

2nd LETTER OF SAINT PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Introduction – Chapter 5

Author and Date

Who wrote this letter and when was it written, specifically what year was it written?

Destination

What was the situation like in Corinth at the time when Paul wrote the letter?

Purpose

What were the five reasons that St. Paul wrote the 2nd letter to the Corinthians?

Themes and Characteristics

What is the primary theme of this Letter?

Read 1:1-2 What is the definition of an Apostle? Where is Achaia? What is its capital? (Note 1:1)

Read 1:3-7 Why does Paul's benediction bless God? (Note 1:3-7)

Read 1:15-22 What does St. Paul say, when he says, “he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” (Note 1:22)

Word Study – Amen What does Amen mean?

Read 2:5-11 Why did Paul have a “painful visit” to Corinth? (Note 2:5-11)

Read 2:12-17 Who is Titus? (Note 2:13)

What does St. Paul mean when he says “not, like so many peddlers”? (Note 2:17)

Read 3:1-3 What is the meaning of the following passage: “and you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts”? (Note 3:3)

Read 3:4-6 How does Catholic Tradition understand the Pauline antithesis between letter and Spirit? (Note 3:6)

Read 3:7-11 How does Moses' veil symbolize the destiny of the Old Covenant?
(Note 3:7)

Read 4:7-12 What is the meaning of the following verses: "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh." (Note 4:8-11)

Read 4:16-18 What is the difference between outer man and inner man? (Note 4:16)

How does St. John Chrysostom interpret the following verse: "For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison"? (Note 4:17)

What is the importance of "things that are unseen"? (Note 4:18)

Read 5:1-5 How does St. Paul's teaching on the Resurrected body contrast to the Greek understanding of the afterlife? (Note 5:4)

Read 5:6-10 How is Christ present to us now on earth? (Note 5:7)

What is the meaning of the following passage: “So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive good or evil, according to what he has done in the body.”? (Note 5:9-10)

Read 5:11-15 What is the meaning of the following passage: “And he died for all, that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”? (Note 5:15)

Read 5:16-17 What is the meaning of the following passage: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come.”? (Note 5:17)

Read 5:18-21 What is meant by the following passage: “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”? (Note 5:21)