

New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church <u>newhebronlr.org</u> Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr. Bible Study

"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation..." (2 Tim. 3:15)

Biblical Forgiveness

{2 Corinthians 2:5-11}

v.5) "But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all."

"But if any hath caused sorrow, he hath caused sorrow, not to me, but in part (that I press not too heavily) to you all. [ASV]

- Paul does not suffer from a wounded ego or pride but he is actually trying to minimize the situation and diffuse any potential hard feelings.
- It is a beautiful thing in a church when people are quick to reconcile with each other.
- He is also showing that he doesn't take the offense personally and he's willing to let it go. {Prov. 19:11}
- Because he cares for them so much his heart goes out to this congregation because they have to deal directly with the person in their congregation.

v.6) "Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many."

- Paul explains that the punishment was sufficient indicating that now it's time to show mercy to the repentant man, in short he does not want to cast him to the side. {Is. 42:3}
- "inflicted by many" this is an indication that the church was mature enough to be unified in judging the sin of the offending man.

v.7) "So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow."

- Contrary to punishment they are called upon to forgive. {Lk. 17:3,4}
- "swallowed" a Greek word that means to totally devour something.

- Paul is aware that if he is not openly forgiven and restored after he repents then he could be overtaken with the guilt of his sin and neglect of other Christians.
- **v.8)** "Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him."
 - Go on the offensive and give strong assurances of your love for him. {Jn. 13:35}

v.9) "For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things."

- This entire experience served as a test of their obedience to the Lord.
- When we obey God no matter how difficult the circumstances we position ourselves to be blessed by Him.

v.10, 11) "To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

- Paul states His forgiveness of the matter is based on the same way that Christ forgives us as well.
- "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us" when a person repents and we do
 not forgive that is an act of disobedience and satan has used the situation to pull
 us away from the Lord.

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