



Sunday Morning Message for September 17, 2017 by Ray Reynolds

Saints Can Find Hope In Instruction (II Corinthians 2)

Introduction: Last week we began a new series on the book of II Corinthians. The church in Corinth had many problems. I & II Corinthians are only part of the correspondence Paul felt they needed to correct those problems. The “saints” of God in Corinth realized that not all hope was lost. In this second letter, we can see several things that gave the church hope. Today we will see how we can receive hope in instruction. Let’s open to chapter two and study together...

Discussion:

I. The Instruction for Joy (vs.1-4)

- Joy can come in persecution (**Matthew 5:11-12**).
- Joy can come in sorrow (**John 16:22**).
- Joy can come in tribulation (**Romans 12:12**).
- Joy can come in trials (**James 1:2-4**).

II. The Instruction for Forgiveness (vs.5-11)

- Forgiveness comes from God (**Psalms 65:3**).
- Forgiveness causes us to forgive others (**Matthew 6:14-15**).
- Forgiveness causes us to forget wrongs (**I Corinthians 13:5**).
- Forgiveness causes us to confess our sin (**I John 1:8-9**).

III. The Instruction for Victory (vs.12-17)

- Victory is revealed by peace (**John 16:33**).
- Victory is revealed by meekness (**II Corinthians 10:1-4**).
- Victory is revealed by teaching (**Ephesians 4:15**).
- Victory is revealed by patience (**II Timothy 2:24-26**).

Conclusion: Paul began our text with what he had determined to do, and not to do, for the sake of the gospel. To the Romans, Paul said: “*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*” (**Romans 15:13**). Do you have hope? Hope only comes from “the God of all comfort.” Are you sharing that hope? People are dying to know it. Are you ready to be filled with hope? Come to Jesus.