

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Importance of context. 3rd of 4 messages -> rescind discipline [30<sup>th</sup>].

**1st: The Context for Epitome Passage Re: Rescinding Church Discipline**

1. Paul's rlnshp w/ Cors. "Some of the most baffling historical, textual & inter-pretive problems in NT" [Robert Reymond]. Using Scott Hafemann
2. 1<sup>st</sup> journey: Galatia [46-47] -> Jeru 48-49 [A15]: Gentiles circumcer'al law
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> journey: Macedonia & Greece: Cor - 50AD [A18]. Stayed 1.5 yr -> Eph & Jeru then to Antioch. Wrote 1<sup>st</sup> letter to **Cor A** re: discipline - 1C 5:9-13
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> journey [53-58] 3yrs in Eph, wrote 1C [**Cor B**] 54/55 = response to list of issues causing trouble: *now concerning...* [7:1,25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1,12]
5. Sent Tim [1C4:17; 16:10f] w/ 1C [**Cor B**]. Resistance in Cor; plans to visit [1C4:18-21; 1C16:5-8]. Wanted to send Apollos, but he declined [1C16:12].
6. Tim returned w/ bad news of anti-Paul faction: false apostles. They accuse Paul of lying [2C1:15-17]. Paul refers to a 2<sup>nd</sup> visit [while in Eph for 3 yrs] = sorrowful visit - 2C1:23-2:1. Also a 3<sup>rd</sup> tearful letter - **Cor C** - 2C2:2-5.
  - i. Surmise: confronted by a false apostle in 2<sup>nd</sup> visit & appeared defeated. But Paul knows the Lord is at work even in divisions - 1C11:19.
  - ii. Rather than visit, he writes a 3<sup>rd</sup> letter directing Cors to discipline the false apostle. It is this man's discipline that is rescinded in 2C2:6-8.
  - iii. Cor must exercise muscles of obedient faith - 2C2:9-11. Paul minimized his personal offense & emphasizes benefit for the church.
7. Sent Titus w/ 3<sup>rd</sup> letter [**Cor C**]; Eph -> Troas - 2C2:12-13 but concern for Titus & Cor -> Macedonia & reconnected w/ Titus

8. Wrote 2C [**Cor D**] in Macedonia after Titus reported Cor's rxn - 2C 7:2-9 [v10-11 Cor's repent] - disciplined the ringleader of anti-Paul faction.
9. But, now they've gone to the other extreme - Paul wrote 2C [**Cor D**], in part, to correct imbalance [cf. 2C2 - rescind the discipline].
10. Paul plans a 3<sup>rd</sup> visit. See map. 2Cor [**CorD**] is mixture of encouragement for majority who are realigned w/ Paul w/ cont'd warnings for residual rebels. If they reject Paul, they reject Christ & gospel.

**2nd: The Epitome Passage for Rescinding Corrective Church Discipline**

1. "Rescind" - remove discipline in view of evident repentance.
2. 2C2:6-8 not the incestuous man of 1C5 [**CorA**], but the Anti-Paul ring-leader. The Cor ch is repenting too: lax discipline & resistance to Paul.

**3rd: The Epitome Repentance Passage**

1. 2C 7:10-11 see who is repenting & why while acknowledging vss as describing true repentance itself
  - i. v10 - an emotional aspect: but 2 kinds of *sorrow* w/ 2 different results
  - ii. v11 - describes the product of *godly sorrow*: *earnestness; vindication; indignation; fear; longing; zeal*
  - iii. Thorough - *in everything*; obvious - *you demonstrated yourselves*. *Innocent* [rtd to *holy*: morally pure, sincere]. *In the matter* ['pragmatic'].
2. Cors needed no "check-list" written by Paul. HS-generated repentance surges & cuts its own path: *performing deeds appropriate to repentance* [A26:20].
3. May GCBC be obedient in the matter of church discipline & rejoice at the prospect of rescinding church discipline on a returning prodigal!