

2ND CORINTHIANS

¹ Paul, apostle of Jesus Christ, by the will of God, and Timothy, brother, to the church of God that is at Corinth, with all saints that be in all Achaia,

² grace to you, and peace of God our Father and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Blessed *be* God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort,

⁴ which comforteth us in all our tribulation, that also we may comfort them, that be in all dis-ease [*or in all pressure*] by the admonishing by which also we be admonished of God.

⁵ For as the passions of Christ be plenteous in us, so also by Christ our comfort is plenteous.

⁶ And whether we be in tribulation, [*or be troubled, or be pursued*], for your tribulation [*or teaching*] and health, either we be comforted, for your comfort, either we be admonished, for your admonishing and health. Which worketh in you the suffering of the same passions, which also we suffer,

⁷ that our hope be firm for you; witting for as ye be fellows of passions, so ye shall be also of comfort.

⁸ For, brethren, we will, that ye know of our tribulation, that was done in Asia; for over-measure we were grieved over-might [*or above virtue*], so that it distressed us, yea, to live.

⁹ But we in us-selves had answer, [*or certainty*], of death, that we trust not in us, but in God that raiseth dead men.

¹⁰ Which delivered us, and delivereth from so great perils, into whom we hope, also yet he shall deliver,

¹¹ while also ye help in prayer for us; that of the persons of many faces of that giving that is in us, thankings [*or graces*] be done for us by many men to God.

¹² For our glory is this, the witness-ing of our conscience, that in simple-ness and cleanness of God, and not in fleshly wisdom, but in the grace of God, we lived in this world, but more plenteously to you.

¹³ And we write not other things to you, than those that ye have read and know, and I hope that into the end ye shall know,

¹⁴ as also ye have known us a part; for we be your glory, as also ye be ours in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ And in this trusting I would first come to you, that ye should have the second grace,

¹⁶ and pass by you into Macedonia, and again from Macedonia come to you, and of you be led into Judea.

¹⁷ But when I would this thing, whether I used unsteadfastness, either those things that I think, I think after the flesh, that at me be, it is and it is not? [*or that there be at me, is and is not, or yea and nay?*]

¹⁸ But God is true, for our word that was at you, is and is not, is not therein, but is is in it, [*or*

there is not in it yea and nay/there is not in it is and nay, but is, that is truth, is in it].

¹⁹ For why Jesus Christ, the Son of God, which is preached among you by us, by me, and Silvanus, and Timothy, there was not in him, is and is not, but is was in him [*or there was not in him yea and nay, but is, or yea, was in him/but in him was is*].

²⁰ For why how many ever be promises of God, in that is, *be fulfilled*, [*or in him is, that is, they be fulfilled in him*]. And therefore by him we say Amen to God, to our glory.

²¹ Soothly it is God that confirmeth us with you in Christ, and which anointed us,

²² and which marked us, and gave earnest [*or a wed*] of the Spirit in our hearts.

²³ For I call God to witness against my soul, that I sparing you came not over to Corinth;

²⁴ not that we be lords of your faith, but we be helpers of your joy; for through belief ye stand.

CHAPTER 2

¹ And I ordained this [*same*] thing at me, that I should not come again in heaviness [*or in sorrow*] to you.

² For if I make you sorry, [*or heavy*], who is he that gladdeth me, but he that is sorrowful of me?

³ And this same thing I wrote to you, that when I come, I have not sorrow on sorrow, of the which it behooved me to have joy. And I trust in you all, that my joy is of all you [*or of you all*].

⁴ For of much tribulation and anguish of heart I wrote to you by many tears, not that ye be

sorry, but that ye know what charity I have more plenteously in you.

⁵ For if any man hath made me sorrowful, he hath not made me sorrowful but a part [*or but in part*], that I charge, [*or dis-ease*], not you all.

⁶ This blaming that is made of many, sufficeth to him, that is such one [*or that is such a manner man*];

⁷ so that on the contrary ye rather forgive and comfort, lest peradventure he that is such a manner *man*, be swallowed up, [*or be sopped up, or despair*], by more great heaviness.

⁸ For which thing I beseech you, that ye confirm charity into him.

⁹ For why therefore I wrote this, that I know your proof, whether in all things ye be obedient.

¹⁰ For to whom ye have forgiven anything, also I have forgiven. For I, that that I forgave, if I forgave anything, *have forgiven* for you in the person of Christ,

¹¹ that we be not deceived of Satan; for we know his thoughts.

¹² But when I was come to Troas for the gospel of Christ, and a door was opened to me in the Lord,

¹³ I had not rest to my spirit, for I found not my brother Titus, but I said to them farewell, and I passed into Macedonia.

¹⁴ And I do thankings to God, that evermore maketh us to have victory in Christ Jesus, and showeth by us the odour, [*or savour; or sweetness*], of his knowing in each place;

15 for we be the good odour, [*or savour*], of Christ to God, among these that be made safe, and among these that perish.

16 To others soothly, [*we be*] odour of death into death, but to the others *we be* odour of life into life. And to these things who *is* so able?

17 For we be not as [*full*] many, that do adultery by the word of God [*or adulterating the word of God*], but we speak of cleanness as of God, before God in Christ.

CHAPTER 3

1 Begin we therefore again to praise us-selves? or whether we need, as some men, epistles [*or letters*] of praising to you, or of you?

2 Ye be our epistle, written in our hearts, which is known and read of all men,

3 and [*ye be*] made open, for ye be the epistle of Christ ministered of us, and written, not with ink, but by the Spirit of the living God; not in stone tables, but in fleshly tables of heart.

4 For we have such trust by Christ to God;

5 not that we be sufficient to think anything of us-*[selves]*, as of us, but our sufficiency is of God.

6 Which also made us able ministers of the new testament, not by letter, but by Spirit; for the letter slayeth, but the Spirit quickeneth.

7 And if the ministration of death written by letter in stones was in glory, so that the children of Israel might not behold into the face of Moses, for the glory of his face, which [*glory*] is voided,

8 how shall not the ministration of the Spirit be more in glory?

9 For if the ministration of condemnation was in glory, much more the ministration of rightwiseness is plenteous in glory.

10 For neither that that was clear was glorified in this part for the excellent glory;

11 and if that that is voided was by glory, much more that that dwelleth still is in glory.

12 Therefore we that have such hope, use much trust;

13 and not as Moses laid *[or put]* a veil on his face, that the children of Israel should not behold into his face, which *veil* is voided.

14 But the wits of them be astonied; for into this day the same veil in *[the]* reading of the old testament, dwelleth not showed, for it is voided in Christ,

15 but into this day, when Moses is read, the veil is put on their hearts.

16 But when Israel shall be converted to God, the veil shall be done away.

17 And the Spirit is the Lord; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. *[Forsooth the Lord is a Spirit; forsooth where is the Spirit of God, there is liberty.]*

18 And all we that with open face see the glory of the Lord, be transformed into the same image, from clearness into clearness, as of the Spirit of the Lord.

CHAPTER 4

1 Therefore we that have this administration, *[or office]*, after this that we have gotten mercy, fail we not,

² but do we away the privy things of shame, not walking in subtle guile, neither doing adultery by the word of God [*or neither adulterating the word of God*], but in showing of the truth commending us-selves to each conscience of men before God.

³ For if also our gospel is covered, *or is hid*, in these that perish it is covered;

⁴ in which [*the*] god of this world, *that is, the devil*, hath blinded the souls of unfaithful men, that the enlightening [*or the lighting*] of the gospel of the glory of Christ, which is the image of God, shine not.

⁵ But we preach not us-selves, but our Lord Jesus Christ [*or but Jesus Christ our Lord*]; and us your servants by Jesus.

⁶ For God, that said [*the*] light to shine of darkneses, he hath given light in our hearts, to the enlightening [*or the illumining*] of the science of the clearness of God, in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷ And we have this treasure in brittle vessels, that the worthiness [*or the highness*] be of God's virtue, and not of us.

⁸ In all things we suffer tribulation, but we be not anguished, *or annoyed*; we be made poor, but we lack nothing [*or we be not destitute*];

⁹ we suffer persecution, but we be not forsaken; we be made low, but we be not confounded; we be cast down, but we perish not.

¹⁰ And evermore we bear about the slaying [*or the mortifying*] of Jesus in our body, that also the life of Jesus be showed in our bodies.

11 For evermore we that live, be taken into death, for Jesus, that the life of Jesus be showed in our deadly flesh.

12 Therefore death worketh in us, but life in you.

13 And we have the same spirit of faith, as it is written, I have believed, wherefore I have spoken; and we believe, wherefore also we speak;

14 witting that he that raised Jesus, shall raise up also us with Jesus, and shall ordain *[us]* with you.

15 And all things *[be done]* for you, that a plenteous grace by many thankings be plenteous into the glory of God. *[Soothly all things be done for you, that grace being plenteous by many in doing of thanks be plenteous into glory of God.]*

16 For which thing we fail not, for though our outer man be corrupted; nevertheless the inner man is renewed from day to day.

17 But that light, *[or easy]*, thing of our tribulation that lasteth now, but as it were by a moment, worketh in us over-measure an everlasting burden *[or an everlasting weight]* into the highness of glory;

18 while that we behold not those things that be seen, but those *[things]* that be not seen. For those things that be seen, be but during for a short time *[or temporal]*; but those things that be not seen, be everlasting *[or eternal]*.

CHAPTER 5

¹ And we know, that if our earthly house of this dwelling be dissolved, that we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, ever-lasting in heavens.

² For why in this thing we mourn, coveting to be clothed above with our dwelling, which is of heaven;

³ if nevertheless we be found clothed, and not naked.

⁴ For why we that be in this tabernacle, sorrow within, and be heavied [*or be grieved*], for that we will not be despoiled, but be clothed above; that that thing that is deadly, be sopped up of life.

⁵ But who is it that maketh us into this same thing? God, that gave to us the earnest, *either wed*, of the Spirit. [*Forsooth he that maketh us into this same thing, is God, that gave to us the earnest, or a wed, of Spirit.*]

⁶ Therefore we be hardy always, and know that the while we be in this body, we go in pilgrimage from the Lord;

⁷ for we walk by faith, and not by clear sight.

⁸ But we be hardy, and have good will, more to be in pilgrimage from the body, and to be present to God.

⁹ And therefore we strive, whether absent, whether present, to please him.

¹⁰ For it behooveth us all to be showed before the throne of Christ, that every man tell [*or receive*] the proper things of the body, as he hath done, either good, either evil.

11 Therefore we witting the dread of the Lord, counsel men, for to God we be open; and I hope, that we be open also in your consciences.

12 We commend not us-selves again to you, but we give to you occasion to have glory for us, that ye have [*understanding*] to them that glory in the face, and not in the heart.

13 For either we by mind [*or by reason*] pass, [*it is*] to God, either we be sober, [*it is*] to you.

14 For the charity of Christ driveth us; guessing [*or deeming*] this thing, that if one died for all, then all were dead.

15 And Christ died for all, that they that live, live not now to themselves, but to him that died for them, and rose again.

16 Therefore we from this time know no man after the flesh; though we known [*or knew*] Christ after the flesh, but now we know not.

17 Therefore if any new creature is in Christ, the old things be passed. Lo! all things be made new,

18 and all things be of God, which reconciled us to him by Christ, and gave to us the service [*or the ministry*] of reconciling.

19 And [*for*] God was in Christ, reconciling to him the world, not reckoning to them their guilts, and putted in us the word of reconciling.

20 Therefore we use message for Christ, as if God admonisheth by us; we beseech you for Christ, be ye reconciled to God.

21 God the Father made him sin for us, which knew not sin, that we should be made [*the*] rightwiseness of God in him.

CHAPTER 6

¹ But we helping *[you in work and word]* admonish *[you]*, that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

² For he saith, In time well-pleasing I have heard thee, and in the day of health, I have helped thee. Lo! now a time acceptable, lo! now a day of health.

³ Give we to no man any offence, *[or hurting]*, that our service *[or ministry]* be not reproved;

⁴ but in all things give we us-selves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in anguishes,

⁵ in beatings, *[or scourgings]*, in prisons, in dissensions within, in travails, in wakings, in fastings,

⁶ in chastity, in knowing *[or in science]*, in long abiding, in sweetness, in the Holy Ghost, in charity not feigned,

⁷ in the word of truth, in the virtue of God; by armours or arms of rightwiseness on the right half and on the left half;

⁸ by glory and unnobleness; by evil fame and good fame; as deceivers, and true men;

⁹ as they that be unknown and known; as men dying, and lo! we live; as chastised, and not made dead;

¹⁰ as sorrowful, and evermore joying *[or but evermore joying]*; as having need, but making many men rich; as nothing having, and wielding all things.

¹¹ A! ye Corinthians, our mouth is open to you, our heart is alarged;

¹² ye be not anguished in us, but ye be anguished in your inwardnesses [*or in your entrails*].

¹³ And I say as to sons, ye that have the same reward, be ye alarged.

¹⁴ Do not ye bear the yoke with unfaithful men. For what parting, [*or communing*], of rightwiseness with wickedness? or what fellowship of light to darkneses?

¹⁵ and what according of Christ to Belial? or what part of a faithful [*man*] with the unfaithful, [*or heathen*]?

¹⁶ and what consent to the temple of God with maumets? [*or idols?*] And ye be the temple of the living God, as the Lord saith, For I shall dwell in them, and I shall walk among them; and I shall be [*the*] God of them, and they shall be a people to me.

¹⁷ For which thing go ye out of the middle of them, and be ye separated, saith the Lord, and touch not unclean thing; and I shall receive you,

¹⁸ and I shall be to you into a Father; and ye shall be to me into sons and daughters, saith the Lord almighty.

CHAPTER 7

¹ Therefore, most dearworthy *brethren*, we that have these promises, cleanse we us from all filth of the flesh and of the spirit, doing holiness in the dread of God.

² Take ye us; we have hurt no man, we have impaired [*or corrupted*] no man, we have beguiled no man.

³ I say not to your condemning; for I said before, that ye be in our hearts, to die together and to live together.

⁴ Much trust is to me with you, much glorying is to me for you. I am [*full*]-filled with comfort, I am plenteous [*or I abound*] in joy in all our tribulation.

⁵ For when we were come to Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we suffered all tribulation; without-forth fightings, and dreads within.

⁶ But God that comforteth meek men, comforted us in the coming of Titus.

⁷ And not only in the coming of him, but also in the comfort by which he was comforted in you, telling to us your desire, your weeping, your love for me, so that I joyed more.

⁸ For though I made you sorry, in an epistle, it rueth me not; though it rued, [*I*] seeing that though that epistle made you sorry at an hour,

⁹ now I have joy; not for ye were made sorrowful, but for ye were made sorrowful to penance. For why ye be made sorry after God, that in nothing ye suffer impairment of us.

¹⁰ For the sorrow that is after God, worketh penance into steadfast health; but sorrow of the world worketh death.

¹¹ For lo! this same thing, that ye be sorrowful after God, how much busyness it worketh in you; but defending, but indignation, but dread, but desire, but love, but vengeance. In all things ye have given yourselves to be undefouled in the cause.

12 Therefore though I wrote to you, *I wrote* not for him that did the injury, neither for him that suffered, but to show our busyness, which we have for you before God.

13 Therefore we be comforted, but in your comfort [*or in our comfort*] more plenteously we joyed more on the joy of Titus, for his spirit is fulfilled of all you.

14 And if I gloried anything with him of you, I am not confounded, [*or shamed*]; but as we have spoken to you all things [*in truth*], so also our glory that was at Titus, is made truth.

15 And the inwardness of him be more plenteously in you, which hath in mind the obedience of you all, how with dread and trembling ye received him.

16 I have joy, that in all things I trust in you.

CHAPTER 8

1 But, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God, that is given in the churches of Macedonia,

2 that in much assaying of tribulation, the plenty [*or the abundance*] of the joy of them was, and the highest poverty of them was plenteous into the riches of the simpleness of them.

3 For I bear witnessing to them, after might, [*or after power*], and above might they were willful,

4 with much admonishing beseeching us the grace and the communing of ministering [*or of the ministry*] that is made to holy men.

⁵ And not as we hoped, but they gave themselves first to the Lord, afterward to us by the will of God.

⁶ So that we prayed Titus, that as he began, so also he perform in you this grace.

⁷ But as ye abound in all things, in faith, and word, and knowing [*or science*], and all busyness, moreover and in your charity into us, that also in this grace ye abound.

⁸ I say not as commanding, but by the busyness of other men proving also the good wit of your charity.

⁹ And ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he was made needy for you, when he was rich, that ye should be made rich by his neediness.

¹⁰ And I give counsel in this thing; for this is profitable to you, that not only have begun to do, but also ye began to have will from the former year.

¹¹ But now perform ye in deed, that as the discretion of will is ready [*to desire good*], so be it also of perform-ing of that that ye have.

¹² For if the will be ready, it is accepted after that that it hath, not after that that it hath not.

¹³ And not that it be remission, [*or idleness, or sloth*], to other *men*, and to you tribulation;

¹⁴ but of evenness in the present time your abundance fulfill the need of them, that also the abundance of them be a fulfilling of your need, that evenness be made;

¹⁵ as it is written, He that gathered much, was not increased, and he that *gathered* little, had not less.

¹⁶ And I do thankings to God, that gave the same busyness for you in the heart of Titus,

¹⁷ for he received exhortation; but when he was busier, by his will he went forth to you.

¹⁸ And we sent with him a brother, whose praising is in the gospel by all churches.

¹⁹ And not only praised, but also he is ordained of churches the fellow of our pilgrimage into this grace, that is administered of us, to the glory of the Lord, and to our ordained will;

²⁰ eschewing this thing, that no man blame us in this plenty, that is administered of us, to the glory of the Lord.

²¹ For we purvey good things, not only before God, but also before all men.

²² For we sent with them also our brother, whom we have proved in many things oft, that he was busy, but now much busier, for much trust in you,

²³ either for Titus, that is my fellow and helper in you, either for our brethren, apostles of the churches of the glory of Christ.

²⁴ Therefore show ye to them in the face of churches, that showing that is of your charity, and of our glory for you.

CHAPTER 9

¹ For of the ministry that is made to holy men, it is to me of plenty to write to you.

² For I know your [*ready*] will, for the which I have glory of you with Macedonians, for also Achaia is ready from a year passed, and your love hath stirred full many.

³ And we have sent brethren, that this thing that we glory of you, be not voided in this part, that as I said, ye be ready.

⁴ Lest when Macedonians come with me, and find you unready, we be shamed, that we say you not or that we saw you not, in this substance.

⁵ Therefore I guessed necessary to pray brethren, that they come before to you, and make ready this promised blessing to be ready, so as blessing, and not as avarice.

⁶ For I say this thing, he that soweth scarcely, shall also reap scarcely; and he that soweth in blessings, shall reap also of blessings.

⁷ Each man as he casted in his heart, not of heaviness, or of need; for God loveth a glad giver.

⁸ And God is mighty to make all grace abound in you, that ye in all things evermore have all sufficiency, and abound into all good work;

⁹ as it is written, He dealed abroad, he gave to poor men, his rightwise-ness dwelleth without end.

¹⁰ And he that ministereth seed to the sower, shall give also bread to eat, and he shall multiply your seed, and make much the increasings of fruits of your rightwiseness;

¹¹ that in all things ye made rich wax plenteous [*or abound*] into all simpleness, which worketh by us doing of thankings to God.

12 For the ministry of this office not only filleth those things that fail to holy men, but also multiplieth many thankings to God,

13 by the proving of this ministry, which glorify God in the obedience of your acknowledging in the gospel of Christ, and in simpleness of communication into them and into all [*others*],

14 and in the beseeching of them for you, that desire you for the excellent grace of God in you.

15 I do thankings to God of the gift of him, that may not be told.

CHAPTER 10

1 And I myself, Paul, beseech you, by the mildness and softness, [*or patience*], of Christ, which in the face am meek among you, and I absent trust in you.

2 For I pray you, that lest I present be not bold [*or not hardy*] by the trust, in which I am guessed to be bold [*or hardy*] into some, that deem us, as if we wander after the flesh.

3 For we walking in the flesh, fight not after the flesh.

4 For the arms or armours of our knighthood be not fleshly, but mighty by God to the destruction of strengths [*or of wardings*].

5 And we destroy counsels, and all highness that higheth [*or raised*] itself against the science of God, and drive into captivity all understanding into the service of Christ.

6 And we have ready to avenge all unobedience, when your obedience shall be [*ful*] filled.

⁷ See ye the things that be after the face. If any man trusteth to himself, that he is of Christ, think he this thing again with himself, for as he is Christ's, so also we.

⁸ For if I shall glory, anything more of our power, which the Lord gave to us into edifying, and not into your destruction, I shall not be shamed.

⁹ But that I be not guessed as to fear you by epistles,

¹⁰ for they say, That epistles be grievous [*or be heavy*] and strong, but the presence of the body is feeble, and the word worthy to be despised [*or it is contemptible*].

¹¹ He that is such one, think this, for such as we absent be in word by epistles, such we *be* present in deed.

¹² For we dare not put us among, or comparison us to some men, that commend themselves; but we measure us in us-selves, and comparison us-selves to us.

¹³ For we shall not have glory over-measure, but by the measure of the rule which God measured to us, the measure that stretcheth [*till*] to you.

¹⁴ For we overstretch not forth us, as not stretching to you. For to you we came in the gospel of Christ,

¹⁵ not glorying over-measure in other men's travails. For we have hope of your faith that waxeth in you, to be magnified by our rule in abundance,

¹⁶ also to preach into those things that be beyond you, not to have glory in other man's rule, in these things that be made ready.

¹⁷ He that glorieth, have glory in the Lord.

¹⁸ For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom God commendeth.

CHAPTER 11

¹ I would that ye would suffer a little thing of mine unwisdom, but also support ye me [*or bear me up*].

² For I love you by the love of God; for I have espoused you to one husband, to yield a chaste virgin to Christ, [*or to give you, a chaste virgin, to one man, Christ*].

³ But I dread, lest as the serpent deceived Eve with his subtle fraud, so your wits be corrupted, and fallen down from the simpleness that is in Christ.

⁴ For if he that cometh, preacheth another Christ, whom we preached not, or if ye take another spirit, whom ye took not [*or whom ye received not*], or another gospel, which ye received not, rightly ye should suffer.

⁵ For I ween that I have done nothing less than the great apostles.

⁶ For though I be unlearned in word, but not in knowing [*or in science*]. For in all things I am open [*or I am showed, or made known*], to you.

⁷ Or whether I have done sin, meeking, [*or making low*], myself, that ye be enhanced, for freely I preached to you the gospel of God?

⁸ I made naked, [*or I spoiled, or I took gifts of*], other churches, and I took wages to your service.

⁹ And when I was among you, and had need, I was chargeous to no man; for brethren that came from Macedonia, fulfilled [*or supplied*] that that failed to me. And in all things I have kept [*me*], and shall keep me without charge to you.

¹⁰ The truth of Christ is in me; for this glory shall not be broken in me in the countries [*or in the regions*] of Achaia.

¹¹ Why? for I love not you? God knoweth.

¹² For that that I do, and that I shall do, *is* that I cut away the occasion of them that will occasion, that in the thing, in which they glory, they be found [*such*] as we.

¹³ For such false apostles be treach-erous, [*or guileful*], workmen, and transfigure them into apostles of Christ.

¹⁴ And no wonder, for Satan himself transfigureth him into an angel of light.

¹⁵ Therefore it is not great, if his ministers be transfigured as the ministers of rightwiseness, whose end shall be after their works.

¹⁶ Again I say, lest any man guess [*or deem*] me, to be unwise; else take ye me as unwise, that also I have glory a little what.

¹⁷ That that I speak, I speak not after God, but as in un wisdom, in this substance of glory.

¹⁸ For many men glory after the flesh, and I shall glory.

¹⁹ For ye suffer gladly unwise men, when ye yourselves be wise.

20 For ye suffer, if any man driveth you into servage, if any man devour-eth, if any man taketh, if any man is enhanced [*by pride*], if any man smiteth you on the face.

21 By unnobleness I say, as if we were sick in this part. In what thing any man dare, in unwisdom I say, and I dare.

22 They be Hebrews, and I; they be Israelites, and I; they be the seed of Abraham, and I;

23 they be the ministers of Christ, and I. As less wise I say, I more; in full many travails, in prisons more plente-ously, in wounds above-manner, [*or over-measure*], in deaths oft times.

24 I received of the Jews five times forty *strokes* one less;

25 thrice I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, thrice I was at ship-break, a night and a day I was in the deepness of the sea;

26 in ways oft, in perils of floods, in perils of thieves, in perils of kin, in perils of heathen men, in perils in [*the*] city, in perils in desert, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren,

27 in travail and neediness, in many wakings, in hunger, in thirst, in many fastings, in cold and nakedness.

28 Without those things that be with-outforth, mine each day's travailing [*or studying*]is the busyness of all churches.

29 Who is sick, and I am not sick? who is caused to stumble, and I am not burnt?

30 If it behooveth to glory, I shall glory *in those things* that be of mine infirmity, [*or frailty*].

³¹ God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is blessed into worlds, knoweth that I lie not.

³² The provost of Damascus, of the king of the folk Aretas, [*or of the king of the folk of Aretas*], kept the city of Damascenes to take me;

³³ and by a window in a basket I was let down by the wall, and so I escaped his hands.

CHAPTER 12

¹ If it behooveth to have glory, it speedeth not; but I shall come to the visions and the revelations of the Lord.

² I know a man in Christ that before fourteen years; whether in body, whether out of body, I know not, God knoweth; that such a man was ravished unto the third heaven.

³ And I know such a man; whether in body, or out of body, I know not, God knoweth;

⁴ that he was ravished into paradise, and heard privy words, which it is not leaveful to a man to speak.

⁵ For such manner things I shall glory; but for me nothing, but in mine infirmities.

⁶ For if I shall desire to glory, I shall not be unwise, for I shall say truth; but I spare, lest any man guess me over that thing that he seeth in me, or heareth anything of me.

⁷ And lest the greatness of revelations enhance me, *in pride*, the prick of my flesh, an angel of Satan, is given to me, that he buffet me.

⁸ For which thing thrice I prayed the Lord, that it should go away from me.

⁹ And he said to me, My grace sufficeth to thee; for virtue is perfectly made in infirmity. Therefore gladly I shall glory in mine infirmities, that the virtue of Christ dwell in me.

¹⁰ For which thing I am pleased in mine infirmities, in despisings, [*or reprovings*], in needs, in persecutions, in anguishes, for Christ; for when I am sick, then I am mighty.

¹¹ I am made unwitting, ye constrained me. For I ought to be commended of you; for I did nothing less than they that be apostles overmeasure. Though I am nought,

¹² nevertheless the signs of mine apostlehood be made on you, in all patience, and signs, and great wonders, and virtues.

¹³ And what is it, that ye had less than other churches, [*no*] but that I myself grieved you not, [*betaking of you*]? Forgive ye to me this wrong.

¹⁴ Lo! this third time I am ready to come to you, and I shall not be grievous to you; for I seek not those things that be yours, but you. For neither sons owe to [*make*] treasure to father and mother, but the father and mother to the sons.

¹⁵ For I shall give most willfully, and I myself shall be given over for your souls; though I more love you, and be less loved.

¹⁶ But be it; I grieved not you, but when I was subtle [*or wily*], I took you with guile.

¹⁷ Whether I deceived you by any of them, which I sent to you?

¹⁸ I prayed Titus, and I sent with him a brother. Whether Titus beguiled you? whether we went

not in the same spirit? whether not in the same steps?

¹⁹ Sometime ye ween, that we shall excuse us with you. Before God in Christ we speak; and, most dear brethren, all things for your edifying.

²⁰ But I dread, lest when I come, I shall not find you such as I will, and I shall be found of you such as ye will not; lest peradventure strivings, envies, indignations, dissensions and detractions, privy speeches of discord, swellings *by pride*, debates be among you;

²¹ *and* lest again when I come, God make me low [*or make me humble*] with you, and I bewail many of them, that before sinned, and did not penance on the uncleanness, and fornication, and unchastity, that they have done.

CHAPTER 13

¹ Lo! this third time I come to you, and in the mouth of two or of three witnesses every word shall stand.

² I said before, and say before, as present twice, and now absent, to them that before have sinned, and to all others; for if I come again, I shall not spare.

³ Whether ye seek the proof [*or assaying*] of that Christ, that speaketh in me, which is not feeble in you, [*but is mighty in you*]?

⁴ For though he was crucified of infirmity, but he liveth of the virtue of God. For also we be sick in him, but we shall live with him of the virtue of God in us.

⁵ Assay yourselves, if ye be in the faith; ye yourselves prove. Whether ye know not

yourselves, for Christ Jesus is in you? but in hap ye be reprobable.

⁶ But I hope, that ye know, that we be not reprobable.

⁷ And we pray the Lord, that ye do nothing of evil; not that we seem proved, but that ye do that that is good, and that we be as reprobable.

⁸ For we may do nothing against truth, but, for the truth.

⁹ For we joy, when we be sick, but ye be mighty; and we pray this thing, your perfection.

¹⁰ Therefore I absent write these things, that I present do not harder, by the power, which the Lord gave to me into edification, and not into *your* destruction.

¹¹ Brethren, henceforward joy ye, be ye perfect, excite ye [*or and teach ye*]; understand ye the same thing; have ye peace, and God of peace and of love shall be with you.

¹² Greet ye well together in holy kiss.

¹³ All holy men greet you well.

¹⁴ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the charity of God, and the communing of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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