

Rebuilding *for* God's People

*A Study of Nehemiah
and 2 Corinthians*



Lesson 13



For we are to God
the aroma of Christ
among those who are being saved
and those who are perishing.
2 Corinthians 2:15





**CITY OF HOUSTON
CODE ENFORCEMENT**
Planning and Development Services Division
Public Works and Engineering Department

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2nd

Letters to the Corinthians

The Previous Letter (1 Cor 5:9)

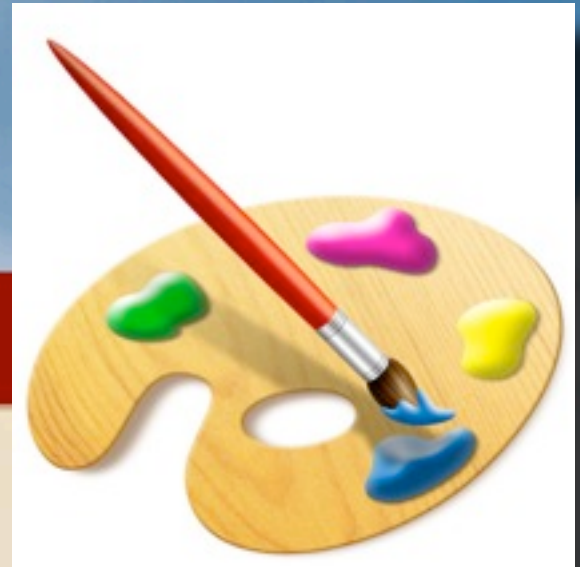
1 Corinthians

The Severe Letter

Written in response to attacks on Paul's integrity and authority as an apostle

2 Corinthians

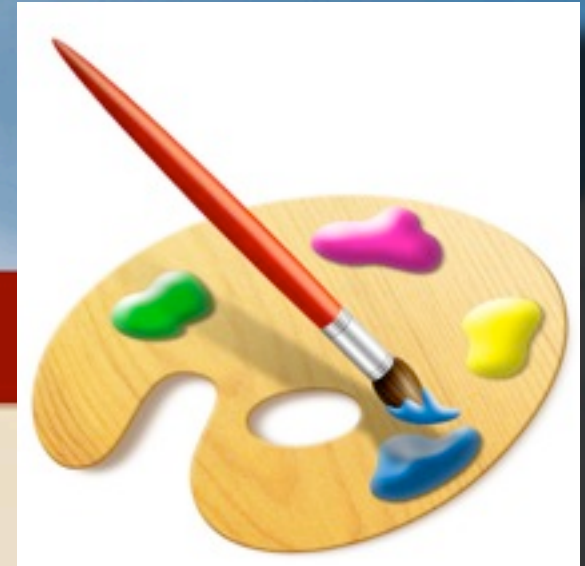
Written in response to news received about the Corinthians' response to the Severe Letter



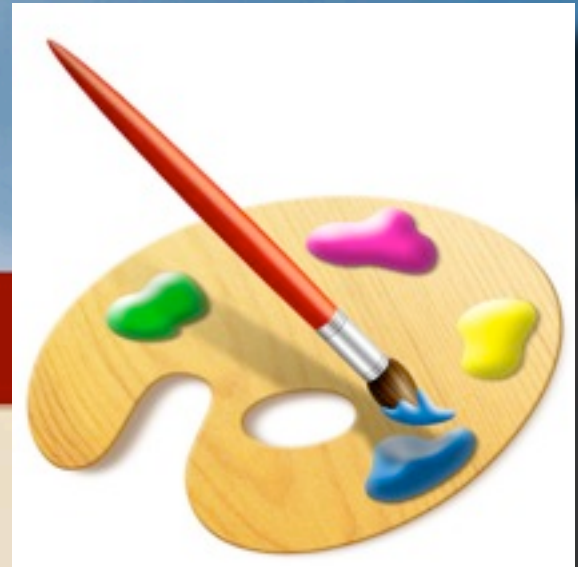
“Paul was a master word painter,
using metaphors
in creative and arresting ways.”

~David Garland, New American Commentary

2 Corinthians 2:12 - 3:3

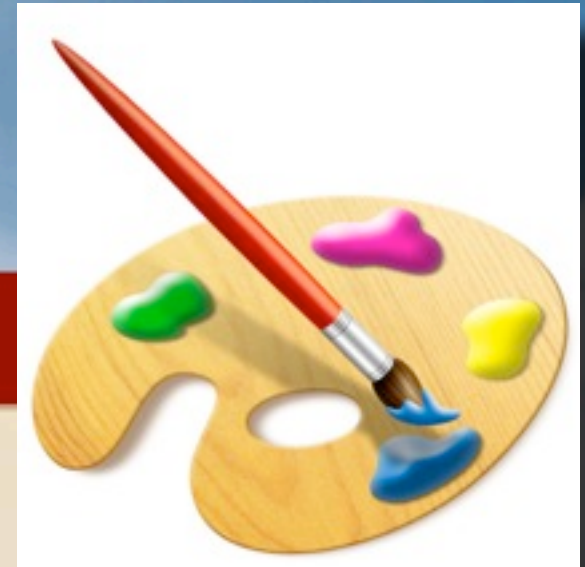


- God opens a door (vs 2:12)
- Triumphal Procession (vs 2:14)
- Aroma of Christ (vs 2:15)
- Letters of Recommendation (vs 3:2)



“I went to Troas
to preach the
gospel of Christ
and found that
the Lord had
opened a door
for me” *2Cor 2:12*





- God opens doors.
- Paul passed up an opportunity to evangelize.
- Distractions can pull us off course.

Triumphal Procession



“But thanks be to God, who
always leads us in triumphal
procession in Christ”

2 Cor 2:14

Triumphal Procession



Conquering Roman General
Followed by
soldiers
spoils
captives

Jesus Christ victorious
Followed by
Believers

~Warren Wiersbe

“For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death;



to the other, the fragrance of life.”

2 Cor 2:15-16

The Aroma of Christ

For we are to God
the aroma
of Christ
among those who
are being saved
and those who
are perishing.



2 Cor. 2:15 NIV

- Highly valued sense (Mt 2:11, Jn 12:3)
- Aroma of sacrifice (Jewish and pagan) (Lev 1:9)
- Incense--triumphal procession
- Different

Letters of Recommendation



"You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry"

2 Cor 3:2

Letters of Recommendation



Common--used for identification

Used to introduce fellow Christians (2 Cor 8:16-24)

“The change in the Corinthians’ character and life is the only letter of recommendation that Paul needs.”



CHANGE

“When we go out into the world, we have the awe-inspiring responsibility of being open letters, advertisements, for Christ.”

William Barclay



“Remember that you are the only Bible
that many people will read.” ~Anne Walls



“Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ”

Romans 13:14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ...Forgive as the Lord forgave you.



And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Colossians 3:12-14

Colossians 3: 12-14

Compassion

Kindness

Humility

Gentleness

Patience

Forgiveness

Love



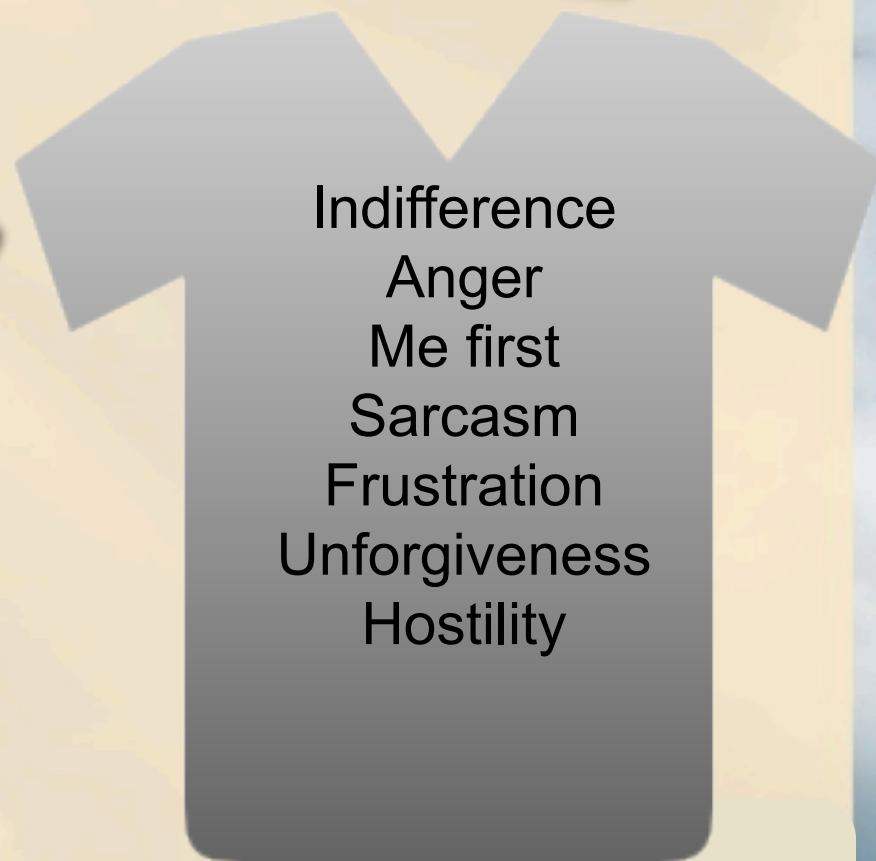
“Camp Kipper Has Good Pizza For Lunch.”

Clothe yourselves with...



Compassion
Kindness
Humility
Gentleness
Patience
Forgiveness
Love

Jesus Christ



Indifference
Anger
Me first
Sarcasm
Frustration
Unforgiveness
Hostility

The World

Applying the Lesson in Your Life

Do a wardrobe check.
Who are you wearing?
Jesus?
or the world?

