2 Corinthians: A Defense of Genuine Ministry and Authority

Lesson: 4 Marks of an Authentic Minister

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:20 – 13:14

2 Corinthians

Theme – Defense of Apostleship

- I. Chapter 1-7 An Explanation of Paul's Genuine Ministry.
- II. Chapter 8-9 An Exhortation of the Church's Generous Ministry.
- III. Chapter 10-13 A Defense of Paul's Apostolic Authority.

An Authentic Minister:

- A. Calls His People to Repent, when they Sin (12:20-21)
 - 1. Unrepentant Sins Fracture Fellowship (20)
 - 2. Unrepentant Sins Corrupt Purity (21)

Implication

✓ Individuals & Churches must be on guard against Sin

An Authentic Minister:

- A. Calls His People to Repent, when they Sin (12:20-21)
- B. Warns His People about Discipline, if they don't Repent (13:1-4)
 - 1. It is Just (1)
 - 2. It is Impartial (2)
 - 3. It is Powerful (3-4)

Implication

✓ An Authentic Minister, serves the purposes of His Master

An Authentic Minister:

- A. Calls His People to Repent, when they Sin (12:20-21)
- B. Warns His People about Discipline, if they don't Repent (13:1-4)
- C. Appeals to His People *to Examine Themselves* (13:5-10)
 - 1. His Appeal (5)

"Examine Yourself" – John MacArthur

- 1. A Distinct Testimony (Matt. 5:13-14)
- 2. An Obedient Life (Matt. 5:17-19)
- 3. A Sincere Worshipper (Matt. 6:1-18)
- 4. A Biblical Perspective of Money and Materialism (Matt. 6:19-24)
- 5. An Uncritical Love of Others (Matt. 7:1-12)

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- C. Appeals to His People *to Examine Themselves* (13:5-10)
 - 1. His Appeal (5)
 - 2. His Attitude (6-10)

An Authentic Minister:

- A. Calls His People *to Repent, when they Sin* (12:20-21)
- B. Warns His People about Discipline, if they don't Repent (13:1-4)
- C. Appeals to His People *to Examine Themselves* (13:5-10)
- D. Reminds His People *of their Calling, Catholicity and their Consecration* (13:11-14)
 - 1. Their Calling (11)
 - 2. Their Catholicity (12-13)
 - 3. Their Consecration (14)

Epistle Implications:

- A. God's Holiness Compels us to take Sin seriously
 - Lev. 11:44; Isa. 6:3-5; Hab. 1:13; 1 Pet. 1:15-16
- B. Christ's Love for the Church Motivates us to Love the Church
 - John 13:34-35; Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:12-14