



Word Pictures in the New Testament - 2 Corinthians

by

A. T. Robertson

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Table of Contents

<i>About This Book</i>	p. ii
Title Page	p. 1
Chapter 1	p. 2
Chapter 2	p. 7
Chapter 3	p. 10
Chapter 4	p. 13
Chapter 5	p. 16
Chapter 6	p. 21
Chapter 7	p. 24
Chapter 8	p. 28
Chapter 9	p. 31
Chapter 10	p. 34
Chapter 11	p. 38
Chapter 12	p. 44
Chapter 13	p. 48
Indexes	p. 50
Index of Scripture References	p. 50
Index of Scripture Commentary	p. 53

Word Pictures of the New Testament

2 Corinthians

A.T. Robertson

Chapter 1

1:1 **And Timothy** [*kai Timotheos*]. Timothy is with Paul, having been sent on to Macedonia from Ephesus (Ac 19:22). He is in no sense co-author any more than Sosthenes was in 1Co 1:1. **In all Achaia** [*en holi t i Achai i*]. The Romans divided Greece into two provinces (Achaia and Macedonia). Macedonia included also Illyricum, Epirus, and Thessaly. Achaia was all of Greece south of this (both Attica and the Peloponnesus). The restored Corinth was made the capital of Achaia where the pro-consul resided (Ac 18:12). He does not mention other churches in Achaia outside of the one in Corinth, but only “saints” [*hagiois*]. Athens was in Achaia, but it is not clear that there was as yet a church there, though some converts had been won (Ac 17:34), and there was a church in Cenchræe, the eastern port of Corinth (Ro 16:1). Paul in 2Co 9:2 speaks of Achaia and Macedonia together. His language here would seem to cover the whole [*hol i*], all) of Achaia in his scope and not merely the environment around Corinth.

1:2 Identical with 1Co 1:3 which see.

1:3 **Blessed** [*eulog tos*]. From old verb [*euloge*], to speak well of, but late verbal in LXX and Philo. Used of men in Ge 24:31, but only of God in N.T. as in Lu 1:68 and chiefly in Paul (2Co 11:31; Ro 1:25). Paul has no thanksgiving or prayer as in 1Co 1:4-9, but he finds his basis for gratitude in God, not in them. **The God and Father** [*ho theos kai pat r*]. So rightly, only one article with both substantives as in 2Pe 1:1. Paul gives the deity of Jesus Christ as our Lord [*Kuriou*], but he does not hesitate to use the language here as it occurs. See 1Pe 1:3; Eph 1:3 where the language is identical with that here. **The father of mercies** [*ho pat r t n oiktirm n*] and God of all comfort [*kai theos pas s parakl se s*]. Paul adds an item to each word. He is the compassionate Father characterized by mercies [*oiktirm n*], old word from [*oikteir*], to pity, and here in plural, emotions and acts of pity). He is the God of all comfort [*parakl se s*], old word from [*parakale*], to call to one’s side, common with Paul). Paul has already used it of God who gave eternal comfort (2Th 2:16). The English word comfort is from the Latin *confortis* (brave together). The word used by Jesus of the Holy Spirit as the Comforter or Paraklete is this very word (Joh 14:16; 16:7). Paul makes rich use of the verb [*parakale*] and the substantive [*parakl sis*] in this passage (3-7). He urges all sorrowing and troubled hearts to find strength in God.

1:4 **In all our affliction** [*epi pas i t i thlipsei h m n*]. [*Thlipsis*] is from [*thlib*], to press, old and common word, as tribulation is from Latin *tribulum* (roller). See on Mt 13:21 and 1Th 1:6. The English affliction is Latin *afflictio* from *ad-fligere*, to strike on. **That we may be able to comfort** [*eis to dunasthai h mas parakalein*]. Purpose clause with [*eis*] and the articular infinitive with the accusative of general reference, a common idiom. Paul here gives the purpose of affliction in the preacher’s life, in any Christian’s life, to qualify him for ministry to others. Otherwise it will be professional and perfunctory. **Wherewith** [*h s*]. Genitive case of the relative attracted to that of the

antecedent [*parakl se s*]. The case of the relative here could have been either the accusative [*h n*] with the passive verb retained as in Mr 10:38 or the instrumental [*h i*]. Either is perfectly good Greek (cf. Eph 1:6; 4:1). Personal experience of God's comfort is necessary before we can pass it on to others.

1:5 **The sufferings of Christ** [*ta path mata tou Christou*]. Subjective genitive, Christ's own sufferings. **Abound unto us** [*perisseuei eis h mas*]. Overflow unto us so that we suffer like sufferings and become fellow sufferers with Christ (4:10f.; Ro 8:17; Php 3:10; Col 1:24). **Through Christ** [*dia tou Christou*]. The overflow [*perisseuei*] of comfort comes also through Christ. Is Paul thinking of how some of the Jewish Christians in Corinth have become reconciled with him through Christ? Partnership with Christ in suffering brings partnership in glory also (Ro 8:17; 1Pe 4:13).

1:6 **Whether** [*eite*] —**or** [*eite*]. The alternatives in Paul's experience (afflicted [*thlibometha*], comforted [*parakaloumetha*] work out for their good when they are called on to endure like sufferings "which we also suffer" [*h n kai h meis paschomen*]. The relative [*h n*] is attracted from neuter accusative plural [*ha*] to genitive case of the antecedent [*path mat n*] (sufferings).

1:7 **Our hope for you** [*h elpis h m n huper hum n*]. The old word [*elpis*], from [*elpiz*], to hope, has the idea of waiting with expectation and patience. So here it is "steadfast" [*bebaia*], stable, fast, from [*bain*], to plant the feet down). **Partakers** [*koin noi*]. Partners as in Lu 5:10.

1:8 **Concerning our affliction** [*huper t s thlipse s h m n*]. Manuscripts read also [*peri*] for in the *Koin* [*huper*] (over) often has the idea of [*peri*] (around). Paul has laid down his philosophy of afflictions and now he cites a specific illustration in his own recent experience. **In Asia** [*en Asi i*]. Probably in Ephesus, but what it was we do not know whether sickness or peril. We do know that the disciples and the Asiarchs would not allow Paul to face the mob in the amphitheatre gathered by Demetrius (Ac 20:30f.). In Ro 16:4 Paul says that Prisca and Aquila laid down their necks for him, risked their very lives for him. It may have been a later plot to kill Paul that hastened his departure from Ephesus (Ac 20:1). He had a trial so great that "we were weighed down exceedingly beyond our power" [*kath' huperbol n huper dunamin ebar th men*]. Old verb from [*baros*], weight, [*barus*], weighty. First aorist passive indicative. See on 1Co 12:31 for [*kath' huperbol n*] (cf. our hyperbole). It was beyond Paul's power to endure if left to himself. **Inasmuch that we despaired even of life** [*h ste exapor th nai h mas kai tou z in*]. Usual clause of result with [*h ste*] and the infinitive. First aorist passive infinitive [*exapor th nai*], late compound for utter despair (perfective use of [*ex*] and at a complete loss, [*a*] privative and [*poros*], way). There seemed no way out. **Of life** [*tou z in*]. Ablative case of the articular infinitive, of living.

1:9 **Yea** [*alla*]. Confirmatory use as in 7:11, rather than adversative. **The answer of death** [*to apokrima tou thanatou*] This late word from [*apokrinomai*], to reply, occurs nowhere else in N.T., but is in Josephus, Polybius, inscriptions and papyri (Deissmann, *Bible Studies*, p. 257; Moulton and Milligan's *Vocabulary*), and always in the sense of decision or judgment rendered. But Vulgate

renders it by *responsum* and that idea suits best here, unless Paul conceives God as rendering the decision of death. **We ourselves have had within ourselves** [*autoi en heautois esch kamen*]. Regular perfect of [*ech*], to have. And still have the vivid recollection of that experience. For this lively dramatic use of the present perfect indicative for a past experience see also [*esch ka*] in 2:13 (Moulton, *Prolegomena*, p. 143f.; Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 896f.). **That we should not trust in ourselves** [*hina m pepoithotes men eph' heautois*]. A further purpose of God in affliction beyond that in verse 4. “This dreadful trial was sent to him in order to give him a precious spiritual lesson (12:7-10)” (Robertson and Plummer). Note periphrastic perfect active subjunctive of [*peith*], to persuade. **In** [*epi*], upon, both ourselves and God.

1:10 **Out of so great a death** [*ek t likoutou thanatou*]. He had considered himself as good as dead. **Delivered** [*erusato*] —**will deliver** [*rusetai*]. Old verb [*ru*], middle, [*ruomai*], draw oneself, as out of a pit, rescue. So Paul faces death without fear. **On whom we have set our hope** [*eis hon lpikamen*]. Perfect active indicative of [*elpiz*]. We still have that hope, emphasized by [*eti rusetai*] (he will still deliver).

1:11 **Ye also helping together on our behalf** [*sunupourgount n kai hum n huper h m n*]. Genitive absolute with present active participle of late compound verb [*sun*] and [*hupourge*] for [*hupo*] and [*ergon*]. Paul relied on God and felt the need of the prayer of God’s people. **By means of many** [*ek poll n pros p n*]. [*Pros pon*] means face [*pros, ops*]. The word is common in all Greek. The papyri use it for face, appearance, person. It occurs twelve times in II Corinthians. It certainly means face in eight of them (3:7, 13, 18; 8:24; 10:1, 7; 11:20). In 5:12 it means outward appearance. It may mean face or person here, 2:10; 4:6. It is more pictorial to take it here as face “that out of many upturned faces” thanks may be given [*hina—eucharist th i*] first aorist passive subjunctive) for the gift to us by means of many [*dia pollon*]. It is indeed a difficult sentence to understand.

1:12 **Glorying** [*kauch sis*]. Act of glorying, while in verse 14 [*kauch ma*] is the thing boasted of. **The testimony of our conscience** [*to marturion t s suneid se s h m n*]. In apposition with [*kauch sis*]. **Sincerity of God** [*eilikrinei i tou theou*]. Like [*dikaiousun theou*] (Ro 1:17; 3:21), the God-kind of righteousness. So the God-kind (genitive case) of sincerity. Late word from [*eilikrin s*]. See on 1Co 5:8. **Not in fleshly wisdom** [*ouk en sophi i sarkik i*]. See on 1Co 1:17; 2:4, 13f. Paul uses [*sarkikos*] five times and it occurs only twice elsewhere in N.T. See on 1Co 3:3. **We behaved ourselves** [*anestraph men*]. Second aorist passive indicative of [*anastreph*], old verb, to turn back, to turn back and forth, to walk. Here the passive is used as in late Greek as if middle. **More abundantly to you-ward** [*perissoter s pros humas*]. They had more abundant opportunity to observe how scrupulous Paul was (Ac 18:11).

1:13 **Than what ye read** [*all' ha anagin skete*]. Note comparative conjunction [] (than) after [*all'*] and that after [*alla*] (other things, same word in reality), “other than.” Read in Greek [*anagin sk*] is knowing again, recognizing. See on Ac 8:30. **Or even acknowledge** [*kai epigin skete*]. Paul is fond of such a play on words [*anagin skete, epigin skete*] or paronomasia.

Does he mean “read between the lines,” as we say, by the use of [*epi*] (additional knowledge)? **Unto the end** [*he s telous*]. The report of Titus showed that the majority now at last understood Paul. He hopes that it will last (1Co 1:8).

1:14 **As also ye did acknowledge us in part** [*kath s kai epegn te h mas apo merous*]. Gracious acknowledgment (second aorist active indicative of [*epign sk*] to the original Pauline party (1Co 1:12; 3:4) that he had seemed to care so little for them. And now in his hour of victory he shows that, if he is their ground of glorying, they are his also (cf. 1Th 2:19f.; Php 2:16).

1:15 **Confidence** [*pepoith sei*]. This late word (LXX Philo, Josephus) is condemned by the Atticists, but Paul uses it a half dozen times (3:4 also). **I was minded to come** [*eboulom n elthein*]. Imperfect, I was wishing to come, picturing his former state of mind. **Before unto you** [*proteron pros humas*]. This was his former plan [*proteron*] while in Ephesus to go to Achaia directly from Ephesus. This he confesses in verse 16 “and by you to pass into Macedonia.” **That ye might have a second benefit** [*hina deuteran charin sch te*]. Or second “joy” if we accept [*charan*] with Westcott and Hort. This would be a real second blessing (or joy) if they should have two visits from Paul.

1:16 **And again** [*kai palin*]. This would have been the second benefit or joy. But he changed his plans and did not make that trip directly to Corinth, but came on to Macedonia first (Ac 19:21; 20:1f.; 1Co 16:2; 2Co 2:12). **To be set forward by you** [*huph' hum n propemphth nai*]. First aorist passive infinitive of [*propemp*]. Paul uses this same verb in Ro 15:24 for the same service by the Roman Christians on his proposed trip to Spain. The Corinthians, especially the anti-Pauline party, took advantage of Paul’s change of plans to criticize him sharply for vacillation and flippancy. How easy it is to find fault with the preacher! So Paul has to explain his conduct.

1:17 **Did I shew fickleness?** [*m ti ara t i elaphri i?*]. An indignant negative answer is called for by [*m ti*]. The instrumental case of [*elaphri i*] is regular after [*echr sam n*] from [*chraomai*], to use. [*Elaphria*] is a late word for levity from the old adjective, [*elaphros*], light, agile (2Co 10:17; Mt 11:30). Here only in N.T. **Purpose** [*bouleuomai*]. Paul raises the question of fickleness about any of his plans. **Yea yea** [*Nai nai*] —**nay nay** [*ou ou*]. See a similar repetition in Mt 5:37. It is plain in Jas 5:12 where “the yea” is “yea” and “the nay” is “nay.” That seems to be Paul’s meaning here, “that the Yea may be yea and the Nay may be nay.”

1:18 **Is not yea and nay** [*ouk estin nai kai ou*]. He is not a Yes and No man, saying Yes and meaning or acting No. Paul calls God to witness on this point.

1:19 **Was not Yea and Nay** [*ouk egeneto nai kai ou*]. “Did not become Yes and No.” **But in him is yea** [*alla Nai en aut i gegonen*]. Rather, “But in him Yes has become yes,” has proved true. So Paul appeals to the life of Christ to sustain his own veracity.

1:20 **In him is the yea** [*en aut i to Nai*]. Supply [*gegonen*] from the preceding sentence, “In him was the Yea come true.” This applies to all God’s promises. **The Amen** [*to Am n*]. In public worship (1Co 14:16).

1:21 **Establishes** [*bebai n*]. Present active participle from [*bebaios*], firm. An apt metaphor in Corinth where confirmation of a bargain often took place [*bebai sis*] as Deissmann shows (*Bible Studies*, p. 109) and as verse 22 makes plain. **Anointed** [*chrisas*]. From [*chri*], to anoint, old verb, to consecrate, with the Holy Spirit here as in 1Jo 2:20.

1:22 **Sealed us** [*sphragisamenos h mas*]. From [*sphragiz*] old verb, common in LXX and papyri for setting a seal to prevent opening (Da 6:17), in place of signature (1Ki 21:18). Papyri examples show a wide legal use to give validity to documents, to guarantee genuineness of articles as sealing sacks and chests, etc. (Deissmann, *Bible Studies*, p. 238; Moulton and Milligan’s *Vocabulary*). **The earnest of the Spirit** [*ton arrab na tou pneumatos*]. A word of Semitic origin (possibly Phoenician) and spelled both [*arab n*] and [*arrab n*]. It is common in the papyri as earnest money in a purchase for a cow or for a wife (a dowry). In N.T. only here; 5:5; Eph 1:14. It is part payment on the total obligation and we use the very expression today, “earnest money.” It is God, says Paul, who has done all this for us and God is Paul’s pledge that he is sincere. He will come to Corinth in due time. This earnest of the Spirit in our hearts is the witness of the Spirit that we are God’s.

1:23 **But I call God for a witness upon my soul** [*Eg de martura ton theon epikaloumai epi t n em n psuch n*]. Solemn attestation, “calling heaven to witness is frequent in literature from Homer onwards” (Plummer). Thus God is described above (cf. 1Th 2:5,10; Ro 1:9; Ga 1:20; Php 1:8). **To spare you** [*pheidomenos hum n*]. Present middle participle (causal rather than final) of [*pheidomai*], old verb, to hold back, to spare. Ablative case [*hum n*].

1:24 **We have lordship over** [*kurieuomen*]. Old verb from [*kurios*], to be lord of or over. See Lu 22:25. **Helpers of your joy** [*sunergoi t s charas hum n*]. Co-workers (1Co 3:8) in your joy. A delicate correction to present misapprehension [*epanorth sis*].

Chapter 2

2:1 **That I would not come again to you with sorrow** [*to m palin en lup i pros humas elthein*]. Articular second aorist active infinitive with negative [*m*] in apposition with [*touto*] (this) preceding. What does Paul mean by “again” [*palin*]? Had he paid another visit besides that described in Ac 18 which was in sorrow [*en lup i*]? Or does he mean that having had one joyful visit (that in Ac 18) he does not wish the second one to be in sorrow? Either interpretation is possible as the Greek stands and scholars disagree. So in 12:14 “The third time I am ready to come” may refer to the proposed second visit (1:15f.) and the present plan (a third). And so as to 13:1. There is absolutely no way to tell clearly whether Paul had already made a second visit. If he had done so, it is a bit odd that he did not plainly say so in 1:15f. when he is apologizing for not having made the proposed visit (“a second benefit”).

2:2 **Who then?** [*kai tis?*]. For this use of [*kai*] see on Mr 10:26; Joh 9:36. The [*kai*] accepts the condition (first class [*ei—lup*]) and shows the paradox that follows. [*Lupe*] is old word from [*lup*] (sorrow) in causative sense, to make sorry. **Maketh glad** [*euphrain n*]. Present active participle of old word from [*eu*], well, and [*phr n*], mind, to make joyful, causative idea like [*lupe*].

2:3 **I wrote this very thing** [*egrapsa touto auto*]. Is this (and [*egrapsa*] in verses 4, 9, 12) the epistolary aorist referring to the present letter? In itself that is possible as the epistolary aorist does occur in the N.T. as in 8:18; 9:3 (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 854f.). If not epistolary aorist as seems improbable from the context and from 7:8-12, to what Epistle does he refer? To 1Co 5 or to a lost letter? It is possible, of course, that, when Paul decided not to come to Corinth, he sent a letter. The language that follows in verses 3, 4; 7:8-12 can hardly apply to I Corinthians. **Should have sorrow** [*lup n sch*]. Second aorist (ingressive) active subjunctive of [*ech*], should get sorrow, after [*hina m*] negative final particles. **From them of whom** [*aph' h n*]. Antecedent omitted, [*apo tout n aph' h n*] (from those from whom). **I ought** [*edei me*]. Imperfect for unrealized present obligation as often and like English. **Having confidence** [*pepoith s*]. Second perfect active participle of [*peith*] (1:9).

2:4 **Anguish** [*sunoch s*]. Ablative case after [*ek*] (out of). Old word from [*sunech*], to hold together. So contraction of heart (Cicero, *contractio animi*), a spiritual *angina pectoris*. In N.T. only here and Lu 21:25. **With many tears** [*dia poll n dakru n*]. He dictated that letter “through tears” (accompanied by tears). Paul was a man of heart. He writes to the Philippians with weeping [*klai n*] over the enemies of the Cross of Christ (Php 3:18). He twice mentions his tears in his speech at Miletus (Ac 20:19-31). **But that ye might know the love** [*alla t n agap n hina gn te*]. Proleptic position of [*agap n*] and ingressive second aorist active subjunctive [*gn te*], come to know.

2:5 **If any** [*ei tis*]. Scholars disagree whether Paul refers to 1Co 5:1, where he also employs [*tis, toioutos*], and [*Satan s*] as here, or to the ringleader of the opposition to him. Either view is possible.

In both cases Paul shows delicacy of feeling by not mentioning the name. **But in part** [*alla apo merous*]. “But to some extent to you all.” The whole Corinthian Church has been injured in part by this man’s wrongdoing. There is a parenthesis (that I press not too heavily, [*hina m epibar*]) that interrupts the flow of ideas. [*Epibare*], to put a burden on [*epi, baros*], is a late word, only in Paul in N.T. (here and 1Th 2:9; 2Th 3:8). He does not wish to give pain by too severe language.

2:6 **Punishment** [*epitimia*]. Late word for old Greek to [*epitimion*] (so papyri), from [*epitima*], to show honour to, to award, to adjudge penalty. Only here in N.T. **By the many** [*hupo t n pleion n*]. By the more, the majority. If Paul refers to the case in 1Co 5, they had taken his advice and expelled the offender.

2:7 **So that on the contrary** [*h ste tounantion*]. The natural result expressed by [*h ste*] and the infinitive. [*Tounantion*] is by crasis for [*to enantion*] and accusative of general reference. **Rather** [*mallon*]. Absent in some MSS. **Lest by any means** [*m p s*]. Negative purpose. **Swallowed up** [*katapoth i*]. First aorist passive subjunctive of [*katapin*], to drink down (1Co 15:54). **With his overmuch sorrow** [*t i perissoter i lup i*]. Instrumental case, “by the more abundant sorrow” (comparative of adjective [*perissos*]).

2:8 **To confirm** [*kur sai*]. First aorist active infinitive of old verb [*kuro*], to make valid, to ratify, from [*kuros*] (head, authority). In N.T. only here and Ga 3:15.

2:9 **That I might know the proof of you** [*hina gn t n dokim n hum n*]. Ingressive second aorist active subjunctive, come to know. [*Dokim*] is proof by testing. Late word from [*dokimos*] and is in Dioscorides, medical writer in reign of Hadrian. Earliest use in Paul and only in him in N.T. (2Co 2:9; 8:2; 9:13; 13:3; Ro 5:4; Php 2:22). **Obedient** [*hup kooi*]. Old word from [*hupakou*], to give ear. In N.T. only in Paul (2Co 2:9; Php 2:8; Ac 7:39).

2:10 **In the person of Christ** [*en pros p i Christou*]. More exactly, “in the presence of Christ,” before Christ, in the face of Christ. Cf. [*en pion tou theou*] (4:2) in the eye of God, [*en pion Kuriou*] (8:21).

2:11 **That no advantage may be gained over us** [*hina m pleonekt th men*]. First aorist passive subjunctive after [*hina m*] (negative purpose) of [*pleonekte*], old verb from [*pleonekt s*], a covetous man (1Co 5:10f.), to take advantage of, to gain, to overreach. In N.T. only in 1Th 4:6; 2Co 2:11; 7:2; 12:17f. “That we may not be overreached by Satan.” **His devices** [*autou ta no mata*]. [*No ma*] from [*noe*] to use the [*nous*] is old word, especially for evil plans and purposes as here.

2:12 **To Troas** [*eis t n Tr iada*]. Luke does not mention this stop at Troas on the way from Ephesus to Macedonia (Ac 20:1f.), though he does mention two other visits there (Ac 16:8; 20:6). **When a door was opened unto me** [*thuras moi ane igmen s*]. Genitive absolute with second perfect passive participle of [*anoignumi*]. Paul used this very metaphor in 1Co 16:9. He will use it again in Col 4:3. Here was an open door that he could not enter.

2:13 **I had no relief** [*ouk esch ka anesin*]. Perfect active indicative like that in 1:9, vivid dramatic recital, not to be treated as “for” the aorist (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 896, 898ff.). He still feels the shadow of that restlessness. [*Anesis*], from [*ani mi*], to let up, to hold back, is old word for relaxing or release (Ac 24:34). **For my spirit** [*t i pneumatī mou*]. Dative of interest. **Because I found not Titus** [*t i m heurein me Titon*]. Instrumental case of the articular infinitive with negative [*m*] and accusative of general reference [*me*], “by the not finding Titus as to me.” **Taking my leave of them** [*apotaxamenos autois*]. First aorist middle participle of [*apotass*], old verb, to set apart, in middle in late Greek to separate oneself, to bid adieu to as in Mr 6:46.

2:14 **But thanks be unto God** [*t i de the i charis*]. Sudden outburst of gratitude in contrast to the previous dejection in Troas. Surely a new paragraph should begin here. In point of fact Paul makes a long digression from here to 6:10 on the subject of the Glory of the Christian Ministry as Bachmann points out in his *Kommentar* (p. 124), only he runs it from 2:12-7:1 (*Aus der Tiefe in die Hohe*, Out of the Depths to the Heights). We can be grateful for this emotional outburst, Paul’s rebound of joy on meeting Titus in Macedonia, for it has given the world the finest exposition of all sides of the Christian ministry in existence, one that reveals the wealth of Paul’s nature and his mature grasp of the great things in service for Christ. See my *The Glory of the Ministry (An Exposition of II Cor. 2:12-6:10)*. **Always** [*pantote*]. The sense of present triumph has blotted out the gloom at Troas. **Leadeth in triumph** [*thriambeuonti*]. Late common *Koin* word from [*thriambos*] (Latin *triumphus*, a hymn sung in festal processions to Bacchus). Verbs in [-*eu*] (like [*math teu*], to make disciples) may be causative, but no example of [*thriambeu*] has been found with this meaning. It is always to lead in triumph, in papyri sometimes to make a show of. Picture here is of Paul as captive in God’s triumphal procession. **The savour** [*t n osm n*]. In a Roman triumph garlands of flowers scattered sweet odour and incense bearers dispensed perfumes. The knowledge of God is here the aroma which Paul had scattered like an incense bearer.

2:15 **A sweet savour of Christ** [*Christou eu dia*]. Old word from [*eu*], well, and [*oz*], to smell. In N.T. only here and Php 4:18; Eph 5:2. In spreading the fragrance of Christ the preacher himself becomes fragrant (Plummer). **In them that are perishing** [*en tois apollumenois*]. Even in these if the preacher does his duty.

2:16 **From death unto death** [*ek thanatou eis thanaton*]. From one evil condition to another. Some people are actually hardened by preaching. **And who is sufficient for these things?** [*kai pros tautatis hikanos?*]. Rhetorical question. In himself no one is. But some one has to preach Christ and Paul proceeds to show that he is sufficient. **For we are not as the many** [*ou gar esmen h s hoi polloi*]. A bold thing to say, but necessary and only from God (3:6).

2:17 **Corrupting** [*kap leuontes*]. Old word from [*kap los*], a huckster or peddler, common in all stages of Greek for huckstering or trading. It is curious how hucksters were suspected of corrupting by putting the best fruit on top of the basket. Note Paul’s solemn view of his relation to God as a preacher (from God [*ek theou*], in the sight of God [*katenanti theou*], in Christ [*en Christ i*]).

Chapter 3

3:1 **To commend ourselves?** [*heautous sunistanein?*]. Late (*Koin*) form of [*sunist mi*], to place one with another, to introduce, to commend. Paul is sensitive over praising himself, though his enemies compelled him to do it. **Epistles of commendation** [*sustatik n epistol n*]. Late verbal adjective from [*sunist mi*] and often in the papyri and in just this sense. In the genitive case here after [*chr izomen*]. Such letters were common as seen in the papyri (Deissmann, *Light from the Ancient East*, p. 226). N.T. examples of commending individuals by letters occur in Ac 15:25f.; 18:27 (Apollos), 1Co 16:10f. (Timothy); Ro 16:1 (Phoebe with the verb [*sunist mi*]); Col 4:10 (Mark); 2Co 8:22f. (Titus and his companion).

3:2 **Ye are our epistle** [*h epistol h m n humeis este*]. Bold turn. Paul was writing in their hearts. **Known and read** [*gin skomen kai anagin skomen*]. Play on the word. Literally true. Professing Christians are the Bible that men read and know.

3:3 **An epistle of Christ** [*epistol Christou*]. He turns the metaphor round and round. They are Christ's letter to men as well as Paul's. **Not with ink** [*ou melani*]. Instrumental case of [*melas*], black. Plato uses [*to melan*] for ink as here. See also 2Jo 1:12; 3Jo 1:13. **Of stone** [*lithinai*]. Composed of stone [*lithos*] and ending [*-inos*]. **Of flesh** [*sarkinai*]. "Fleshen" as in 1Co 3:1; Ro 7:14.

3:4 **Through Christ** [*dia tou Christou*]. It is not self-conceit on Paul's part, but through Christ.

3:5 **Of ourselves** [*aph' heaut n*]. Starting from ourselves (reflexive pronoun). **As from ourselves** [*h s ex haut n*]. He says it over again with preposition [*ex*] (out of). He has no originating power for such confidence. **Sufficiency** [*hikanot s*]. Old word, only here in N.T.

3:6 **Who also made us sufficient for such confidence** [*hos kai hikan sen h mas*]. Late causative verb from [*hikanos*] (verse 5) first aorist active indicative, "who (God) rendered us fit." In N.T. only here and Col 1:12. **As ministers of a new covenant** [*diakonous kain s diath k s*]. Predicate accusative with [*hikan sen*]. For [*diath k*] see on Mt 26:28 and for [*diakonos*] on Mt 20:26 and for [*kain s*] (fresh and effective) on Lu 5:38. Only God can make us that.

3:7 **Of death** [*tou thanatou*]. Subjective genitive, marked by death in its outcome (cf. 1Co 15:56; Ga 3:10). The letter kills. **Engraven on stones** [*entetup men lithois*]. Perfect passive participle of [*entupo*], late verb, to imprint a figure [*tupos*]. Used by Aristias (67) of the "inlaid" work on the table sent by Ptolemy Philadelphus to Jerusalem. [*Lithois*] in locative case. **Came with glory** [*egen th en dox i*]. In glory. As it did, condition of first class, assumed as true. See Ex 34:29, 35. **Look steadfastly** [*atenisai*]. Late verb from [*aten s*] (stretched, intent, [*tein*] and [*a*] intensive) as in Lu 4:20; Ac 3:4. **Was passing away** [*katargoumen n*]. Late verb, to render of no effect, and present passive participle here as in 1Co 2:6.

3:8 **How shall not rather?** [*p s ouchi mallon?*]. *Argumentum a minore ad majus* (from the less to the greater). **Of the spirit** [*tou pneumatos*]. Marked by the spirit. Picture of the Christian ministry now.

3:9 **Of condemnation** [*t s katakrise s*]. Genitive, that brings condemnation because unable to obey the law. **Is glory** [*doxa*]. No copula, but makes the figure bolder. Paul freely admits the glory for the old dispensation. **Of righteousness** [*t s dikaiosun s*]. Marked by and leading to righteousness. See 11:15. **Much more** [*poll i mallon*]. Instrumental case, by much more. **Exceed** [*perisseuei*]. Overflow.

3:10 **In this respect** [*en tout i t i merei*]. The glory on the face of Moses was temporary, though real, and passed away (verse 7), a type of the dimming of the glory of the old dispensation by the brightness of the new. The moon makes a dim light after the sun rises, “is not glorified” [*ou dedoxastai*], perfect passive indicative of [*doxaz*]. **By reason of the glory that surpasseth** [*heineken t s huperballous s dox s*]. The surpassing [*huper-ball*], throwing beyond) glory. Christ as the Sun of Righteousness has thrown Moses in the shade. Cf. the claims of superiority by Christ in Mt 5-7.

3:11 **Passeth away** [*katargoumenon*]. In process of disappearing before the gospel of Christ. **Remaineth** [*menon*]. The new ministry is permanent. This claim may be recommended to those who clamour for a new religion. Christianity is still alive and is not dying. Note also [*en dox i*], in glory, in contrast with [*dia dox s*], with glory. **Boldness** [*parr si i*]. Instrumental case after [*chr metha*]. Old word, [*panr sis=parr sis*], telling it all, absolute unreservedness. Surely Paul has kept nothing back here, no mental reservations, in this triumphant claim of superiority.

3:13 **Put a veil upon his face** [*etithe kalumma epi to pros pon autou*]. Imperfect active of [*tith mi*], used to put (Ex 34:33). **That the children of Israel should not look steadfastly** [*pros to m atenisai tous huious*]. Purpose expressed by [*pros*] and the articular infinitive with negative [*m*] and the accusative of general reference. The Authorized Version had a wrong translation here as if to hide the glory on his face.

3:14 **But their minds were hardened** [*alla ep r th ta no mata aut n*]. Their thoughts [*no mata*] literally. [*P ro*] (first aorist passive indicative here) is late verb from [*p ros*], hard skin, to cover with thick skin (callus), to petrify. See on Mr 6:52; 8:17. **Of the old covenant** [*t s palaias diath k s*]. The Old Testament. [*Palaios*] (ancient) in contrast to [*kainos*] (fresh, verse 6). See Mt 13:52. **The same veil** [*to auto kalumma*]. Not that identical veil, but one that has the same effect, that blinds their eyes to the light in Christ. This is the tragedy of modern Judaism. **Unlifted** [*m anakaluptomenon*]. Present passive participle of [*anakalupt*], old verb, to draw back the veil, to unveil. **Is done away** [*katargeitai*]. Same verb as in verses 7, 11.

3:15 **Whensoever Moses is read** [*h nika an anagin sk tai M us s*]. Indefinite temporal clause with [*h nika*] an and the present passive subjunctive. **A veil lieth upon their heart** [*epi t n kardian aut n*]

keitai]. Vivid and distressing picture, a fact that caused Paul agony of heart (Ro 9:1-5). With wilful blindness the rabbis set aside the word of God by their tradition in the time of Jesus (Mr 7:8f.).

3:16 **It shall turn** [*epistrepsei*]. The heart of Israel. **The veil is taken away** [*periaireitai to kalumma*]. Present passive indicative of [*periaire*], old verb, to take from around, as of anchors (Ac 27:40), to cut loose (Ac 28:13), for hope to be taken away (Ac 27:20). Here Paul has in mind Ex 34:34 where we find of Moses that [*peri ireito to kalumma*] (the veil was taken from around his face) whenever he went before the Lord. After the ceremony the veil is taken from around [*peri-*] the face of the bride.

3:17 **Now the Lord is the Spirit** [*ho de Kurios to pneuma estin*]. Some, like E. F. Scott (*The Spirit in the N.T.*), take [*Kurios*] here to be Christ and interpret Paul as denying the personality of the Holy Spirit, identifying Christ and the Holy Spirit. But is not Bernard right here in taking [*Kurios*] (Lord) in the same sense here as in Ex 34:34 [*enanti Kuriou*], before the Lord), the very passage that Paul is quoting? Certainly, the Holy Spirit is interchangeably called in the N.T. the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ (Ro 8:9f.). Christ dwells in us by the Holy Spirit, but the language here in 2Co 3:17 should not be pressed unduly (Plummer. See also P. Gardner, *The Religious Experience of St. Paul*, p. 176f.). Note “the Spirit of the Lord” here. **Liberty** [*eleutheria*]. Freedom of access to God without fear in opposition to the fear in Ex 34:30. We need no veil and we have free access to God.

3:18 **We all** [*h meis pantes*]. All of us Christians, not merely ministers. **With unveiled face** [*anakekalummen i pros p i*]. Instrumental case of manner. Unlike and like Moses. **Reflecting as in a mirror** [*katoptrizomenoi*]. Present middle participle of [*katoptriz*], late verb from [*katoptron*], mirror [*kata, optron*], a thing to see with). In Philo (*Legis Alleg.* iii. 33) the word means beholding as in a mirror and that idea suits also the figure in 1Co 13:12. There is an inscription of third century B.C. with [*egkatoptrisassthai eis to hud r*], to look at one’s reflection in the water. Plutarch uses the active for mirroring or reflecting and Chrysostom takes it so here. Either makes good sense. The point that Paul is making is that we shall not lose the glory as Moses did. But that is true if we keep on beholding or keep on reflecting (present tense). Only here in N.T. **Are transformed** [*metamorphoumetha*]. Present passive (are being transformed) of [*metamorpho*], late verb and in papyri. See on Mt 17:2; Mr 9:2 where it is translated “transfigured.” It is the word used for heathen mythological metamorphoses. **Into the same image** [*t n aut n eikona*]. Accusative retained with passive verb [*metamorphoumetha*]. Into the likeness of God in Christ (1Co 15:48-53; Ro 8:17,29; Col 3:4; 1Jo 3:2). **As from the Lord the Spirit** [*kathaper apo Kuriou pneumatos*]. More likely, “as from the Spirit of the Lord.”

Chapter 4

4:1 **We faint not** [*ouk egkakoumen*]. Present active indicative of [*egkake*], late verb [*en, kakos*] to behave badly in, to give in to evil, to lose courage. In Symmachus (LXX), Polybius, and papyri. It is the faint-hearted coward. Paul speaks of himself (literary plural). Can he not speak for all of us?

4:2 **But we have renounced** [*alla apeipametha*]. Indirect middle second aorist (timeless aorist) indicative of [*apeipon*] (defective verb) with [*a*] of first aorist ending, to speak forth, to speak off or away from. Common verb in the active, but rare in middle and only here in N.T. **The hidden things of shame** [*ta krupta t s aischun s*]. They do attack the minister. His only safety is in instant and courageous defiance to all the powers of darkness. It is a terrible thing to see a preacher caught in the toils of the tempter. **In craftiness** [*en panourgi i*]. Old word from [*panourgios*] [*pan, ergon*], a doer of any deed (good or bad), clever, cunning, deceitful. See on Lu 20:23. **Handling deceitfully** [*dolountes*]. Present active participle of [*dolo*], from [*dolos*], deceit (from [*del*], to catch with bait), old and common verb, in papyri and inscriptions, to ensnare, to corrupt with error. Only here in N.T. Used of adulterating gold or wine. **To every conscience of men** [*pros p san suneid sin anthr p n*]. Not to whim, foible, prejudice. See 3:1-6 for “commending” [*sunistanontes*].

4:3 **It is veiled in them that are perishing** [*en tois apollumenois estin kekalummenon*]. Periphrastic perfect passive of [*kalupt*], to veil in both condition (first class) and conclusion. See on 2:15f. for “the perishing.”

4:4 **The god of this world** [*ho theos tou ai nos toutou*]. “Age,” more exactly, as in 1Co 1:20. Satan is “the god of this age,” a phrase nowhere else in the N.T., but Jesus uses the same idea in Joh 12:31; 14:30 and Paul in Eph 2:2; 6:12 and John in 1Jo 5:19. Satan claimed the rule over the world in the temptations with Jesus. **Blinded** [*etuphl sen*]. First aorist active of [*tuphlo*], old verb to blind [*tuphlos*], blind). They refused to believe [*apist n*] and so Satan got the power to blind their thoughts. That happens with wilful disbelievers. **The light** [*ton ph tismon*]. The illumination, the enlightening. Late word from [*photiz*], to give light, in Plutarch and LXX. In N.T. only in 2Co 4:4, 6. Accusative case of general reference here with the articular infinitive [*eis to m augasai*] that should not dawn). That is, if [*augasai*] is intransitive as is likely, though it is transitive in the old poets (from [*aug*], radiance. Cf. German *Auge* = eye). If it is transitive, the idea would be “that they should not see clearly the illumination, etc.”

4:5 **For we preach not ourselves** [*ou gar heautous k russomen*]. Surely as poor and disgusting a topic as a preacher can find. **But Christ Jesus as Lord** [*alla Christon I soun Kurion*]. [*Kurion*] is predicate accusative in apposition. **As your servants for Jesus’ sake** [*doulous hum n dia I soun*]. Your bond-slave for the sake of Jesus. This is the sufficient reason for any preacher’s sacrifice, “for Jesus’ sake.”

4:6 **God who said** [*ho theos ho eip n*]. Paraphrase of Ge 1:3. **Who shined** [*hos elampsen*]. Like a lamp in the heart (cf. Mt 5:15). Miners carry a lamp on the forehead, Christians carry one in their hearts lit by the Spirit of God. **To give the light** [*pros ph tismon*]. For the illumination. **In the face of Jesus Christ** [*en pros p i I sou Christou*]. The Christian who looks on the face of Jesus Christ as Moses looked upon the glory of God will be able to give the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God. See 2:10 for [*pros pon*].

4:7 **This treasure** [*ton th sauron touton*]. On [*th sauron*] see Mt 6:19-21. It is the power of giving the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God (verse 6). “The power is limitless, but it is stored in very unlikely receptacles” (Plummer). This warning Paul gives in contrast [*de*] with the exultation of verse 6 (Bernard). **In earthen vessels** [*en ostrakinois skeuesin*]. This adjective is common in the LXX with [*skeuos, aggos*] and [*aggeion*]. It occurs again in 2Ti 2:20 with [*skeu*]. It is found also in the papyri with [*skeuos*] as here. It is from [*ostrakon*], baked clay (same root as [*osteon*], bone), so many fragments of which are found in Egypt with writing on them. We are but earthen jars used of God for his purposes (Ro 9:20ff.) and so fragile. **The exceeding greatness** [*h huperbol*]. See on 1Co 12:31 for this word, “the preeminence of the power.” This is God’s purpose [*hina— i*]. God, not man, is the **dynamo** [*dunamis*]. It comes from God [*tou theou*], ablative) and does not originate with us [*m ex h m n*].

4:8 **Pressed** [*thlibomenoi*]. From [*thlib*], to press as grapes, to contract, to squeeze. Series of present passive participles here through verse 9 that vividly picture Paul’s ministerial career. **Yet not straitened** [*all’ ou stenoch roumenoi*]. Each time the exception is stated by [*all’ ou*]. From [*stenoch re*] [*stenoch ros*], from [*stenos*], narrow, [*ch ros*], space), to be in a narrow place, to keep in a tight place. Late verb, in LXX and papyri. In N.T. only here and 2Co 6:12. **Yet not unto despair** [*all’ ouk exaporoumenoi*]. Late perfective compound with [*ex-*] of [*exapore*]. A very effective play on words here, lost, but not lost out.

4:9 **Forsaken** [*egkatalaipomenoi*]. Double compound of old verb [*eg-kata-leip*], to leave behind, to leave in the lurch. **Smitten down** [*kataballomenoi*]. As if overtaken. **Destroyed** [*apollumenoi*]. Perishing as in verse 3. Was Paul referring to Lystra when the Jews stoned him and thought him dead?

4:10 **Bearing about** [*peripherontes*]. Ignatius was called [*Theophoros*], God-bearer. See 1Co 15:31 where Paul says “I die daily” and Php 3:10; Col 1:24. **The dying of Jesus** [*t n nekr sin tou I sou*]. Late word from [*nekro*], to put to death. In Galen. In N.T. only here and Ro 4:19.

4:11 **Are always delivered unto death** [*eis thanaton paradidometha*]. This explains verse 10.

4:12 **Death worketh in us** [*ho thanatos en h min energeitai*]. Middle voice present tense of the old verb to operate, be at work. Physical death works in him while spiritual life (paradox) works in them.

4:13 **According to that which is written** [*kata to gegrammenon*]. This formula in legal documents in the papyri (*Bible Studies*, p. 250). Paul makes adaptation of the words in Ps 95:1. **We also believe** [*kai h meis pisteuomen*]. Like the Psalmist. And therefore can speak with effect. Otherwise useless. **Shall present us with you** [*kai parast sei sun h min*]. This shows that Paul was not certain that he would be alive when Jesus comes as has been wrongly inferred from 1Co 7:29; 10:11; 15:51.

4:15 **Being multiplied through the many** [*pleonasasa dia t n pleion n*]. Late word [*pleonaz*] from [*pleon*], more, “making more through the more,” with play on [*pleon*]. One can think of Bunyan’s *Grace Abounding*.

4:16 **Wherefore we faint not** [*dio ouk egkakoumen*]. Repeats from verse 1. **Our outward man** [*ho ex h m n anthr pos*], **our inward man** [*ho es h m n*]. In Ro 7:22; Col 3:9; Eph 4:22f., we have the inward man and the outward for the higher and the lower natures (the spirit and the flesh). “Here the decay [*diaphtheiretai*] of the bodily organism is set over against the growth in grace [*anakainoutai*, is refreshed] of the man himself” (Bernard). Plato (*Republ.* ix, p. 589) has [*ho entos anthr pos*]. Cf. “the hidden man of the heart” (1Pe 3:4). **Day by day** [*h mer i kai h mer i*]. This precise idiom is not in LXX nor rest of N.T. It may be colloquial use of locative in repetition.

4:17 **Our light affliction which is for the moment** [*to parautika elaphron t s thlipese s h m n*]. Literally, “the for the moment (old adverb [*parautika*], here only in N.T.) lightness (old word, in N.T. only here and Mt 11:30).” **More and more exceedingly** [*kath’ huperbol n eis huperbol n*]. Like piling Pelion on Ossa, “according to excess unto excess.” See on 1Co 12:31. **Eternal weight of glory** [*ai nion baros dox s*]. Careful balancing of words in contrast (affliction vs. glory, lightness vs. weight, for the moment vs. eternal).

4:18 **While we look not** [*m skopount n h m n*]. Genitive absolute with participle of [*skope*] from [*skopos*], goal. **Temporal** [*proskaira*]. Rather temporary, for a season [*pros kairon*]. Late word. See on Mt 13:21. See 1Co 13:12; Heb 11:1.

Chapter 5

5:1 **If—be dissolved** [*ean—kataluth i*]. Third class condition, [*ean*] and first aorist passive subjunctive. The very word used [*katalu*] for striking down a tent. **The earthly house of our tabernacle** [*h epigeios h m n oikia tou sk nous*]. Rather, “If our earthly (see on 1Co 15:40 for [*epigeios*] house of the tent [*sk nos*], another form of [*sk n*], tent, from root [*ska*], to cover).”; Appositive genitive, the house [*oikia*] is the tent. **We have** [*echomen*]. Present indicative. We possess the title to it now by faith. “Faith is the title-deed [*hupostasis*] to things hoped for” (Heb 11:7). **A building from God** [*oikodom n ek theou*]. This [*oikodom*] (found in Aristotle, Plutarch, LXX, etc., and papyri, though condemned by Atticists) is more substantial than the [*sk nos*]. **Not made with hands** [*acheiropoi ton*]. Found first in Mr 14:58 in charge against Jesus before the Sanhedrin (both the common verbal [*cheiropoi ton*] and the newly made vernacular [*acheiropoi ton*], same verbal with [*a*] privative). Elsewhere only here and Col 2:11. Spiritual, eternal home.

5:2 **To be clothed upon with our habitation which is from heaven** [*to oik t rion h m n to ex ouranou endusasthai*]. First aorist middle infinitive of late verb [*ependu*], double compound [*ep, en*] to put upon oneself. Cf. [*ependut s*] for a fisherman’s linen blouse or upper garment (Joh 21:7). [*Oik t rion*] is old word used here of the spiritual body as the abode of the spirit. It is a mixed metaphor (putting on as garment the dwelling-place).

5:3 **Being clothed** [*endusameno*]. First aorist middle participle, having put on the garment. **Naked** [*gumnoi*]. That is, disembodied spirits, “like the souls in Sheol, without form, and void of all power of activity” (Plummer).

5:4 **Not for that we would be unclothed** [*eph’ h i ou thelomen ekdusasthai*]. Rather, “For that [*eph’ h i*] we do not wish to put off the clothing, but to put it on” [*all’ endusasthai*]. The transposition of the negative [*ou*] weakens the sense. Paul does not wish to be a mere disembodied spirit without his spiritual garment. **That what is mortal may be swallowed up of life** [*hina katapoth i to thn ton hupo t s z s*]. “Only what is mortal perishes; the personality, consisting of soul and body, survives,” (Plummer). See on 1:22 for “the earnest of the spirit.”

5:6 **At home in the body** [*end mountes en t i s mati*]. Rare verb [*end me*] from [*end mos*] (one among his own people as opposed to [*ekd mos*], one away from home). Both [*ekd me*] (more common in the old Greek) and [*end me*] occur in the papyri with the contrast made by Paul here.

5:7 **By sight** [*dia eidous*]. Rather, by appearance.

5:8 **We are of good courage** [*tharroumen*]. Good word for cheer and same root as [*tharse*] (Mt 9:2,22). Cheer up. **Are willing rather** [*eudokoumen*]. Rather, “We are well-pleased, we prefer” if left to ourselves. Cf. Php 1:21f. Same [*eudoke*] used in Lu 3:22. **To be at home with the Lord**

[*end m sai pros ton Kurion*]. First aorist (ingressive) active infinitive, to attain that goal is bliss for Paul.

5:9 **We make it our aim** [*philotimoumetha*]. Old and common verb, present middle, from [*philotimos*] [*philos, tim*], fond of honour), to act from love of honour, to be ambitious in the good sense (1Th 4:11; 2Co 5:9; Ro 15:20). The Latin *ambitio* has a bad sense from *ambire*, to go both ways to gain one's point. **To be well-pleasing to him** [*euarestoi aut i einai*]. Late adjective that shows Paul's loyalty to Christ, his Captain. Found in several inscriptions in the *Koin* period (Deissmann, *Bible Studies*, p. 214; Moulton and Milligan's *Vocabulary*).

5:10 **Before the judgment-seat of Christ** [*emprothen tou b matos tou Christou*]. Old word [*b ma*], a step (from [*bain*], a platform, the seat of the judge (Mt 27:19). Christ is Saviour, Lord, and Judge of us all [*tous pantas*], the all). **That each may receive** [*hina komis tai hekastos*]. Receive as his due, [*komiz*] means, old verb. See on Mt 25:27. **Bad** [*phaulon*]. Old word, akin to German *faul*, worthless, of no account, base, wicked.

5:11 **The fear of the Lord** [*ton phobon tou Kuriou*]. Many today regard this a played-out motive, but not so Paul. He has in mind verse 10 with the picture of the judgment seat of Christ. **We persuade** [*peithomen*]. Conative present active, we try to persuade. It is always hard work. **Unto God** [*the i*]. Dative case. God understands whether men do or not. **That we are made manifest** [*pephaner sthai*]. Perfect passive infinitive of [*phanero*] in indirect discourse after [*elpiz*]. Stand manifested, state of completion.

5:12 **As giving you occasion of glorying** [*aphorm n didontes humin kauch matos*]. An old Greek word [*apo, horm*], onset, rush), a base of operations, material with which to glory, as we say "a tip" only much more. **That ye may have wherewith to answer** [*hina ech te pros*]. Literally, "That ye may have something against (for facing those, etc.)." Paul wishes his champions in Corinth to know the facts. **In appearance, and not in heart** [*en pros p i kai m en kardi i*]. He means the Judaizers who were braggarts about their orthodox Judaism.

5:13 **Whether we are beside ourselves** [*eite exest men*]. Second aorist active indicative of [*exist mi*], old verb, here to stand out of oneself (intransitive) from [*ekstasis*], ecstasy, comes as in Mr 5:42. It is literary plural, for Paul is referring only to himself. See on 1:6 for [*eite—eite*]. It is a condition of the first class and Paul assumes as true the charge that he was crazy (if I was crazy) for the sake of argument. Festus made it later (Ac 26:24). He spoke with tongues (1Co 14:18) and had visions (2Co 12:1-6) which probably the Judaizers used against him. A like charge was made against Jesus (Mr 3:21). People often accuse those whom they dislike with being a bit off.

5:14 **The love of Christ** [*h agap tou Christou*]. Subjective genitive, Christ's love for Paul as shown by verse 15. **Constraineth us** [*sunechei h mas*]. Old and common verb, to hold together, to press the ears together (Ac 7:57), to press on every side (Lu 8:45), to hold fast (Lu 22:63), to hold

oneself to (Ac 18:5), to be pressed (passive, Lu 12:50; Php 1:23). So here Paul's conception of Christ's love for him holds him together to his task whatever men think or say. **Judging this** [*krinantas touto*]. Having reached this conclusion, ever since his conversion (Ga 1:17f.). **One died for all** [*heis huper pant n apethanen*]. This is the central tenet in Paul's theology and Christology. [*Huper*] (over) here is used in the sense of substitution as in Joh 11:50; Ga 3:13, death in behalf so that the rest will not have to die. This use of [*huper*] is common in the papyri (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 631). In fact, [*huper*] in this sense is more usual in Greek than [*anti, pro*] or any other preposition. **Therefore all died** [*ara hoi pantes apethanon*]. Logical conclusion [*ara*], corresponding), the one died for the all and so the all died when he did, all the spiritual death possible for those for whom Christ died. This is Paul's gospel, clear-cut, our hope today.

5:15 **Should no longer live unto themselves** [*hina m keti heautois z sin*]. The high doctrine of Christ's atoning death carries a correspondingly high obligation on the part of those who live because of him. Selfishness is ruled out by our duty to live "unto him who for their sakes died and rose again."

5:16 **Henceforth** [*apo tou nun*]. From the time that we gained this view of Christ's death for us. **After the flesh** [*kata sarka*]. According to the flesh, the fleshy way of looking at men. He, of course, knows men "in the flesh [*en t i sarki*], but Paul is not speaking of that. Worldly standards and distinctions of race, class, cut no figure now with Paul (Ga 3:28) as he looks at men from the standpoint of the Cross of Christ. **Even though we have known Christ after the flesh** [*ei kai egn kamen kata sarka Christon*]. Concessive clause [*ei kai*], if even or also) with perfect active indicative. Paul admits that he had once looked at Christ [*kata sarka*], but now no longer does it. Obviously he uses [*kata sarka*] in precisely the same sense that he did in verse 15 about men. He had before his conversion known Christ [*kata sarka*], according to the standards of the men of his time, the Sanhedrin and other Jewish leaders. He had led the persecution against Jesus till Jesus challenged and stopped him (Ac 9:4). That event turned Paul clean round and he no longer knows Christ in the old way [*kata sarka*]. Paul may or may not have seen Jesus in the flesh before his death, but he says absolutely nothing on that point here.

5:17 **A new creature** [*kain ktisis*]. A fresh start is made [*kain*]. [*Ktisis*] is the old word for the act of creating (Ro 1:20), but in N.T. by metonymy it usually bears the notion of [*ktisma*], the thing created or creature as here. **The old things are passed away** [*ta archaia par lthen*]. Did pass by, he means. Second aorist active of [*parerchomai*], to go by. The ancient [*archaia*] way of looking at Christ among other things. And yet today there are scholars who are trying to revive the old prejudiced view of Jesus Christ as a mere man, a prophet, to give us "a reduced Christ." That was once Paul's view, but it passed by forever for him. It is a false view and leaves us no gospel and no Saviour. **Behold, they are become new** [*idou, gegone kaina*]. Perfect active indicative of [*ginomai*], have become new (fresh, [*kaina*] to stay so.

5:18 **Who reconciled us to himself through Christ** [*tu katallaxantos h mas heaut i dia Christou*]. Here Paul uses one of his great doctrinal words, [*katallass*], old word for exchanging coins. [*Diallass*], to change one's mind, to reconcile, occurs in N.T. only in Mt 5:24 though in papyri (Deissmann, *Light from the Ancient East*, p. 187), and common in Attic. [*Katallass*] is old verb, but more frequent in later writers. We find [*sunallass*] in Ac 7:26 and [*apokatallass*] in Col 1:20f.; Eph 2:16 and the substantive [*katallag*] in Ro 5:11; 11:15 as well as here. It is hard to discuss this great theme without apparent contradiction. God's love (Joh 3:16) provided the means and basis for man's reconciliation to God against whom he had sinned. It is all God's plan because of his love, but God's own sense of justice had to be satisfied (Ro 3:26) and so God gave his Son as a propitiation for our sins (Ro 3:25; Col 1:20; 1Jo 2:2; 4:10). The point made by Paul here is that God needs no reconciliation, but is engaged in the great business of reconciling us to himself. This has to be done on God's terms and is made possible through [*dia*] Christ. **And gave unto us the ministry of reconciliation** [*kai dontos h min t n diakonian t s katallag s*]. It is a ministry marked by reconciliation, that consists in reconciliation. God has made possible through Christ our reconciliation to him, but in each case it has to be made effective by the attitude of each individual. The task of winning the unreconciled to God is committed to us. It is a high and holy one, but supremely difficult, because the offending party (the guilty) is the hardest to win over. We must be loyal to God and yet win sinful men to him.

5:19 **To wit, that** [*h s hoti*]. Latin puts it *quoniam quidem*. It is an unclassical idiom, but occurs in the papyri and inscriptions (Moulton, *Prol.*, p. 212; Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 1033). It is in Es 4:14. See also 2Co 11:21; 2Th 2:2. It probably means "how that." **Not reckoning** [*m logizomenos*]. What Jesus did (his death for us) stands to our credit (Ro 8:32) if we make our peace with God. This is our task, "the word of reconciliation," that we may receive "the righteousness of God" and be adopted into the family of God.

5:20 **We are ambassadors therefore on behalf of Christ** [*huper Christou oun presbeuomen*]. Old word from [*presbus*], an old man, first to be an old man, then to be an ambassador (here and Eph 6:20 with [*en halus i*] in a chain added), common in both senses in the Greek. "The proper term in the Greek East for the Emperor's Legate" (Deissmann, *Light from the Ancient East*, p. 374), in inscriptions and papyri. So Paul has a natural pride in using this dignified term for himself and all ministers. The ambassador has to be *persona grata* with both countries (the one that he represents and the one to which he goes). Paul was Christ's *Legate* to act in his behalf and in his stead. **As though God were intreating by us** [*h s tou theou parakalountos di' h m n*]. Genitive absolute with [*h s*] used with the participle as often to give the reason (apparent or real). Here God speaks through Christ's Legate. **Be ye reconciled to God** [*katallag te t i the i*]. Second aorist passive imperative of [*katallass*] and used with the dative case. "Get reconciled to God," and do it now. This is the ambassador's message as he bears it to men from God.

5:21 **Him who knew no sin** [*ton m gnonta hamartian*]. Definite claim by Paul that Jesus did not commit sin, had no personal acquaintance [*m gnonta*], second aorist active participle of [*gin sk*] with it. Jesus made this claim for himself (Joh 8:46). This statement occurs also in 1Pe 2:22; Heb 4:15; 7:26; 1Jo 3:5. Christ was and is “a moral miracle” (Bernard) and so more than mere man. **He made to be sin** [*hamartian epoi sen*]. The words “to be” are not in the Greek. “Sin” here is the substantive, not the verb. God “treated as sin” the one “who knew no sin.” But he knew the contradiction of sinners (Heb 12:3). We may not dare to probe too far into the mystery of Christ’s suffering on the Cross, but this fact throws some light on the tragic cry of Jesus just before he died: “My God, My God, why didst thou forsake me?” (Mt 27:46). **That we might become** [*hina h meis gen metha*]. Note “become.” This is God’s purpose [*hina*] in what he did and in what Christ did. Thus alone can we obtain God’s righteousness (Ro 1:17).

Chapter 6

6:1 **Working together with him** [*sunergountes*]. We are co-workers, partners with God (1Co 3:9), in this work of grace. **In vain** [*eis kenon*]. Into emptiness. The plan of God, the work of Christ on the Cross, the pleas of the ambassador may all be nullified by the recipient of the message.

6:2 **Behold, now is the acceptable time** [*idou nun kairos euprosdektos*]. Here is another “Pauline parenthesis” (Plummer) as in 5:7 by the quotation from Isa 49:8. The LXX has [*dektos*] [*dektoi*] verbal of [*dechomai*], but Paul employs the double compound [*eu, pros, dektos*], well-received. It occurs in Aristophanes, Plutarch, inscription, etc.

6:3 **Giving no occasion of stumbling in any thing** [*m demian en m deni didontes proskop n*]. [*Proskop*], late word (Polybius, LXX), from [*proskopt*], to strike against, to stumble. Only here in N.T. Note double negative in the Greek. **That the ministry be not blamed** [*hina m m m th i h diakonia*]. Negative purpose [*hina m*]. First aorist passive subjunctive of old verb [*m maomai*] from [*m mos*], blot, blemish. One can read with profit J. A. Hutton’s Warrack Lectures, *That the Ministry Be Not Blamed*.

6:4 **But in everything commending ourselves** [*all’ en panti sunistanontes heautous*]. Paul gives a marvellous summary of his argument about the dignity and glory of ministers of Christ as **ministers of God** [*h s theou diakonoi*] under three aspects, the first with **in** [*en*] verses 3-7a, the second with **by** [*dia*] verses 7b, 8, the third with **as** [*h s*] verses 9-10. The negative view with [*en*] we have in verse 3, then the positive in verses 4-7a. Each word carries a story that can be filled in from Paul’s own life as a preacher with an echo in that of us all. **In distresses** [*en stenoch riais*]. In tight places (12:10). Late word from [*stenoch re*] (see on 4:8).

6:5 **In stripes** [*en pl gais*]. In blows, wounds (Lu 10:30; 12:48; Ac 16:23,33). Our plague. **In tumults** [*en akatastasiais*]. See on 1Co 14:33). Instabilities, often from politics. **In watchings** [*en agrupniais*]. In sleeplessnesses, instances of insomnia. Old word, in N.T. only here and 11:27. Paul knew all about this.

6:6 **In love unfeigned** [*en agap i anupokrit i*]. Late and rare word [*a*] privative and [*hupokritos*], from [*hupokrinomai*] This is the only love that is worth while (Ro 12:9).

6:7 **On the right hand and on the left** [*t n dexi n kai arister n*]. Offensive weapons [*hopl n*] on the right, defensive on the left. See 1Th 5:8; Eph 6:11 for Paul’s description of the panoply of God and Ro 6:13 for the phrase “weapons of righteousness,” the only kind that will stand the strain. See also Book of Wisdom 5:18ff.

6:8 **By glory and dishonour** [*dia dox s kai atimias*]. Here [*dia*] is no longer instrument, but state or condition. [*Doxa*] here is glory. See Ro 9:21; 2Ti 2:20 for contrast between honour and dishonour

[*tim*, *atimia*]. **By evil report and good report** [*dia dusph mias kai euph mias*]. Play on the words with prefixes [*dus-*] and [*eu-*] and [*ph m*]. [*Dusph mia*] is a late word, only here in N.T. [*Euph mia*], old and common word, only here in N.T. **As deceivers and yet true** [*h s planoi kai al theis*]. Paul takes up [*h s*] now in place of [*dia*] which succeeded [*en*]. Note use of [*kai*] in sense of “and yet” (adversative). [*Planos*] is late word (Diodorus, Josephus) for wandering, vagabond, impostor (cf. [*plana*]), to lead astray, used of Christ, Joh 7:12). In N.T. only here; Mt 27:63 (of Christ by Pharisees); 2Jo 1:7. “In the Clementines St. Paul is expressly described by his adversaries as [*planos*] and as disseminating deceit [*plan n*]” (Bernard). Such slander from one’s enemies is praise.

6:9 **As unknown and yet well known** [*h s agnooumenoi kai epiginoskomenoi*]. “As ignored (as nonentities, obscure, without proper credentials 3:2) and yet fully recognized (by all who really matter as in 11:6).” **And behold, we live** [*kai idou z men*]. Cf. the hazards of his life (1:8; 4:10; 11:23). His whole career is full of paradox).

6:10 **Always rejoicing** [*aei chairontes*]. Even in sorrow (11:9; 1Th 5:16; Ro 5:3-5; 9:2; Php 2:18,27; 3:1; 4:4,15). **Yet making many rich** [*pollous de ploutizontes*]. Old word from [*ploutos*] (wealth), to enrich. Spiritual riches Paul has in mind as in 1Co 1:5 (cf. Mt 5:37). **As having nothing and yet possessing all things** [*h s m den echontes kai panta katechontes*]. Contrast between [*m den*] (nothing) and [*panta*] (all things, cf. 1Co 3:22) and [*ech*] (to have) and [*katech*] (to hold down, to hold fast). Play on words (simple and compound) as in 3:2; 4:8. Climax of Paul’s panegyric on the Christian ministry. He now resumes the thread of the story broken off in 2:14.

6:11 **Our mouth is open unto you** [*to stoma h m n ane igen pros humas*]. Second perfect active indicative of [*anoig*] and intransitive, stand open. He has kept back nothing in his portrayal of the glory of the ministry as the picture of the open mouth shows. **Our heart is enlarged** [*h kardia h m n peplatuntai*]. Perfect passive indicative of old verb [*platun*], to broaden, from [*platus*], broad. In N T. only here and Mt 23:5 (cf. phylacteries). Hence his freedom of speech for “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Mt 12:34).

6:12 **Ye are not straitened in us** [*ou stenoch reisthe en h min*]. The same figure as in verse 11. See on 4:8 for [*stenoch re*]. There is no restraint in me (my heart). My adversaries may have caused some of you to tighten up your affections [*splagchna*] for affection as in Jas 5:11; 1Pe 3:8).

6:13 **Now for a recompense in like kind** [*t n de aut n antimisthian*]. No example of this expressive word outside of this passage and Ro 1:27 and later Christian writers. Paul may have found it in use in the *Koin* vernacular or he may have coined it from [*antimisthos*], remunerating (paying back). There is no verb here to explain the accusative which may be the accusative of general reference or the object of a verb not expressed. **Be ye also enlarged** [*platunth te kai humeis*]. As I have been (verse 11). First aorist passive imperative of [*platun*].

6:14 **Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers** [*m ginesthe heterozugountes apistois*]. No other example of this verb has yet been found, though the adjective from which it is apparently formed, [*heterozugos*] (yoked with a different yoke) occurs in Le 19:19 of the union of beasts of different kinds. In De 22:10 we read: “Thou shalt not plough with an ox and an ass together.” Literally, “Stop becoming [*m ginesthe*] present imperative, not [*m gen sthe*] aorist subj.) unequally yoked with unconverted heathen (unbelievers).” Some were already guilty. Marriage is certainly included, but other unions may be in mind. Cf. Eph 5:7. Paul gives as the reason [*gar*] for this prohibition five words in questions to distinguish the contrasts. **Fellowship** [*metoch*]. Sharing with and followed by associative instrumental case of [*dikaiousun i*] (righteousness) and iniquity [*anomi i*]. A pertinent challenge today when church members wink at violations of laws of the land and laws of God. **Communion** [*koin nia*]. Partnership to light [*ph ti*] dative case) with [*pros*], facing darkness.

6:15 **Concord** [*sumph n sis*]. Symphony. Late word from [*sumph ne*], only here and ecclesiastical writers, though [*sumph n ma*] in the papyri. **Belial** [*Belial*]. Transliteration of Hebrew word for worthlessness and applied to Satan (Book of Jubilees 1.20) as here. Paul graphically sums up the contrast between Christ and Belial (Satan), the heads of the contending forces of good and evil. **Portion** [*meris*]. The fourth of the words. Here by “unbeliever” [*apistou*] Paul means “disbeliever,” not just an unconverted man who yet approves Christ.

6:16 **Agreement** [*sunkatathesis*]. Fifth of these words. Late word, but common, though here only in N.T. Approved by putting together the votes. In the papyri [*ek sunkatathese s*] means “by agreement.” On the temple of God and idols see 1Co 10:14-22. See Lu 23:51 for the verb [*sunkatathith mi*]. **For we are the temple of the living God** [*h meis gar naos theou esmen z ntos*]. We, not temples (Ac 7:48; 17:24; 1Co 3:16; 6:19). **As God said** [*kath s eipen ho theos*]. A paraphrase and catena of quotations, what J. Rendel Harris calls *Testimonia* (from Le 26:11f.; Isa 52:11; Eze 20:34; 37:27; 2Sa 7:8, 14). Plummer notes that at the beginning “I will dwell in them” [*enoik s en autois*] is not in any of them. “As God said” points to Le 26:12; Eze 37:27.

6:17 **Saith the Lord** [*legei Kurios*]. Isa 52:5; Eze 20:33. Cf. Re 18:4. **Unclean thing** [*akathartou*]. Or unclean person. Genitive case is the same for both.

6:18 **Saith the Lord Almighty** [*legei Kurios pantokrat r*]. 2Sa 7:8. This use of [*eis*] is a Hebraism for Hebrew *le* instead of predicate nominative. [*Pantokrat r*] [*p s, krate*], Ruler of all) is common in the LXX. Occurs also in the inscriptions and papyri. In the N.T. only here and in Revelation.

Chapter 7

7:1 **These promises** [*tautas tas epaggelias*]. So many and so precious (2Pe 2:4 [*epaggelmata*]; Heb 11:39f.). **Let us cleanse ourselves** [*katharis men heautous*]. Old Greek used [*kathair*] (in N.T. only in Joh 15:2, to prune). In *Koin* [*kathariz*] occurs in inscriptions for ceremonial cleansing (Deissmann, *Bible Studies*, p. 216f.). Paul includes himself in this volitive aorist subjunctive. **From all defilement** [*apo pantos molusmou*]. Ablative alone would have done, but with [*apo*] it is plainer as in Heb 9:14. [*Molusmos*] is a late word from [*molun*], to stain (see on 1Co 8:7), to pollute. In the LXX, Plutarch, Josephus. It includes all sorts of filthiness, physical, moral, mental, ceremonial, “of flesh and spirit.” Missionaries in China and India can appreciate the atmosphere of pollution in Corinth, for instance. **Perfecting holiness** [*epitelountes hagioun n*]. Not merely negative goodness (cleansing), but aggressive and progressive (present tense of [*epitele*] holiness, not a sudden attainment of complete holiness, but a continuous process (1Th 3:13; Ro 1:4; 1:6).

7:2 **Open your hearts to us** [*ch r sate h mas*]. Old verb (from [*ch ros*], place), to leave a space, to make a space for, and transitive here as in Mt 19:11. He wishes no further [*stenoch ria*], tightness of heart, in them (6:12). “Make room for us in your hearts.” He makes this plea to all, even the stubborn minority. **We wronged no man** [*oudena dik samen*]. A thing that every preacher ought to be able to say. Cf. 4:2; 1Th 2:3; Ac 20:26f. **We corrupted no man** [*oudena ephtheiramen*]. We ruined no one. “It may refer to money, or morals, or doctrine” (Plummer). He is answering the Judaizers. **We took advantage of no man** [*oudena epleonekt samen*]. That charge was made in Thessalonica (1Th 4:6) which see for this late verb and also on 2Co 2:11. He got the best of (note [*pleon*] more in the root) no one in any evil way.

7:3 **Not to condemn you** [*pros katakrisin ou*]. “Not for condemnation.” Late word from [*katakrin*], found in Vettius Valens, and here only in N.T. **To die together and live together** [*eis to sunapothanein kai sunz in*]. “For the dying together (second aorist ingressive active infinitive of [*sunapothn sk*] and living together (present active infinitive).” One article [*to*] with both infinitives. You are in our hearts to share death and life.

7:4 **I overflow with joy in all our affliction** [*huperperisseuomai t i char i epi p s i t i thlipsei h m n*]. A thoroughly Pauline sentiment. [*Perisseu*] means to overflow, as we have seen. [*Huper-perisseu*] (late word, so far only here and Byzantine writers) is to have a regular flood. Vulgate *superabundo*.

7:5 **When we had come** [*elthont n h m n*]. Genitive absolute with second aorist active participle of [*erchomai*]. Paul now returns to the incident mentioned in 2:12 before the long digression on the glory of the ministry. **Had no relief** [*oudemian esch ken anesin*]. Perfect active indicative precisely as in 2:13 which see, “has had no relief” (dramatic perfect). **Afflicted** [*thlibomenoi*]. Present passive participle of [*thlib*] as in 4:8, but with anacoluthon, for the nominative case agrees

not with the genitive [*h m n*] nor with the accusative [*h mas*] in verse 6. It is used as if a principal verb as in 9:11; 11:6; Ro 12:16 (Moulton, *Prolegomena*, p. 182; Robertson, *Grammar*, pp. 1132-35). **Without were fightings** [*ex then machai*]. Asyndeton and no copula, a parenthesis also in structure. Perhaps pagan adversaries in Macedonia (cf. 1Co 15:32). **Within were fears** [*es then phoboi*]. Same construction. “Mental perturbations” (Augustine) as in 11:28.

7:6 **Cormforteth** [*parakal n*]. See on 1:3-7 for this word. **The lowly** [*tous tapeinous*]. See on Mt 11:29. Literally, low on the ground in old sense (Eze 17:24). Low in condition as here; Jas 1:9. In 2Co 10:1 regarded as abject. In this sense in papyri. “Humility as a sovereign grace is the creation of Christianity” (Gladstone, *Life*, iii, p. 466). **By the coming** [*en t i parousi i*]. Same use of [*parousia*] as in 1Co 16:7 which see. See also 2Co 7:7; 10:10.

7:7 **Wherewith** [*h i*]. Either locative case with preceding [*en*] or instrumental of the relative with [*parekl th*] (first aorist passive indicative). “The manner in which Paul, so to speak, *fondles* this word [*parakale*] is most beautiful” (Vincent). **In you** [*eph’ humin*]. Over you, upon you. **Your longing** [*t n hum n epipoth sin*]. Late word from [*epipothe*] [*epi*], directive, longing towards, yearning). Only here in N.T. **Mourning** [*odurmon*]. Old word from [*oduromai*], to lament. Only here in N.T. **So that I rejoiced yet more** [*h ste me mallon char nai*]. Result expressed by [*h ste*] and the second aorist passive infinitive of [*chair*] with accusative of general reference.

7:8 **Though** [*ei kai*]. If also. Paul treats it as a fact. **With my epistle** [*en t i epistol i*]. The one referred to in 2:3f. **I do not regret it** [*ou metamelomai*]. This verb really means “repent” (be sorry again) which meaning we have transferred to [*metanoie*], to change one’s mind (not to be sorry at all). See Mt 21:30; 27:3 for the verb [*metamelomai*], to be sorry, to regret as here. Paul is now glad that he made them sorry. **Though I did regret** [*ei kai metamelom n*]. Imperfect indicative in the concessive clause. I was in a regretful mood at first. **For I see** [*blep gar*]. A parenthetical explanation of his present joy in their sorrow. B D do not have [*gar*]. The Latin Vulgate has *videns* (seeing) for [*blep n*]. **For a season** [*pros h ran*]. Cf. 1Th 2:17. It was only “for an hour.”

7:9 **Now I rejoice** [*nun chair*]. Now that Titus has come and told him the good news from Corinth (2:12f.). This was the occasion of the noble outburst in 2:12-6:10. **Unto repentance** [*eis metanoian*]. Note the sharp difference here between “sorrow” [*lup*] which is merely another form of [*metamelomai*] (regret, remorse) and “repentance” [*metanoia*] or change of mind and life. It is a linguistic and theological tragedy that we have to go on using “repentance” for [*metanoia*]. But observe that the “sorrow” has led to “repentance” and was not itself the repentance. **After a godly sort** [*kata theon*]. In God’s way. “God’s way as opposed to man’s way and the devil’s way” (Plummer). It was not mere sorrow, but a change in their attitude that counted. **That ye might suffer loss by us in nothing** [*hina en m deni z mi th te ex hum n*]. Purpose clause with [*hina*] and first aorist passive subjunctive of [*z mio*], old verb to suffer damage. See on Mt 16:26. This was God’s intention and so he overruled their sorrow to good.

7:10 **For godly sorrow** [*h gar kata theon lup*]. “For the sorrow according to God” (God’s ideal, verse 9). **Worketh repentance unto salvation a repentance without regret** [*metanoian eis s t rian ametamel ton ergazetai*]. This clause alone should have prevented the confusion between mere “sorrow” [*lup*] as indicated in [*metamelomai*], to regret (to be sorry again) and “change of mind and life” as shown by [*metanoian*] [*metanoē*] and wrongly translated “repentance.” The sorrow according to God does work this “change of mind and life” unto salvation, a change “not to be regretted” [*ametamel ton*], an old verbal adjective of [*metamelomai*] and [*a*] privative, but here alone in N.T.). It agrees with [*metanoian*], not [*s t rian*]. **But the sorrow of the world** [*h de tou kosmou lup*]. In contrast, the kind of sorrow that the world has, grief “for failure, not for sin” (Bernard), for the results as seen in Cain, Esau (his tears!), and Judas (remorse, [*metemel th*]). Works out (perfective use of [*kat-*] death in the end.

7:11 **This selfsame thing** [*auto touto*]. “This very thing,” “the being made sorry according to God” [*to kata theon lup th nai*], articular first aorist passive infinitive with which [*auto touto*] agrees and the proleptic subject of the verb [*kateirgasato*]. **Earnest care** [*spoud n*]. Diligence, from [*speud*], to hasten. Cf. Ro 12:11. **Yea** [*alla*]. Not adversative use of [*alla*], but copulative as is common (half dozen examples here). **Clearing of yourselves** [*apologia*]. In the old notion of [*apologia*] (self-vindication, self-defence) as in 1Pe 3:15. **Indignation** [*aganakt sin*]. Old word, only here in N.T. From [*aganakteo*] (Mr 10:14, etc.). **Avenging** [*ekdik sin*]. Late word from [*ekdike*], to avenge, to do justice (Lu 18:5; 21:22), vindication from wrong as in Lu 18:7, to secure punishment (1Pe 2:14). **Pure** [*hagnous*]. Kin to [*hagios*] [*haz*], to reverence), immaculate.

7:12 **But that your earnest care for us might be made manifest** [*all’ heineken tou phaner th nai t n spoud n hum n t n hyper h m n*]. So the correct text, not “our care for you.” Easy to interchange Greek [*hum n*] (your) and [*h m n*] (our). Usual construction with preposition [*heineken*] and genitive of articular infinitive with accusative of general reference.

7:13 **We joyed the more exceedingly** [*perissoter s mallon echar men*]. Double comparative (pleonastic use of [*mallon*], more, with [*perissoter s*], more abundantly) as is common in the *Koin* (Mr 7:36; Php 1:23). **For the joy of Titus** [*epi t i char i Titou*]. On the basis of [*epi*] the joy of Titus who was proud of the outcome of his labours in Corinth. **Hath been refreshed** [*anapepautai*]. Perfect passive indicative of [*anapau*]. Cf. 1Co 16:18 for this striking verb.

7:14 **If—I have gloried** [*ei—kekauch mai*]. Condition of first class. On this verb see 1Co 3:21; 2Co 5:12. **I was not put to shame** [*ou kat ischunth n*]. First aorist passive indicative of [*kataischun*]. Paul had assured Titus, who hesitated to go after the failure of Timothy, that the Corinthians were sound at bottom and would come round all right if handled properly. Paul’s joy is equal to that of Titus. **In truth** [*en al thei i*]. In the sharp letter as well as in I Corinthians. He had not hesitated to speak plainly of their sins. **Our glorying before Titus** [*h kauch sis epi Titou*]. The two things were not inconsistent and were not contradictory as the outcome proved.

7:15 **Whilst he remembereth** [*anamimn skomenou*]. Present middle participle of [*anamimn sk*], to remind, in the genitive case agreeing with [*autou*] (his, of him). **The obedience of you all** [*t n pant n hum n hupakou n*]. A remarkable statement of the complete victory of Titus in spite of a stubborn minority still opposing Paul. **With fear and trembling** [*meta phobou kai tromou*]. He had brought a stern message (1Co 5:5) and they had trembled at the words of Titus (cf. Eph 6:5; Php 2:12). Paul had himself come to the Corinthians at first with a nervous dread (1Co 2:3).

7:16 **I am of good courage** [*tharr*]. The outcome has brought joy, courage, and hope to Paul.

Chapter 8

8:1 **The grace** [*t n charin*]. As manifested in the collection in the churches, poor as they were. The Romans had lacerated Macedonia (Livy, XLV. 30).

8:2 **Proof** [*dokim i*]. Tests as of metals as in 2:9. **Abundance** [*perisseia*]. Late word from [*perisseu*], to overflow. **Their deep poverty** [*h kata bathous pt cheia aut n*]. [*Pt cheia*] is old word from [*pt cheu*], to be a beggar, as of Jesus in 8:9 (from [*pt chos*], cowering in fear and poverty, as in Lu 14:13, but ennobled by Christ as in Mt 5:3; 2Co 8:9). Poverty down deep. Strabo (LX 419) has [*kata bathous*], down to the bottom. **Liberality** [*haplot tos*]. From [*haplous*], single, simple (Mt 6:22). “The passage from single-mindedness or simplicity to liberality is not quite obvious” (Plummer). Perhaps “heartiness” supplies the connecting link. See also 9:11-13.

8:3 **Beyond their power** [*para dunamin*]. “Alongside” with accusative like [*huper dunamin*] in 1:8. Field (*Ot. Nov.*) quotes Josephus (*Ant. iii. 6, 1*) for [*kata dunamin*] and [*para dunamin*] as here. Few give [*kata dunamin*] (according to actual ability). Paul commends this high pressure collection because of the emergency. **Of their own accord** [*authairetoi*]. Old verbal adjective [*autos, hairetos*] from [*haireromai*], to choose), of their own initiative, voluntary. Only here and verse 17 in N.T. Papyri often have [*hekousi s kai authairet s*] (willingly and voluntarily).

8:4 **Beseeching us with much intreaty in regard of this grace** [*meta poll s parakl se s deomenoi h m n t n charin*]. Literally, “with much intreaty begging of us the favour and the partnership in the ministry to the saints.” The accusative [*charin*] after [*deomai*] is unusual. By [*charis*] Paul means the privilege of giving (cf. Ac 24:27). Apparently Paul had been reluctant to press the Macedonians because of their manifest poverty. They demanded the right to have a share in it.

8:5 **We had hoped** [*lpisamen*]. First aorist active indicative of [*elpiz*]. “Expected,” he means. They went beyond his hopes about them. **First they gave their own selves** [*heautous ed kan pr ton*]. First aorist active indicative of [*did mi*] (k aorist). “Themselves they gave first.” That is the explanation of the generous giving.

8:6 **Insomuch that we exhorted Titus** [*eis to parakalesai h mas Titon*]. Use of [*eis to*] and the infinitive for result with accusative of general reference [*h mas*]. See Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 1003. **He had made a beginning before** [*proen rxato*]. First aorist active indicative of the double compound verb [*pro-en-archomai*], still found only here and verse 10, to make a start before others. **Complete** [*epitelesei*] First aorist (effective) active subjunctive of [*epitele*], to finish, with perfective use of [*epi*] in composition.

8:7 **In this grace also** [*kai en taut i t i chariti*]. This gifted church (1Co 12-14) had fallen behind in the grace of giving. Kindly irony in this allusion.

8:8 **Proving** [*dokimaz n*]. Testing and so proving. **The sincerity also of your love** [*kai to t s humeteras agap s gn sion*]. Old adjective, contraction of [*genesios*] [*ginomai*], legitimately born, not spurious. A collection is a test of one's love for Christ, not the only test, but a real one.

8:9 **Though he was rich** [*plousios n*]. Concessive present participle [*n*] from [*eimi*], to be. **Be became poor** [*ept cheusen*]. Ingressive aorist active indicative of [*pt cheu*] (see verse 2 on [*pt cheia*]). **Through his poverty** [*t i ekeinou pt chei i*]. Instrumental case, by means of. **Might become rich** [*plout s te*]. Ingressive first aorist active subjunctive of [*ploute*], to be rich with [*hina*] (that). See on Lu 1:53; 1Co 4:8.

8:10 **Judgment** [*gn m n*]. Deliberate opinion, but not a "command" [*epitag*] (verse 8). Cf. 1Co 7:25. **A year ago** [*apo perusi*] From last year. **Not only to do, but also to will** [*ou monon to poi sai, alla kai to thelein*]. Articular infinitives the objects of [*proen rxasthe*] on which verb see verse 6). That is to say, the Corinthians promised before any others.

8:11 **The readiness to will** [*h prothumia tou thelein*]. Old word from [*prothumos*] [*pro, thumos*], forwardness, eagerness (Ac 17:11). They were quick to pledge. **The completion also** [*kai to epitelesai*]. The finishing also (articular first aorist active infinitive). **Out of your ability** [*ek tou echein*]. "Out of the having," literally, and so, "out of what you can give" (verse 12).

8:12 **Is there** [*prokeitai*]. Lies before one. Old word. **Acceptable** [*euprosdektos*]. See on 6:2. **According as a man hath** [*katho ean ech i*]. Indefinite comparative clause with [*ean*] and present subjunctive [*echei*]. Clearly God does not expect us to give what we do not have. **Not according as he hath not** [*ou katho ouk echei*]. Note present indicative rather than subjunctive because a specific case is presented. See 9:7; Mr 12:43.

8:13 **Others may be eased** [*allois anesis*]. "Release to others." **Ye distressed** [*humin thlipsis*]. "To you tribulation." The verb [*i*] (present subjunctive) with [*hina*] is not expressed.

8:14 **By equality** [*ex isot tos*]. Old word from [*isos*], fair, equal. In N.T. only here and Col 4:1. **Abundancy** [*perisseuma*]. Late word from [*perisseu*] like [*perisseia*] (verse 2) Cf. Mt 12:34. **Want** [*huster ma*]. Late word from [*hustere*], to be in want. See also 9:12; Lu 21:4 (cf. [*huster sis*] in Mr 12:44).

8:16 **Which putteth** [*t i didonti*]. Present active articular participle, "who is continually giving." Hence Titus is full of zealous care for you.

8:17 **Very earnest** [*spoudaioteros*]. "More earnest than ordinarily," comparative adjective.

8:18 **We have sent with him** [*sunepempsamen met' autou*]. Epistolary aorist. **The brother** [*ton adelphon*]. This may be, probably is, Luke who may also be the brother of Titus (see also 12:18) according to a common Greek idiom where the article is used as "his." But this idiom is not

necessary. As a matter of fact, we do not know who this brother is. **Is spread through all the churches** [*dia pas n t n ekkl si n*]. No verb in the Greek (ellipsis).

8:19 **But who was also appointed** [*alla kai cheiroton theis*]. Anacoluthon. The first aorist passive participle [*cheiroton theis*] is from [*cheirotone*], old verb to stretch out the hands [*cheir tein*] and so to vote in public. The idea is that this brother was chosen by the churches, not by Paul. Only here in N.T. save Ac 14:23 where it means to appoint without notion of raising the hands. In Ac 10:41 we have [*procheirotone*]. **To travel with us** [*sunekd mos*]. Late word for travelling companion. So in the inscriptions [*sun*], together with, [*ekd mos*], away from home).

8:20 **Avoiding this** [*stellomenoi touto*]. Present middle participle of [*stell*], old verb, to set, to arrange. So “arranging for ourselves this.” **That any man should blame us** [*m tis h mas m m s tai*]. Literally, “lest any one blame us” (negative purpose with [*m*] and first aorist middle subjunctive of [*m meomai*]. See on 6:3, only other N.T. example). **Bounty** [*hadrot ti*]. Old word from [*hadros*], thick, stout, ripe, rich, great as in 1Ki 1:9; 2Ki 10:6. Only here in N.T.

8:21 **We take thought** [*pronoumen*]. Old verb, to plan beforehand [*pro-*] as in Ro 12:17; 1Ti 5:8. **But also in the sight of men** [*alla kai en pion anthr p n*]. It is not enough for one’s financial accounts to be honourable [*kala*] as God sees them, but they should be so kept that men can understand them also. A timely warning. Paul took the utmost pains that no suspicion could be attached to him in this collection.

8:22 **Our brother** [*ton adelphon h m n*]. Not Paul’s personal brother, but a brother in Christ, one whom Paul had tested and was willing to trust. It may have been Tychicus or Apollos, but we do not know.

8:23 **About Titus** [*huper Titou*]. There is no verb expressed. Supply “inquire.” He endorses Titus up to the hilt. He is “my partner” [*koin nos emos*] and “fellow-worker” [*sunergos*]. **Messengers of the churches** [*apostoloi ekkl si n*]. Apostles in the general sense of “sent ones” (from [*apostell*], to send) by the churches and responsible to the churches for the handling of the funds. **The glory of Christ** [*doxa Christou*]. Financial agents, please observe.

8:24 **The proof of your love** [*t n endeixin t s agap s hum n*]. There is a word here for pastors and deacons who try to protect the churches from the denominational representatives of kingdom causes. **In the face of the churches** [*eis pros pon t n ekkl si n*]. A great host is pictured as watching how the Corinthians will treat these duly accredited agents in the collection (Titus and the other two brethren). It requires courage to stand by such representatives of great causes before stingy saints.

Chapter 9

9:1 **Superfluous** [*perisson*]. All the same he does write. “The writing” [*to graphein*] ought to be superfluous.

9:2 **I glory** [*kauch mai*]. Present middle indicative. I still am glorying, in spite of the poor performance of the Corinthians. **Hath been prepared** [*pireskeuastai*]. Perfect passive indicative of [*paraskeuaz*], to make ready, “stands prepared.” **Stirred up** [*rethise*]. First aorist active indicative of [*erethiz*] (from [*ereth*], to excite), to excite in a good sense here, in a bad sense in Col 3:21, the only N.T. examples. **Very many of them** [*tous pleionas*]. The more, the majority.

9:3 **I sent** [*epempsa*]. Not literary plural with this epistolary aorist as in 18, 22. **That ye may be prepared** [*hina pireskeuasmenoī te*]. Perfect passive subjunctive in the final clause, “that ye may really be prepared,” “as I said” [*kath s elegon*] and not just say that ye are prepared. Paul’s very syntax tells against them.

9:4 **If there come with me any of Macedonia and find you unprepared** [*ean elth sin sun emoi Makedones kai heur sin humas aparaskeuastous*]. Condition of third class (undetermined, but stated as a lively possibility) with [*ean*] and the second aorist active subjunctive [*elth sin, heur sin*], a bold and daring challenge. [*Aparaskeuastos*] is a late and rare verbal adjective from [*paraskeuaz*] with [*a*] privative, only here in the N.T. **Lest by any means we should be put to shame** [*m p s kataischunth men h meis*]. Negative purpose with first aorist passive subjunctive of [*kataischun*] (see on 7:14) in the literary plural. **That we say not, ye** [*hina m leg men humeis*]. A delicate syntactical turn for what he really has in mind. He does wish that they become ashamed of not paying their pledges. **Confidence** [*hupostasei*]. This word, common from Aristotle on, comes from [*huphist mi*], to place under. It always has the notion of substratum or foundation as here; 11:17; Heb 1:3. The papyri give numerous examples (Moulton and Milligan’s *Vocabulary*) of the word for “property” in various aspects. So in Heb 11:1 “faith is the title-deed of things hoped for.” In the LXX it represents fifteen different Hebrew words.

9:5 **I thought** [*heg sam n*]. Epistolary aorist again. See Php 2:25 for the expression here. **Go before** [*proelth sin*]. Second aorist active of [*proerchomai*]. Go to you before I come. **Make up beforehand** [*prokatartis si*]. Late and rare double compound verb [*prokatartiz*] (in Hippocrates). Only here in N.T. See [*katartiz*] in 1Co 1:10. **Your afore-promised bounty** [*t n proep ggelmen n eulogian hum n*]. “Blessing” [*eulogia*] literally, but applied to good deeds also as well as good words (Ge 33:11). Note third use of “pro” before. He literally rubs it in that the pledge was overdue. **That the same might be ready** [*taut n hetoim n einai*]. Here the infinitive alone [*einai*] is used to express purpose without [*h ste*] or [*eis to*] or [*pros to*] with the accusative of general reference [*taut n*]. The feminine form [*hetoim n*] is regular (1Pe 1:5) though [*hetoimos*] also occurs with the feminine like

the masculine (Mt 25:10). **And not of extortion** [*kai m h s pleonexian*]. “And not as covetousness.” Some offerings exhibit covetousness on the part of the giver by their very niggardliness.

9:6 **Sparingly** [*pheidomen s*]. Late and rare adverb made from the present middle participle [*pheidomenos*] from [*pheidomai*], to spare. It occurs in Plutarch (Alex. 25).

9:7 **He hath purposed** [*pro ir tai*]. Perfect middle indicative of [*proaireomai*], to choose beforehand, old verb, here only in N.T. Permanent purpose also. **Not grudgingly** [*m ek lup s*]. The use of [*m*] rather than [*ou*] shows that the imperative [*poieit*] (do) or [*didot*] (give) is to be supplied. Not give as out of sorrow. **Or of necessity** [*ex anagk s*]. As if it were like pulling eye-teeth. **For God loveth a cheerful giver** [*hilaron gar dot n agap i ho theos*]. Our word “hilarious” comes from [*hilaron*] which is from [*hilaos*] (propitious), an old and common adjective, only here in N.T.

9:8 **Is able** [*dunatei*]. Late verb, not found except here; 13:3; Ro 14:4. So far a Pauline word made from [*dunatos*], able. **All sufficiency** [*p san autarkeian*]. Old word from [*autark s*] (Php 4:11), common word, in N.T. only here and 1Ti 6:6). The use of this word shows Paul’s acquaintance with Stoicism. Paul takes this word of Greek philosophy and applies it to the Christian view of life as independent of circumstances. But he does not accept the view of the Cynics in the avoidance of society. Note threefold use of “all” here [*en panti, pantote, p san*], in everything, always, all sufficiency).

9:9 **As it is written** [*kath s gegraptai*]. Ps 92:3,9. Picture of the beneficent man. **He hath scattered abroad** [*eskorpisen*]. First aorist active indicative of [*skorpiz*], to scatter, *Koin* verb for [*skedannumi*] of the Attic. Probably akin to [*skorpios*] (scorpion) from root [*skarp*], to cut asunder. See on Mt 12:30. It is like sowing seed. **To the poor** [*tois pen sin*]. Old word from [*penamai*], to work for one’s living. Latin *penuria* and Greek [*peina*], to be hungry, are kin to it. Only N.T. instance and to be distinguished from [*pt chos*], beggar, abjectly poor.

9:10 **Supplieth** [*epichor g n*]. Late *Koin* compound verb from [*epi*] and [*chor ge*], just below (1Pe 4:11). [*Chor gos*] is old word for leader of a chorus [*choros, h geomai*] or chorus-leader. The verb means to furnish a chorus at one’s own expense, then to supply in general. N.T. examples of [*epichor ge*] are 2Co 9:10; Ga 3:15; Col 2:19; 2Pe 1:5. **Shall multiply** [*pl thunei*]. Future active indicative of [*pl thun*], old verb from [*pl thus*], fulness. Cf. Ac 6:1. **Fruits** [*gen mata*]. Correct reading (from [*ginomai*], to become) and not [*genn mata*] (from [*genna*], to beget). This spelling is supported by LXX where Thackeray shows that [*gen mata*] in LXX refers to vegetables and [*genn mata*] to animals. The papyri support this distinction (Moulton and Milligan’s *Vocabulary*).

9:11 **Enriched** [*ploutizomenoi*]. Present passive participle of [*ploutiz*] for which see on 1Co 1:5; 2Co 6:10 only other N.T. examples. **Liberality** [*haplot ta*]. See on 8:2. Anacoluthon with nominative participle too far from [*perisseu te*] for agreement. More like the independent use of the participle.

9:12 **Service** [*leitourgias*]. Old word from [*le s*] (people, [*laos*], [*leitōs*] like [*demosios*], public, and [*ergon*], work. So public service either in worship to God (Lu 1:23) or benefaction to others (2Co 9:12; Php 2:30). Our word liturgy is this word. **Fill up** [*estin prosanapl rousa*]. Present active periphrastic indicative of double compound verb [*prosanapl ro*], *Koin* word, here and 11:9 only in N.T., to fill up by adding to. The Corinthians simply added to the total from others. **Unto God** [*t i the i*]. Dative case and with a certain suddenness as at close of verse 11, really a parenthesis between in the somewhat tangled sentence.

9:13 **Seeing that they glorify God** [*doxazontes ton theon*]. Anacoluthon again. The nominative participle used independently like [*ploutizomenoi*] in verse 11. **Obedience** [*hupotag i*]. Late and rare word from [*hupotass*], to subject, middle to obey. Only in Paul in N.T. **Of your confession** [*t s homologias hum n*]. Old word from [*homologe*] [*homologos, homou, leg*], to say together. It is either to profess (Latin *profiteor*, to declare openly) or to confess (Latin *confiteor*, to declare fully, to say the same thing as another). Both confess and profess are used to translate the verb and each idea is present in the substantive. Only the context can decide. Actions speak louder than words. The brethren in Jerusalem will know by this collection that Gentiles make as good Christians as Jews. **For the liberality of your contribution** [*haplot ti t s koin nias*]. This is the point that matters just now. Paul drives it home. On this use of [*koin nia*] see on 8:4.

9:14 **While they themselves long after you** [*aut n epipothount n*]. Genitive absolute of present active participle of [*epipothe*] (5:2). **In you** [*eph' humin*]. Upon you.

9:15 **Thanks be to God** [*charis t i the i*]. Third time (verses 11, 12, 15). **For his unspeakable gift** [*epi t i anekdi g t i autou d re i*]. One of Paul's gems flashed out after the somewhat tangled sentence (verses 10-14) like a gleam of light that clears the air. Words fail Paul to describe the gift of Christ to and for us. He may have coined this word as it is not found elsewhere except in ecclesiastical writers save as a variant (B L) for [*adi g ton*] in Aristeas 99 [*thaumasmon anekdi g ton*], "wonder beyond description," Moulton and Milligan's *Vocabulary*). See similar word in Ro 11:33 [*anexichniasta*], unsearchable) and Eph 3:8.

Chapter 10

10:1 **Now I Paul myself** [*Autos de eg Paulos*]. Cf. Ga 5:2. Paul now turns to the third part of the epistle in chapters 10-13 in which he vigorously defends himself against the accusations of the stubborn minority of Judaizers in Corinth. Great ministers of Christ through the ages have had to pass through fiery trials like these. Paul has shown the way for us all. He speaks of himself now plainly, but under compulsion, as is clear. It may be that at this point he took the pen from the amanuensis and wrote himself as in Ga 6:11. **By the meekness and gentleness of Christ** [*dia tes prautos kai epieikias tou Christou*]. This appeal shows (Plummer) that Paul had spoken to the Corinthians about the character of Christ. Jesus claimed meekness for himself (Mt 11:29) and felicitated the meek (Mt 5:5) and he exemplified it abundantly (Lu 23:34). See on Mt 5:15; 1Co 4:21 for this great word that has worn thin with us. Plutarch combines [*praut s*] with [*epieikia*] as Paul does here. Matthew Arnold suggested “sweet reasonableness” for [*epieikeia*] in Plato, Aristotle, Plutarch. It is in the N.T. only here and Ac 24:4 [*to epieikes*] in Php 4:5). In Greek Ethics the equitable man was called [*epieik s*], a man who does not press for the last farthing of his rights (Bernard). **Lowly among you** [*tapeinos en humin*]. The bad use of [*tapeinos*], the old use, but here alone in N.T. in that meaning. Socrates and Aristotle used it for littleness of soul. Probably Paul here is quoting one of the sneers of his traducers in Corinth about his humble conduct while with them (1Co 2:23; 2Co 7:6) and his boldness [*ap n tharr*] when away (1Co 7:16). “It was easy to satirize and misrepresent a depression of spirits, a humility of demeanour, which were either the direct results of some bodily affliction, or which the consciousness of this affliction had rendered habitual” (Farrar). The words stung Paul to the quick.

10:2 **I beseech** [*deomai*]. So here, but [*parakal*] in verse 1. Perhaps, “I beg” suits the new turn here. **That I may not when present show courage** [*to m par n tharr sai*]. Articular infinitive (aorist active of [*tharre*] in the accusative case with negative [*m*] the direct object of [*deomai*]). Literally, “I beg the not when present [*par n*] nominative present participle agreeing with subject of [*tharr*] in spite of being in the accusative infinitive clause, [*to m tharr sai*] showing courage.” The example of humility in Christ makes Paul drop “from magisterial exhortation to earnest entreaty” (Plummer). **As if we walked according to the flesh** [*h s kata sarka peripatountas*]. Another sneering charge as made plain by the use of [*h s*] with the participle for the alleged reason.

10:3 **In the flesh** [*en sarki*]. But that is a very different thing from walking [*kata sarka*] according to the standards of the flesh as his enemies charged. It is easy enough to make insinuations. **We war** [*strateuometha*]. Literary plural again after [*logizomai*] in verse 2. Old word to lead an army [*stratos*]. In N.T. only in the middle as here. Paul admits that he fights, but only the devil and his agents even if wearing the livery of heaven. Paul knew the Roman army well. He knows how to use the military metaphor.

10:4 **The weapons of our warfare** [*ta hopla t s strateias*]. [*Strateia*] (old word, in N.T. only here and 1Ti 1:18) is **campaign** and not army as some MSS. have [*stratia*]. But both [*strateia*] and [*stratia*] occur in the papyri for the same word (Deissmann, *Bible Studies*, p. 181f.). For [*hopla*] (Latin *arma*) see on 6:7; Rom 6:13; 13:12. **Of the flesh** [*sarkika*]. See on 1Co 3:3; 2Co 1:12. They had accused him of artifices and craft. **Mighty before God** [*dunata t i the i*]. This dative of personal interest (ethical dative) can be like [*asteios t i the i*] (Ac 7:20), in God's eyes, as it looks to God. **To the casting down of strongholds** [*pros kathairesin ochur mat n*]. [*Kathairesis*] is old word from [*kathaire*], to take down, to tear down walls and buildings. Carries on the military metaphor. [*Ochur ma*] is old word, common in the Apocrypha, from [*ochuro*], to fortify, and that from [*ochuros*] (from [*ech*], to hold fast). Nowhere else in N.T. In Cilicia the Romans had to tear down many rocky forts in their attacks on the pirates.

10:5 **Casting down imaginations** [*logismous kathairountes*]. The same military figure [*kathairesis*] and the present active participle agreeing with [*strateuometha*] in verse 3 (verse 4 a parenthesis). The reasonings or imaginations [*logismous*], old word from [*logizomai*], to reckon, only here in N.T. and Ro 2:15) are treated as forts or citadels to be conquered. **Every high thing that is exalted** [*pan hups ma epairomenon*]. Same metaphor. [*Hups ma*] from [*hupso*] is late *Koin* word (in LXX, Plutarch, Philo, papyri) for height and that figure carried on by [*epairomenon*]. Paul aims to pull down the top-most perch of audacity in their reasonings against the knowledge of God. We need Paul's skill and courage today. **Bringing every thought into captivity** [*aichmal tizontes p n no ma*]. Present active participle of [*aichmal tiz*], common *Koin* verb from [*aichmal tos*], captive in war [*aichm*], spear, [*hal tos*] verbal of [*haliskomai*], to be taken). See on Lu 21:24. Paul is the most daring of thinkers, but he lays all his thoughts at the feet of Jesus. For [*no ma*] (device) see on 2:11. **To the obedience of Christ** [*eis t n hupako n tou Christou*]. Objective genitive, "to the obedience unto Christ." That is Paul's conception of intellectual liberty, freedom in Christ. Deissmann (*St. Paul*, p. 141) calls this "the mystic genitive."

10:6 **Being in readiness** [*en hetoim i echontes*]. This very idiom occurs in Polybius, Philo, etc. "Holding in readiness." In 12:14 we have [*hetoim s ech*] for the same idea (adverb [*hetoim s*]). **Disobedience** [*parako n*]. Rare word (Plato, papyri) hearing amiss (aside), failing to hear, refusing to heed (cf. Mt 18:17 for same idea in [*parakou*]). In N.T. only here; Ro 5:19; Heb 2:2. In contrast with [*hupako*] (obedience) rather than the common [*apeithia*] (Ro 11:30,32). **When your obedience shall be fulfilled** [*hotan pl r th i hum n h hupako*]. Indefinite temporal clause with [*hotan*] and first aorist passive subjunctive. Paul expects that the whole church will become obedient to Christ's will soon as came true.

10:7 **Ye look** [*Blepete*]. Either indicative or imperative. Either makes sense but the indicative the best sense. **Before your face** [*kata pros pon*]. They ought to look below the surface. If it is imperative, they should see the facts. **That he is Christ's** [*Christou einai*]. Predicate genitive in indirect discourse).

10:8 **Somewhat abundantly** [*perissoteron ti*]. Comparative, “somewhat more abundantly” than I have, in order to show that he is as true a minister of Christ as his accusers are. Concessive (conditional) clause of third class. For [*ean te*] see Ro 14:8. **I shall not be put to shame** [*ouk aischunth somai*]. As a convicted impostor or pretentious boaster (Plummer). First future passive, singular number (not literary plural as in verse 7).

10:9 **As if I would terrify you by my letters** [*h s an ekphobein humas dia t n epistol n*]. This use of [*h s an*] with the infinitive is seen in the papyri (Moulton, *Prolegomena*, p. 167) and it is not [*an*] in the apodosis (Robertson, *Grammar*, pp. 974, 1040). The active of this old compound verb means to frighten, to terrify. Here only in N.T. It is common in the LXX (Job 7:14; 33:16). Note plural (letters) here and cf. 1Co 5:9; 2Co 2:3.

10:10 **They say** [*phasin*]. Reading of B old Latin Vulgate, but Westcott and Hort prefer [*ph sin*] (says one, the leader). This charge Paul quotes directly. **Weighty and strong** [*bareiai kai ischurai*]. These adjectives can be uncomplimentary and mean “severe and violent” instead of “impressive and vigorous.” The adjectives bear either sense. **His bodily presence** [*h parousia tou s matos*]. This certainly is uncomplimentary. “The presence of his body.” It seems clear that Paul did not have a commanding appearance like that of Barnabas (Ac 14:12). He had some physical defect of the eyes (Ga 4:14) and a thorn in the flesh (2Co 12:7). In the second century *Acts of Paul and Thecla* he is pictured as small, short, bow-legged, with eye-brows knit together, and an aquiline nose. A forgery of the fourth century in the name of Lucian describes Paul as “the bald-headed, hook-nosed Galilean.” However that may be, his accusers sneered at his personal appearance as “weak” [*asthen s*]. **His speech of no account** [*ho logos exouthen menos*]. Perfect passive participle of [*exouthene*], to treat as nothing (cf. 1Co 1:28). The Corinthians (some of them) cared more for the brilliant eloquence of Apollos and did not find Paul a trained rhetorician (1Co 1:17; 2:1,4; 2Co 11:6). He made different impressions on different people. “Seldom has any one been at once so ardently hated and so passionately loved as St. Paul” (Deissmann, *St. Paul*, p. 70). “At one time he seemed like a man, and at another he seemed like an angel” (*Acts of Paul and Thecla*). He spoke like a god at Lystra (Ac 14:8-12), but Eutychus went to sleep on him (Ac 20:9). Evidently Paul winced under this biting criticism of his looks and speech.

10:11 **What we are** [*hoioi esmen*]. Rather, “what sort” [*hoioi*], not [*ho*] (what) nor [*hoi*] (who). Literary plural. [*Hoios*] is qualitative just as [*toioutoi*] (such). Paul’s quality in his letters when absent [*apontes*] and in his deeds when present [*parontes*] is precisely the same.

10:12 **To number or compare ourselves** [*enkrinai sunkrinai*]. Paronomasia here, play on the two words. [*Enkrinai*] is first aorist active infinitive of old verb, but here only in N.T., to judge among, to judge one as worthy to be numbered among as here. The second verb [*sunkrinai*] (first aorist active infinitive of [*sunkrin*], old verb, in N.T. only here and 1Co 2:13) originally meant to combine as in 1Co 2:13 (which see), but here it has the sense of “compare” not found in the old Greek. The papyri use it to mean to decide. Plummer suggests “to pair and compare” for the play

on the words here. **Measuring themselves by themselves** [*en heautois heautous metrountes*]. Or “in themselves.” Keenest sarcasm. Setting themselves up as the standards of orthodoxy these Judaizers always measure up to the standard while Paul falls short. **Comparing themselves with themselves** [*sunkrinontes heautous heautois*]. Associate instrumental case [*heautois*] after [*sunkrinontes*] (verb just explained). Paul is not keen to fall into the trap set for him. **Are without understanding** [*ou suni sin*]. The regular form for present active indicative third plural of [*suni mi*], to comprehend, to grasp. Some MSS. have the late form [*suniousin*] (omega form [*suni*]). It is a hard thing to see, but it is true. These men do not see their own picture so obvious to others (Eph 5:17; 1Ti 1:7). Cf. Mr 8:17.

10:13 **Beyond our measure** [*eis ta ametra*]. “Into the unmeasured things,” “the illimitable.” Old word, here only in N.T. **Of the province** [*tou kanonos*]. Old word [*kanna*] like Hebrew) a reed, a measuring rod. Numerous papyri examples for measuring rod and rules (our word canon). Only twice in N.T., here (also verse 15, 16) and Ga 6:16 (rule to walk by). **To reach even unto you** [*ephikesthai achri kai hum n*]. Second aorist middle infinitive of [*ephikneomai*], old verb, only here and verse 14 in N.T. Paul’s measuring-rod extends to Corinth.

10:14 **We stretch not ourselves overmuch** [*ou huperekteinomen heautous*]. Apparently Paul made this double compound verb to express his full meaning (only in Gregory Nazianzen afterwards). “We do not stretch ourselves out beyond our rights.” **We came even as far as unto you** [*achri kai hum n ephthasamen*]. First aorist active indicative of [*phthan*], to come before, to precede, the original idea which is retained in Mt 12:28 (Lu 11:20) and may be so here. If so, it means “We were the first to come to you” (which is true, Ac 18:1-18).

10:15 **In other men’s labours** [*en allotriois kopois*]. [*Allotrios*] means belonging to another as in Lu 16:12. Paul founded the church in Corinth. **As your faith groweth** [*auxanomen s t s piste s*]. Genitive absolute of the present passive participle of [*auxan*], to grow. **We shall be magnified** [*megalunth nai*]. First aorist passive infinitive of [*megalun*], old verb (Lu 1:46) to make great (cf. Php 1:20 of Christ). Indirect discourse after [*elpida*] (hope) with the construction of [*elpiz*], to hope.

10:16 **Even unto the parts beyond you** [*eis ta huperekeina hum n*]. Compound adverb [*huper, ekeina*], beyond those places) used as preposition. Found only here and in ecclesiastical writers. **Things ready to our hand** [*ta hetoima*]. He had a plenty besides that he could use.

10:17 Paul quotes Pr 27:2.

10:18 **Is approved** [*dokimos*]. Accepted (from [*dechomai*] by the Lord. The Lord accepts his own recommendation [*sunist sin*], see on 2Co 3:1f.).

Chapter 11

11:1 **Would that ye could bear with me** [*ophelon aneichesthe mou*]. *Koin* way of expressing a wish about the present, [*ophelon*] (as a conjunction, really second aorist active indicative of [*opheil*] without augment) and the imperfect indicative instead of [*eithe*] or [*ei gar*] (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 1003). Cf. Re 3:15. See Ga 5:12 for future indicative with [*ophelon*] and 1Co 4:8 for aorist. [*Mou*] is ablative case after [*aneichesthe*] (direct middle, hold yourselves back from me). There is a touch of irony here. **Bear with me** [*anechesthe mou*]. Either imperative middle or present middle indicative (ye do bear with me). Same form. **In a little foolishness** [*mikron ti aphrosun s*]. Accusative of general reference [*mikron ti*]. “Some little foolishness” (from [*aphr n*], foolish). Old word only in this chapter in N.T.

11:2 **With a godly jealousy** [*theou z l i*]. Instrumental case of [*z los*]. With a jealousy of God. **I espoused** [*h rmosam n*]. First aorist middle indicative of [*harmoz*], old verb to join, to fit together (from [*harmos*], joint). Common for betrothed, though only here in N.T. The middle voice indicates Paul’s interest in the matter. Paul treats the Corinthians as his bride.

11:3 **The serpent beguiled Eve** [*ho ophis ex pat sen Heuan*]. Paul’s only mention of the serpent in Eden. The compound [*exapata*] means to deceive completely. **Lest by any means** [*m p s*]. Common conjunction after verbs of fearing. **Corrupted** [*phthar i*]. Second aorist passive subjunctive with [*m p s*] of [*phtheir*], to corrupt.

11:4 **Another Jesus** [*allon I soun*]. Not necessarily a different Jesus, but any other “Jesus” is a rival and so wrong. That would deny the identity. **A different spirit** [*pneuma heteron*]. This is the obvious meaning of [*heteron*] in distinction from [*allon*] as seen in Ac 4:12; Ga 1:6f. But this distinction in nature or kind is not always to be insisted on. **A different gospel** [*euaggelion heteron*]. Similar use of [*heteron*]. **Ye do well to bear with him** [*kal s anechesthe*]. Ironical turn again. “Well do you hold yourselves back from him” (the coming one, whoever he is). Some MSS. have the imperfect [*aneichesthe*] (did bear with).

11:5 **That I am not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles** [*m den huster kenai t n huperlian apostol n*]. Perfect active infinitive of [*hustere*], old verb to fall short with the ablative case. The rare compound adverb [*huperlian*] (possibly in use in the vernacular) is probably ironical also, “the super apostles” as these Judaizers set themselves up to be. “The extra-super apostles” (Farrar). Also in 12:11. He is not referring to the pillar-apostles of Ga 2:9.

11:6 **Rude in speech** [*idi t s t i log i*]. Locative case with [*idi t s*] for which word see on Ac 4:13; 1Co 14:16,23,24. The Greeks regarded a man as [*idi t s*] who just attended to his own affairs [*ta idia*] and took no part in public life. Paul admits that he is not a professional orator (cf. 10:10), but

denies that he is unskilled in knowledge [*all' ou t i gn sei*]. **Among all men** [*en p sin*]. He has made his mastery of the things of Christ plain among all men. He knew his subject.

11:7 **In abasing myself** [*emauton tapein n*]. Humbling myself by making tents for a living while preaching in Corinth. He is ironical still about “doing a sin” [*hamartian epoi sa*]. **For nought** [*d rean*]. *Gratis*. Accusative of general reference, common adverb. It amounts to sarcasm to ask if he did a sin in preaching the gospel free of expense to them “that ye may be exalted.”

11:8 **I robbed** [*esul sa*]. Old verb to despoil, strip arms from a slain foe, only here in N.T. He allowed other churches to do more than their share. **Taking wages** [*lab n ops nion*]. For [*ops nion*] see on 1Co 9:7; Ro 6:17. He got his “rations” from other churches, not from Corinth while there.

11:9 **I was not a burden to any man** [*ou katenark sa outhenos*]. First aorist active indicative of [*katanarka*]. Jerome calls this word one of Paul’s *cilicisms* which he brought from Cilicia. But the word occurs in Hippocrates for growing quite stiff and may be a medical term in popular use. [*Narka*] means to become numb, torpid, and so a burden. It is only here and 12:13f. Paul “did not benumb the Corinthians by his demand for pecuniary aid” (Vincent). **From being burdensome** [*abar*]. Old adjective, free from weight or light [*a*] privative and [*baros*], weight). See on 1Th 2:9 for same idea. Paul kept himself independent.

11:10 **No man shall stop me of this glorying** [*h kauch sis haut ou phrag setai eis eme*]. More exactly, “This glorying shall not be fenced in as regards me.” Second future passive of [*phrass*], to fence in, to stop, to block in. Old verb, only here in N.T. **In the regions of Achaia** [*en tois klimasin t s Achaias*]. [*Klima*] from [*klin*], to incline, is *Koin* word for declivity slope, region (our climate). See chapter 1Co 9 for Paul’s boast about preaching the gospel without cost to them.

11:11 **God knoweth** [*ho theos oiden*]. Whether they do or not. He knows that God understands his motives.

11:12 **That I may cut off occasion** [*hina ekkops t n aphorm n*]. Purpose clause with [*hina*] and first aorist active subjunctive of [*ekkopt*], old verb to cut out or off (Mt 3:10; 5:30). See 2Co 5:12 for [*aphorm n*]. **From them which desire an occasion** [*t n thelont n aphorm n*]. Ablative case after [*ekkops*]. There are always some hunting for occasions to start something against preachers. **They may be found** [*heureth sin*]. First aorist passive subjunctive of [*heurisk*], to find with final conjunction [*hina*].

11:13 **False apostles** [*pseudapostoloi*]. From [*pseud s*], false, and [*apostolos*]. Paul apparently made this word (cf. Re 2:2). In verse 26 we have [*pseudadelphos*], a word of like formation (Ga 2:4). See also [*pseudochristoi*] and [*pseudoproph tai*] in Mr 13:22. **Deceitful** [*dolioi*]. Old word from [*dolos*] (lure, snare), only here in N.T. (cf. Ro 16:18). **Fashioning themselves** [*metasch matizomenoi*]. Present middle (direct) participle of the old verb [*metasch matiz*] for which see on 1Co 4:6. Masquerading as apostles of Christ by putting on the outward habiliments, posing

as ministers of Christ (“gentlemen of the cloth,” nothing but cloth). Paul plays with this verb in verses 13, 14, 15.

11:14 **An angel of light** [*aggelon ph tos*]. The prince of darkness puts on the garb of light and sets the fashion for his followers in the masquerade to deceive the saints. “Like master like man.” Cf. 2:11; Ga 1:8. This terrible portrayal reveals the depth of Paul’s feelings about the conduct of the Judaizing leaders in Corinth. In Ga 2:4 he terms those in Jerusalem “false brethren.”

11:15 **As ministers of righteousness** [*h s diakonoi dikaiosun s*]. Jesus (Joh 10:1-21) terms these false shepherds thieves and robbers. It is a tragedy to see men in the livery of heaven serve the devil.

11:16 **Let no man think me foolish** [*m tis me dox i aphrona einai*]. Usual construction in a negative prohibition with [*m*] and the aorist subjunctive [*dox i*] (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 933). **But if ye do** [*ei de m ge*]. Literally, “But if not at least (or otherwise),” that is, If you do think me foolish. **Yet as foolish** [*kan h s aphrona*]. “Even if as foolish.” Paul feels compelled to boast of his career and work as an apostle of Christ after the terrible picture just drawn of the Judaizers. He feels greatly embarrassed in doing it. Some men can do it with complete composure (*sang froid*).

11:17 **Not after the Lord** [*ou kata Kurion*]. Not after the example of the Lord. He had appealed to the example of Christ in 10:1 (the meekness and gentleness of Christ). Paul’s conduct here, he admits, is not in keeping with that. But circumstances force him on.

11:18 **After the flesh** [*kata sarka*]. It is [*kata sarka*] not [*kata Kurion*]. **I also** [*kag*]. But he knows that it is a bit of foolishness and not like Christ.

11:19 **Gladly** [*h de s*]. Irony again. Cf. [*kalos*] in 11:4 (Mr 7:9). So as to [*phronimoi ontes*] (being wise).

11:20 **For ye bear with a man** [*anechesthe gar*]. “ You tolerate tyranny, extortion, craftiness, arrogance, violence, and insult” (Plummer). Sarcasm that cut to the bone. Note the verb with each of the five conditional clauses (enslaves, devours, takes captive, exalteth himself, smites on the face). The climax of insult, smiting on the face.

11:21 **By way of disparagement** [*kata atimian*]. Intense irony. Cf. 6:8. **As though** [*h s hoti*]. Presented as the charge of another. “They more than tolerate those who trample on them while they criticize as ‘weak’ one who shows them great consideration” (Plummer). After these prolonged explanations Paul “changes his tone from irony to direct and masterful assertion” (Bernard). **I am bold also** [*tolm kag*]. Real courage. Cf. 10:2, 12.

11:22 **So am I** [*kag*]. This is his triumphant refrain with each challenge.

11:23 **As one beside himself** [*paraphron n*]. Present active participle of [*paraphrone*]. Old verb from [*paraphr n*] [*para, phr n*], beside one's wits. Only here in N.T. Such open boasting is out of accord with Paul's spirit and habit. **I more** [*huper eg*]. This adverbial use of [*huper*] appears in ancient Greek (Euripides). It has no effect on [*eg*], not "more than I," but "I more than they." He claims superiority now to these "superextra apostles." **More abundant** [*perissoter s*]. See on 7:15. No verbs with these clauses, but they are clear. **In prisons** [*en phulakais*]. Plural also in 6:5. Clement of Rome (*Cor. V.*) says that Paul was imprisoned seven times. We know of only five (Philippi, Jerusalem, Caesarea, twice in Rome), and only one before II Corinthians (Philippi). But Luke does not tell them all nor does Paul. Had he been in prison in Ephesus? So many think and it is possible as we have seen. **Above measure** [*hyperballont s*]. Old adverb from the participle [*hyperballont n*] [*hyperball*], to hurl beyond). Here only in N.T. **In deaths oft** [*en thanatois pollakis*]. He had nearly lost his life, as we know, many times (1:9f.; 4:11).

11:24 **Five times received I forty stripes save one** [*pentakis tesserakonta para mian elabon*]. The Acts and the Epistles are silent about these Jewish floggings (Mt 27:36). See on Lu 12:47 for omission of [*pl gas*] (stripes). Thirty-nine lashes was the rule for fear of a miscount (De 25:1-3). Cf. Josephus (*Ant. IV. 8, 1, 21*).

11:25 **Thrice was I beaten with rods** [*tris errabdisth n*]. Roman (Gentile) punishment. It was forbidden to Roman citizens by the *Lex Porcia*, but Paul endured it in Philippi (Ac 16:23,37), the only one of the three named in Acts. First aorist passive of [*rabdiz*], from [*rabdos*], rod, *Koin* word, in N.T. only here and Ac 16:22 which see. **Once was I stoned** [*hapax elithasth n*]. Once for all [*hapax*] means. At Lystra (Ac 14:5-19). On [*lithaz*] *Koin* verb from [*lithos*], see on Ac 5:26. **Thrice I suffered shipwreck** [*tris enauag sa*]. First aorist active of [*nauage*], from [*nauagos*], shipwrecked [*naus*], ship, [*agnumi*], to break). Old and common verb, in N.T. only here and 1Ti 1:19. We know nothing of these. The one told in Ac 27 was much later. What a pity that we have no data for all these varied experiences of Paul. **Night and day** [*nuchth meron*] Rare word. Papyri give [*nukt mar*] with the same idea (night-day). **Have I been in the deep** [*en ti buth i pepoi ka*]. Vivid dramatic perfect active indicative of [*poie*], "I have done a night and day in the deep." The memory of it survives like a nightmare. [*Buthos*] is old word (only here in N.T.) for bottom, depth of the sea, then the sea itself. Paul does not mean that he was a night and day under the water, not a Jonah experience, only that he was far out at sea and shipwrecked. This was one of the three shipwrecks-already named.

11:26 **In journeyings** [*hodoiporiais*]. Locative case of old word, only here in N.T. and Joh 4:6, from [*hodoiporos*], wayfarer. **In perils** [*kindunois*]. Locative case of [*kindunos*], old word for danger or peril. In N.T. only this verse and Ro 8:35. The repetition here is very effective without the preposition [*en*] (in) and without conjunctions (asyndeton). They are in contrasted pairs. The rivers of Asia Minor are still subject to sudden swellings from floods in the mountains. Cicero and Pompey won fame fighting the Cilician pirates and robbers (note [*l ist n*], not [*klept n*], thieves,

brigands or bandits on which see Mt 26:55). The Jewish perils [*ek genous*], from my race) can be illustrated in Ac 9:23,29; 13:50; 14:5; 17:5,13; 18:12; 23:12; 24:27, and they were all perils in the city also. Perils from the Gentiles [*ex ethn n*] we know in Philippi (Ac 16:20) and in Ephesus (Ac 19:23f.). Travel in the mountains and in the wilderness was perilous in spite of the great Roman highways. **Among false brethren** [*en pseudadelphois*]. Chapters 2Co 10; 11 throw a lurid light on this aspect of the subject.

11:27 **In labour and travail** [*kop i kai mochth i*]. Both old words for severe work, combined here as in 1Th 2:9; 2Th 3:8, “by toil and moil” (Plummer). The rest of the list is like the items in 2Co 6:4ff. **In cold** [*en psuchei*]. Old word from [*psuch*], to cool by blowing. See Ac 28:2. See the picture of the aged Paul later in the Roman dungeon (2Ti 4:9-18).

11:28 **Besides those things that are without** [*ch ris t n parektos*]. Probably, “apart from those things beside these just mentioned.” Surely no man ever found glory in such a peck of troubles as Paul has here recounted. His list should shame us all today who are disposed to find fault with our lot. **That which presseth upon me daily** [*h epistasis moi h kath’ h meran*]. For this vivid word [*epistasis*] see Ac 24:12, the only other place in the N.T. where it occurs. It is like the rush of a mob upon Paul. **Anxiety for all the churches** [*h merimna pas n t n ekkl si n*]. Objective genitive after [*merimna*] (distractions in different directions, from [*meriz*] for which word see on Mt 13:22. Paul had the shepherd heart. As apostle to the Gentiles he had founded most of these churches.

11:29 **I burn** [*puroumai*]. Present passive indicative of [*puro*], old verb to inflame (from [*pur*], fire). When a brother stumbles, Paul is set on fire with grief.

11:30 **The things that concern my weakness** [*ta t s astheneias mou*]. Like the list above.

11:31 **I am not lying** [*ou pseudomai*]. The list seems so absurd and foolish that Paul takes solemn oath about it (cf. 1:23). For the doxology see Ro 1:25; 9:5.

11:32 **The governor under Aretas** [*ho ethnarch s Hareta*]. How it came to pass that Damascus, ruled by the Romans after B.C. 65, came at this time to be under the rule of Aretas, fourth of the name, King of the Nabatheans (II Macc. 5:8), we do not know. There is an absence of Roman coins in Damascus from A.D. 34 to 62. It is suggested (Plummer) that Caligula, to mark his dislike for Antipas, gave Damascus to Aretas (enemy of Antipas). **Guarded** [*ephrourei*]. Imperfect active of [*phroure*], old verb (from [*phrouros*], a guard) to guard by posting sentries. In Ac 9:24 we read that the Jews kept watch to seize Paul, but there is no conflict as they cooperated with the guard set by Aretas at their request. **To seize** [*piasai*]. Doric first aorist active infinitive of [*piez*] (Lu 6:38) for which see on Ac 3:7.

11:33 **Through a window** [*dia thuridos*]. For this late word see on Ac 20:9, the only N.T. example. **Was I let down** [*echalasth n*]. First aorist passive of [*chala*], the very word used by Luke in Ac 9:25. **In a basket** [*en sargan i*]. Old word for rope basket whereas Luke (Ac 9:25) has [*en sphuridi*]

(the word for the feeding of the 4,000 while [*kophinos*] is the one for the 5,000). This was a humiliating experience for Paul in this oldest city of the world whither he had started as a conqueror over the despised Christians.

Chapter 12

12:1 **I must needs glory** [*kauchasthai dei*]. This is the reading of B L Latin Syriac, but Aleph D Bohairic have [*de*] while K M read [*d*]. The first is probably correct. He must go on with the glorying already begun, foolish as it is, though it is not expedient [*ou sumpheron*]. **Visions** [*optasias*]. Late word from [*optaz*]. See on Lu 1:22; Ac 26:19. **Revelations of the Lord** [*apokalypseis Kuriou*]. Unveilings (from [*apokalupt*] as in Re 1:1). See on 2Th 1:7; 1Co 1:7; 14:26. Paul had both repeated visions of Christ (Ac 9:3; 16:9; 18:9; 22:17; 27:23f.) and revelations. He claimed to speak by direct revelation (1Co 11:23; 15:3; Ga 1:12; Eph 3:3, etc.).

12:2 **I know a man** [*oida anthr pon*]. Paul singles out one incident of ecstasy in his own experience that he declines to describe. He alludes to it in this indirect way as if it were some other personality. **Fourteen years ago** [*pro et n dekatessar n*]. Idiomatic way of putting it, the preposition [*pro*] (before) before the date (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 621f.) as in Joh 12:1. The date was probably while Paul was at Tarsus (Ac 9:30; 11:25). We have no details of that period. **Caught up** [*harpagenta*]. Second aorist passive participle of [*harpaz*], to seize (see on Mt 11:12). **Even to the third heaven** [*he s tritou ouranou*]. It is unlikely that Paul alludes to the idea of seven heavens held by some Jews (*Test. of the Twelve Pat.*, Levi ii. iii.). He seems to mean the highest heaven where God is (Plummer).

12:3 **I do not know** [*ouk oida*]. Paul declines to pass on his precise condition in this trance. We had best leave it as he has told it.

12:4 **Into Paradise** [*eis paradeison*]. See on Lu 23:43 for this interesting word. Paul apparently uses paradise as the equivalent of the third heaven in verse 2. Some Jews (*Book of the Secrets of Enoch*, chapter viii) make Paradise in the third heaven. The rabbis had various ideas (two heavens, three, seven). We need not commit Paul to any “celestial gradation” (Vincent). **Unspeakable words** [*arr ta r mata*]. Old verbal adjective [*a*] privative, [*r tos*] from [*re*], only here in N.T. **Not lawful** [*ouk exon*]. Copula [*estin*] omitted. Hence Paul does **not** give these words.

12:5 **But on mine own behalf** [*huper de emautou*]. As if there were two Pauls. In a sense there were. He will only glory in the things mentioned above, the things of his weaknesses (11:30).

12:6 **I shall not be foolish** [*ouk esomai aphr n*]. Apparent contradiction to 11:1, 16. But he is here speaking of the Paul “caught up” in case he should tell the things heard (condition of the third class, [*ean*] and first aorist subjunctive [*thel s*]). **Of me** [*eis eme*]. To my credit, almost like dative (cf. [*en emoi*] in 1Co 14:11).

12:7 **By reason of the exceeding greatness** [*t i hyperbol i*]. Instrumental case, “by the excess.” **That I should not be exalted overmuch** [*hina m hyperair mai*]. Present passive subjunctive in final clause of [*hyperair*], old verb to lift up beyond, only here in N.T. This clause is repeated at

the end of the sentence. **A thorn in the flesh** [*skolops t i sarki*]. This old word is used for splinter, stake, thorn. In the papyri and inscriptions examples occur both for splinter and thorn as the meaning. In the LXX it is usually thorn. The case of [*t i sarki*] can be either locative (in) or dative (for). What was it? Certainly it was some physical malady that persisted. All sorts of theories are held (malaria, eye-trouble, epilepsy, insomnia, migraine or sick-headache, etc.). It is a blessing to the rest of us that we do not know the particular affliction that so beset Paul. Each of us has some such splinter or thorn in the flesh, perhaps several at once. **Messenger of Satan** [*aggelos Satana*]. Angel of Satan, the affliction personified. **Buffet** [*kolaphiz i*]. See on Mt 26:67; 1Co 4:11 for this late and rare word from [*kolaphos*], fist. The messenger of Satan kept slapping Paul in the face and Paul now sees that it was God's will for it to be so.

12:8 **Concerning this thing** [*huper toutou*]. More likely, "concerning this messenger of Satan." **That it might depart from me** [*hina apost i aph' emou*]. Second aorist active (intransitive) subjunctive of [*aphist mi*] in final clause, "that he stand off from me for good."

12:9 **He hath said** [*eir ken*]. Perfect active indicative, as if a final word. Paul probably still has the thorn in his flesh and needs this word of Christ. **Is sufficient** [*arkei*]. Old word of rich meaning, perhaps kin to Latin *arceo*, to ward off against danger. Christ's grace suffices and abides. **Is perfected** [*teleitai*]. Present passive indicative of [*tele*], to finish. It is linear in idea. Power is continually increased as the weakness grows. See Php 4:13 for this same noble conception. The human weakness opens the way for more of Christ's power and grace. **Most gladly rather** [*h dista mallon*]. Two adverbs, one superlative [*h dista*], one comparative [*mallon*]. "Rather" than ask any more (thrice already) for the removal of the thorn or splinter "most gladly will I glory in my weaknesses." Slowly Paul had learned this supreme lesson, but it will never leave him (Ro 5:2; 2Ti 4:6-8). **May rest upon me** [*episk n s i ep' eme*]. Late and rare verb in first aorist active subjunctive with [*hina*] (final clause), to fix a tent upon, here upon Paul himself by a bold metaphor, as if the Shechinah of the Lord was overshadowing him (cf. Lu 9:34), the power [*dunamis*] of the Lord Jesus.

12:10 **Wherefore I take pleasure** [*dio eudok*]. For this noble word see on Mt 3:17; 2Co 5:8. The enemies of Paul will have a hard time now in making Paul unhappy by persecutions even unto death (Php 1:20-26). He is not courting martyrdom, but he does not fear it or anything that is "for Christ's sake" [*huper Christou*]. **For when** [*hotan gar*]. "For whenever," indefinite time. **Then I am strong** [*tote dunatos eimi*]. At that very time, but not in myself, but in the fresh access of power from Christ for the emergency.

12:11 **I am become foolish** [*gegona aphr n*]. Perfect active indicative of [*ginomai*]. In spite of what he said in verse 6 that he would not be foolish if he gloried in the other Paul. But he feels that he has dropped back to the mood of 11:1,16. He has been swept on by the memory of the ecstasy. **For I ought to have been commended by you** [*eg gar pheilon huph' hum n sunistasthai*]. Explanation of "ye compelled me." Imperfect active [*pheilon*] of [*opheil*], to be under obligation,

and the tense here expresses an unfulfilled obligation about the present. But [*sunistasthai*] is present passive infinitive, not aorist or perfect passive. He literally means, “I ought now to be commended by you” instead of having to glorify myself. He repeats his boast already made (11:5f.), that he is no whit behind “the super-extra apostles” (the Judaizers), “though I am nothing” [*ei kai ouden eimi*]. Even boasting himself against those false apostles causes a reaction of feeling that he has to express (cf. 1Co 15:9; 1Ti 1:15f.).

12:12 **Of an apostle** [*tou apostolou*]. “Of the apostle” (definite article). Note the three words here for miracles wrought by Paul [*s meia*], signs, [*terata*], wonders, [*dunameis*], powers or miracles) as in Heb 2:4.

12:13 **Wherein ye were made inferior** [*ho h ss th te*]. First aorist passive indicative of [*h ssoomai*], the text of Aleph B D instead of the usual [*h tt th te*] from the common [*h ttaomai*] to be inferior or less from the comparative [*h tt n*]. See [*h ss n*] in verse 15. [*Ho*] is the neuter accusative with the passive verb (Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 479). **Forgive me this wrong** [*charisasthe moi t n adikian taut n*]. Consummate irony to the stingy element in this church (cf. 11:9).

12:14 **Third time I am ready to come** [*triton touto hetoim s ech*]. Had he been already twice or only once? He had changed his plans once when he did not go (1:15f.). He will not change his plans now. This looks as if he had only been once (that in Ac 18). Note the third use of [*katanarka*] (11:9; 12:13, 14). They need not be apprehensive. He will be as financially independent of them as before. “I shall not sponge on you.” **Not yours, but you** [*ou ta hum n, alla humas*]. The motto of every real preacher. **To lay up** [*th saurizein*]. For this use of the verb see 1Co 16:2 (Mt 6:19-21; Jas 5:3).

12:15 **I will most gladly spend and be spent** [*h dista dapan s kai ekdapan th somai*]. Both future active of old verb [*dapana*] (Mr 5:26) to spend money, time, energy, strength and the future passive of [*ekdapana*], late compound to spend utterly, to spend out, [*ek-*], to spend wholly. Only here in N.T.

12:16 **I did not myself burden you** [*eg ou katebar sa humas*]. First aorist active of late verb [*katabare*], to press a burden down on one. Only here in N.T. **Crafty** [*panourgos*]. Old word from [*pan*], all, and [*ergo*], to do anything (good or bad). Good sense is skilful, bad sense cunning. Only here in N.T. and Paul is quoting the word from his enemies. **With guile** [*dol i*]. Instrumental case of [*dolos*], bait to catch fish with. The enemies of Paul said that he was raising this big collection for himself. Moffatt has done well to put these charges in quotation marks to make it plain to readers that Paul is ironical.

12:17 **Did I take advantage** [*epleonekt sa*]. Paul goes right to the point without hedging. For this verb from [*pleon*] and [*ech*], to have more, see on 2Co 2:11; 7:2. **By any one of them** [*tina—di' autou*]. An anacoluthon for [*tina*] is left in the accusative without a verb and [*di' autou*] takes up

the idea, “as to any one by him.” **Whom** [*h n*]. The genitive relative is attracted from the accusative [*hous*] into the case of the unexpressed antecedent [*touton*]. [*M*] expects the negative answer as does [*m ti*] in 18.

12:18 **The brother** [*ton adelphon*]. Probably the brother of Titus (cf. 8:18). **Did Titus take advantage of you?** [*m ti epleonekt sen humas Titos?*]. That puts the issue squarely. **By the same Spirit** [*t i aut i pneumatii*]. That translation refers to the Holy Spirit and makes the case instrumental. The locative case, “in the same spirit,” makes it mean that Paul’s attitude is the same as that of Titus and most likely is correct, for “in the same steps” [*tois autois ichnesin*] is in locative case.

12:19 **Ye think all this time** [*palai dokeite*]. Progressive present indicative, “for a long time ye have been thinking.” **We are excusing ourselves** [*apologoumetha*]. He is not just apologizing, but is in deadly earnest, as they will find out when he comes.

12:20 **Lest by any means, when I come, I should find you not such as I would** [*m p s elth n ouch hoious thel heur humas*]. An idiomatic construction after the verb of fearing [*phoboumai*] with [*m p s*] as the conjunction and with [*ouch*] as the negative of the verb [*heur*] (second aorist active subjunctive of [*heurisk*]), [*m*] the conjunction, [*ouch*] the negative. See Robertson, *Grammar*, p. 995. **And I be found** [*kag heureth*]. Same construction with first aorist passive subjunctive. **Such as ye would not** [*hoion ou thelete*]. Neat change in voice just before and position of the negative here. **Lest by any means** [*m p s*]. Still further negative purpose by repeating the conjunction. With graphic pen pictures Paul describes what had been going on against him during his long absence. **Backbitings** [*katalaliai*]. Late and rare word. In N.T. only here and 1Pe 2:1. If it only existed nowhere else! **Whisperings** [*psithurismoi*]. Late word from [*psithuriz*], to whisper into one’s ear. An onomatopoeic word for the sibilant murmur of a snake charmer (Ec 10:11). Only here in N.T. **Swellings** [*phusi seis*]. From [*phusio*], to swell up, late word only here and in ecclesiastical writers. Did Paul make up the word for the occasion? See on 1Co 4:6 for verb. **Tumults** [*akatastasiai*]. See on 2Co 6:5.

12:21 **When I come again** [*palin elthontos mou*]. Genitive absolute. Paul assumes it as true. **Lest my God humble me** [*m tapein s i me ho theos mou*]. Negative final clause [*m*] and first aorist active subjunctive), going back to [*phoboumai*] in 20. He means a public humiliation as his fear. The conduct of the church had been a real humiliation whether he refers to a previous visit or not. **That have sinned heretofore** [*t n pro mart kot n*]. Genitive plural of the articular perfect active participle of [*proamartan*] to emphasize continuance of their sinful state as opposed to [*m metano sant n*] (did not repent) in the aorist tense.

Chapter 13

13:1 **The third time I am coming** [*triton erchomai*]. Either the third that he had planned to come or that he had been twice. The warning is made by quoting De 19:15.

13:2 **As when I was present the second time** [*h s par n to deutron*]. This translation assumes the second visit as already made. It is a natural way to take the Greek [*h s par n*]. But [*h s*] with [*par n*] can also mean “as if present” the second time (Authorized Version). Probably “as when” is the more natural rendering, but the other cannot be ruled entirely out in view of 1:15-23. **If I come again** [*ean elth eis to palin*]. Condition of third class. The use of [*palin*] of itself suits the idea that Paul had not yet made the second visit as it means simply “again” or “back,” but in Mt 26:44 we find [*palin ek tritou*] (again a third time) and so it is not decisive.

13:3 **A proof of Christ** [*dokim n tou Christou*]. He will give it to them. “I will not spare.” He will show that Christ speaks “in me” [*en emoi*].

13:4 **But we shall live with him through the power of God** [*alla z somen sun aut i ek duname s theou*]. So real is Paul’s sense of his union with Christ.

13:5 **Unless indeed ye be reprobate** [*ei m ti adokimoi este*]. Paul challenged his opposers in Corinth to try [*peirazete*] themselves, to test [*dokimazete*] themselves, whether they were “in the faith” [*en t i pistei*], a much more vital matter for them than trying to prove Paul a heretic. Such tests can be made, unless, alas, they are “reprobate” [*adokimoi*], the very adjective that Paul held up before himself as a dreadful outcome to be avoided, 1Co 9:27).

13:6 **That ye shall know** [*hoti epign sesthe*]. Such a testing of themselves will give them full knowledge that Paul is not **reprobate** [*adokimos*]. The best way for vacillating Christians to stop it is to draw close to Christ.

13:7 **Though we be as reprobate** [*h meis de h s adokimoi men*]. Literally, “And that” [*hina de*]. Paul wishes them to do no wrong [*kakon m den*]. He has no desire to exercise his apostolic authority and “appear approved” [*dokimoi phan men*], second aorist passive subjunctive of [*phain*]. He had far rather see them do “the noble thing” [*to kalon*] even if it should make him appear disapproved after all that he has said.

13:8 **Against the truth** [*kata t s al theias*]. He means in the long run. We can hinder and hold down the truth by evil deeds (Ro 1:18), but in the end the truth wins.

13:9 **For we rejoice** [*chairo men gar*]. Paul had far rather be weak in the sense of failing to exercise his apostolic power because they did the noble thing. He is no Jonah who lamented when Ninevah repented. **Your perfecting** [*hum n katartisin*]. Late word from [*katartiz*], to fit, to equip (see verb in verse 11). In Plutarch, only here in N.T.

13:10 **That I may not when present deal sharply** [*hina par n apotom s chr s mai*]. Late adverb from [*apotomos*], curt, cut off. In N.T. only here and Tit 1:13.

13:12 **With a holy kiss** [*en hagi i phil mati*]. In the Jewish synagogues where the sexes were separated, men kissed men, the women, women. This apparently was the Christian custom also. It is still observed in the Coptic and the Russian churches. It was dropped because of charges made against the Christians by the pagans. In England in 1250 Archbishop Walter of York introduced a “pax-board” which was first kissed by the clergy and then passed around. Think of the germ theory of disease and that kissing tablet!

13:13 **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all** [*h charis tou Kuriou I sou Christou kai h agap tou theou kai h koin nia tou hagiou pneumatou meta pant n hum n*]. This benediction is the most complete of them all. It presents the persons of the Trinity in full form. From 2Th 3:17 it appears that Paul wrote the greeting or benediction with his own hand. We know from Ro 15:19 that Paul went round about unto Illyricum before, apparently, he came on to Corinth. When he did arrive (Ac 20:1-3) the troubles from the Judaizers had disappeared. Probably the leaders left after the coming of Titus and the brethren with this Epistle. The reading of it in the church would make a stir of no small proportions. But it did the work.

Indexes

Index of Scripture References

Genesis

1:3 24:31 33:11

Exodus

34:29 34:30 34:33 34:34 34:34 34:35

Leviticus

19:19 26:11 26:12

Deuteronomy

19:15 22:10 25:1-3

2 Samuel

7:8 7:8 7:14

1 Kings

1:9 21:18

2 Kings

10:6

Esther

4:14

Job

7:14 33:16

Psalms

92:3 92:9 95:1

Proverbs

27:2

Ecclesiastes

10:11

Isaiah

49:8 52:5 52:11

Ezekiel

17:24 20:33 20:34 37:27 37:27

Daniel

6:17

Matthew

3:10 3:17 5 5:3 5:5 5:15 5:15 5:24 5:30 5:37 5:37 6:19-21 6:19-21 6:22 9:2 9:22
11:12 11:29 11:29 11:30 11:30 12:28 12:30 12:34 12:34 13:21 13:21 13:22 13:52

16:26 17:2 18:17 19:11 20:26 21:30 23:5 25:10 25:27 26:28 26:44 26:55 26:67
27:3 27:19 27:36 27:46 27:63

Mark

3:21 5:26 5:42 6:46 6:52 7:8 7:9 7:36 8:17 8:17 9:2 10:14 10:26 10:38 12:43
12:44 13:22 14:58

Luke

1:22 1:23 1:46 1:53 1:68 3:22 4:20 5:10 5:38 6:38 8:45 9:34 10:30 11:20 12:47
12:48 12:50 14:13 16:12 18:5 18:7 20:23 21:4 21:22 21:24 21:25 22:25 22:63
23:34 23:43 23:51

John

3:16 4:6 7:12 8:46 9:36 10:1-21 11:50 12:1 12:31 14:16 14:30 15:2 16:7 21:7

Acts

3:4 3:7 4:12 4:13 5:26 6:1 7:20 7:26 7:39 7:48 7:57 8:30 9:3 9:4 9:23 9:24
9:25 9:25 9:29 9:30 10:41 11:25 13:50 14:5 14:5-19 14:8-12 14:12 14:23 15:25
16:8 16:9 16:20 16:22 16:23 16:23 16:33 16:37 17:5 17:11 17:13 17:24 17:34 18
18 18 18:1-18 18:5 18:9 18:11 18:12 18:12 18:27 19:21 19:22 19:23 20:1 20:1
20:1 20:1-3 20:6 20:9 20:9 20:19-31 20:26 20:30 22:17 23:12 24:4 24:12 24:27
24:27 24:34 26:19 26:24 27 27:20 27:23 27:40 28:2 28:13

Romans

1:4 1:6 1:9 1:17 1:17 1:18 1:20 1:25 1:25 1:27 2:15 3:21 3:25 3:26 4:19 5:2
5:3-5 5:4 5:11 5:19 6:13 6:13 6:17 7:14 7:22 8:9 8:17 8:17 8:17 8:29 8:32 8:35
9:1-5 9:2 9:5 9:20 9:21 11:15 11:30 11:32 11:33 12:9 12:11 12:16 12:17 13:12
14:4 14:8 15:19 15:20 15:24 16:1 16:1 16:4 16:18

1 Corinthians

1:1 1:3 1:4-9 1:5 1:5 1:7 1:8 1:10 1:12 1:17 1:17 1:20 1:28 2:1 2:3 2:4 2:4
2:6 2:13 2:13 2:13 2:23 3:1 3:3 3:3 3:4 3:8 3:9 3:16 3:21 3:22 4:6 4:6 4:8 4:8
4:11 4:21 5 5:1 5:1-13 5:5 5:8 5:9 5:10 6:19 7:16 7:25 7:29 8:7 9 9:7 9:27
10:11 10:14-22 11:23 12 12:31 12:31 12:31 13:12 13:12 14:11 14:16 14:16 14:18
14:23 14:24 14:26 14:33 15:3 15:9 15:31 15:32 15:40 15:48-53 15:51 15:54 15:56
16:2 16:2 16:7 16:9 16:10 16:18

2 Corinthians

1:3-7 1:3-7 1:4 1:6 1:8 1:8 1:9 1:9 1:9 1:12 1:14 1:15 1:15 1:15 1:15-23 1:16
1:22 1:22 1:23 2:3 2:3 2:3 2:4 2:4 2:9 2:9 2:9 2:9 2:10 2:10 2:11 2:11 2:11
2:11 2:11 2:12 2:12 2:12 2:12 2:12-6 2:12-6:10 2:12-7:1 2:13 2:13 2:14 2:15 3:1
3:1-6 3:2 3:2 3:4 3:5 3:6 3:6 3:7 3:7 3:7 3:11 3:13 3:17 3:18 4:1 4:2 4:2 4:3
4:4 4:6 4:6 4:6 4:6 4:8 4:8 4:8 4:8 4:9 4:10 4:10 4:10 4:11 5:2 5:5 5:7 5:8
5:9 5:10 5:12 5:12 5:12 5:15 5:15 6:2 6:3 6:3 6:3-7 6:4 6:4-7 6:5 6:5 6:7 6:7
6:8 6:8 6:9-10 6:10 6:10 6:11 6:11 6:12 6:12 7:2 7:2 7:6 7:6 7:7 7:8-12 7:8-12
7:9 7:11 7:14 7:15 8:2 8:2 8:2 8:2 8:4 8:6 8:8 8:9 8:9 8:10 8:12 8:17 8:18

8:18 8:21 8:22 9:2 9:3 9:7 9:10 9:10-14 9:11 9:11 9:11 9:11 9:11-13 9:12 9:12
 9:12 9:13 9:15 9:18 9:22 10 10:1 10:1 10:1 10:1 10:1-13:14 10:2 10:2 10:3 10:4
 10:7 10:7 10:10 10:10 10:12 10:14 10:15 10:16 10:17 11 11:1 11:1 11:4 11:5
 11:6 11:6 11:6 11:9 11:9 11:9 11:9 11:13 11:14 11:15 11:15 11:16 11:16 11:17
 11:20 11:21 11:23 11:26 11:27 11:28 11:30 11:31 12:1-6 12:2 12:6 12:7 12:7-10
 12:10 12:11 12:13 12:13 12:14 12:14 12:14 12:15 12:17 12:18 12:18 12:20 13:1
 13:3 13:3 13:11

Galatians

1:6 1:8 1:12 1:17 1:20 2:4 2:4 2:9 3:10 3:13 3:15 3:15 3:28 4:14 5:2 5:12 6:11
 6:16

Ephesians

1:3 1:6 1:14 2:2 2:16 3:3 3:8 4:1 4:22 5:2 5:7 5:17 6:5 6:11 6:12 6:20

Philippians

1:8 1:20 1:20-26 1:21 1:23 1:23 2:8 2:12 2:16 2:18 2:22 2:25 2:27 2:30 3:1 3:10
 3:10 3:18 4:4 4:5 4:11 4:13 4:15 4:18

Colossians

1:12 1:20 1:20 1:24 1:24 2:11 2:19 3:4 3:9 3:21 4:1 4:3 4:10

1 Thessalonians

1:6 2:3 2:5 2:9 2:9 2:9 2:10 2:17 2:19 3:13 4:6 4:6 4:11 5:8 5:16

2 Thessalonians

1:7 2:2 2:16 3:8 3:8 3:17

1 Timothy

1:7 1:15 1:18 1:19 5:8 6:6

2 Timothy

2:20 2:20 4:6-8 4:9-18

Titus

1:13

Hebrews

1:3 2:2 2:4 4:15 7:26 9:14 11:1 11:1 11:7 11:39 12:3

James

1:9 5:3 5:11 5:12

1 Peter

1:3 1:5 2:1 2:14 2:22 3:4 3:8 3:15 4:11 4:13

2 Peter

1:1 1:5 2:4

1 John

2:2 2:20 3:2 3:5 4:10 5:19

2 John

1:7 1:12

3 John

1:13

Revelation

1:1 2:2 3:15 18:4

Wisdom of Solomon

5:18

2 Maccabees

5:8

Index of Scripture Commentary

2 Corinthians

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13