

2 Corinthians: A Defense of Genuine Ministry and Authority

Lesson: Joy in Ministry Trials

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 7:6-15

Lesson Theme:

God uses godly individuals and repentance to bring comfort, joy, and restoration in ministry.

Joy in Ministry Trials

- A. Thru Godly Individuals (5-7)
 - 1. The Situation of Paul's Joy (5)



Joy in Ministry Trials

- A. Thru Godly Individuals (5-7)
 - 1. The Context of Paul's Joy (5)
 - 2. The Ultimate Source of Paul's Joy (6a) – *God*
 - 3. The Immediate Source of Paul's Joy (6b-7)
 - a. The Arrival of Titus
 - b. The Report from Titus

Application:

- ✓ Expect Ministry to be Costly
- ✓ Trust God's Providential Comfort
- ✓ Don't Underestimate the Ministry of Presence

Joy in Ministry Trials

- A. Thru Godly Individuals (5-7)
- B. Thru Godly Repentance (8-11)

What True Repentance is NOT

1. Mere Remorse or Regret (Matt. 27:3)
2. Recognition of Your Actions as Sinful (Num. 14:40)
3. Sorrow Over Your Sins (Heb. 12:17)
4. Seeking Forgiveness for Your Sin (1 Sam. 24:16-19; 26:2)
5. Committing Not to Sin in the Future (Matt. 26:35)
6. Short Season of Victory over Sin (2 Pet. 2:20-22)

- Marks 2-6 from "Marks of True Repentance" by Pastor Brian Arnold

What True Repentance IS (10-11)

- ✓ **Firstly**, true repentance is an abandonment of all self-righteousness, all self deception and all self-reliance in regard to sin.
- ✓ **Secondly**, true repentance is a humbling of yourself to accept the biblical indictment of your sin, the biblical responsibility for your sin, and the biblical pathway to victory over your sin.

- "Marks of True Repentance" by Pastor Brian Arnold

What True Repentance IS (10-11)

1. True Repentance is Without Regret (10)
 - No regrets in regard to what was necessary to produce repentance in your life
2. True Repentance Produces Earnestness (11)
 - Eager to pursue righteousness, where Sin was exposed
3. True Repentance Produces Vindication (11)
 - To have a vigor or passion to clear your name, not from past sins, but from your current association with it
4. True Repentance Produces Indignation (11)
 - To have hatred or animosity for your sin

What True Repentance IS (10-11)

5. True Repentance Produces Fear (11)
 - To be terrified of the sin continuing in your life
6. True Repentance Produces Longing (11)
 - To have a true and authentic desire for victory over sin
7. True Repentance Produces Zeal (11)
 - To have a passionate pursuit of holiness and justice
8. True Repentance Produces An Avenging of the Wrong (11)
 - To have desire to see justice done

Joy in Ministry Trials

- A. Thru Godly Individuals (5-7)
- B. Thru Godly Repentance (8-11)
- C. Thru Godly Loyalty (12-13a)
- D. Thru the Joy of Godly Individuals (13b-16)

Lessons:

1. True Repentance produces Godward Change
2. Confrontation in Love can be a catalyst for Spiritual Growth
3. Spiritual Leaders rejoice most in their people's Obedience and Restoration
4. God often uses people to administer his Comfort