
- False promises

Acts

8:9-11;18-23



Acts 8: 9-11 (NASB)

A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as “the Great One—the Power of God.” They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic.

Acts 8: 18-23 (NASB)

When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. “Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!”

Acts 8: 18-23 (NASB)

But Peter replied, “May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God’s gift can be bought! You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God.”

Acts 8: 18-23 (NASB)

Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, for I can see that **you are full of bitter jealousy** and are held captive by sin.”