

# 2 Corinthians – Chapter 13



**Author:** Paul

**Date:** 55 A.D.

**Purpose:** for the Corinthians to rebuild trust in Paul as God's Apostle

**Theme:** Strength in weakness

## A Warning

*Read 13:1-4*

- † What scripture is Paul referring to in verse 1?
  - See Deuteronomy 19:15; Matthew 18:16-17; 1 Timothy 5:19
- † What is Paul going to do when he says, "I will not spare them"? (vs 2)
- † Why is Paul so confident as God's messenger?
  - See Luke 10:16
- † The highest authority is Christ (See Matthew 28:18) as individuals abuse and misuse authority. Who should we trust? (vs 3)
  - See 1 John 4:1
- † Without question, a line is drawn in the sand for anyone who opposes Christ's authority. Is the modern Church too soft on sin? (vs 4)

## Do The Right Thing

*Read 13:5-10*

- † What is the purpose of testing or examining one's faith? (vs 5)
  - See Lamentations 3:40; 1 Corinthians 11:28
- † What test might Paul have failed? (vs 6-7)
- † Verse 8 is powerful. Exchange the word, "truth" for "Christ." Does this reflect your faith life?
- † How difficult is standing up for the truth in our world today?
- † Consider different scenarios in our society that could get a person in trouble for doing the right thing.
- † Pastors are uniquely charged with "restoration" and "building up." What stands in the way? (vss 9-10)

## Final Greetings

*Read 13:11-14*

- † Does verse 11 mirror our congregation?
- † Paul ends with a trinitarian blessing (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit). Where else to we see this formula?
  - See Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6