

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

>

[Other](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

2 Corinthians 13
This study has not
been posted on
facebook yet



By Dan Maines

2 Corinthians 13

2 Corinthians 13:1

This is the third time I am coming to you. Every matter is to be confirmed by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

† Paul reminds them of his impending third visit.

† He applies the principle from Deuteronomy 19:15, showing that his warnings are legally and spiritually valid.

2 Corinthians 13:2

I previously said when present the second time, and though now absent I say in advance to those who have sinned in the past and to all the rest as well, that if I come again I will not spare anyone.

† Paul's patience is great, but his warnings are serious.
† He will exercise authority against unrepentant sin if necessary.

2 Corinthians 13:3-4

Since you are seeking proof of the Christ who speaks in me, who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you. For indeed He was crucified because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God. For we too are weak in Him, yet we will live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you.

† The Corinthians doubted Paul's authority, but his power was in Christ.
† Christ's weakness in the cross became strength in resurrection.
† Paul mirrors Christ, weak in himself but strong in God's power.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith, examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you, unless indeed you fail the test?

† The Corinthians must look inward, not just at Paul.
† The presence of Christ in them is the true measure of faith.
† Augustine (On the Spirit and the Letter 31) emphasized self-examination in the light of grace.

2 Corinthians 13:6

But I expect that you will realize that we ourselves do not fail the

test.

† Paul expresses confidence that his ministry proves genuine.

2 Corinthians 13:7

Now we pray to God that you do nothing wrong, not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do what is right, even though we may appear unapproved.

† Paul's concern is not his reputation but their righteousness.

† A true shepherd seeks the good of the flock, not personal glory.

2 Corinthians 13:8-9

For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we ourselves are weak but you are strong, this we also pray for, that you become mature.

† Paul submits to truth above all else.

† His joy is in their strength and maturity, even if he appears weak.

2 Corinthians 13:10

For this reason I am writing these things while absent, so that when present I need not use severity, in accordance with the authority which the Lord gave me for building up, and not for tearing down.

† Paul's authority is constructive, not destructive.

† His letters aim to prevent the need for severity.

2 Corinthians 13:11

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice, mend your ways, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

- † Paul ends with a call to unity, peace, and comfort.
- † God's presence is tied to the pursuit of love and peace.

2 Corinthians 13:12-13

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

- † Paul reminds them of the fellowship and unity of the church.
- † Early church greetings symbolized love, peace, and equality.

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

- † Paul concludes with a benediction invoking the full work of God.
- † The early church fathers saw in this blessing the richness of God's presence with His people.

How it applies to us today

- † 2 Corinthians 13 calls believers to examine themselves and live in Christ's power.
- † True authority in the church is for building up, not tearing down.
- † Unity, love, and peace are the marks of maturity.
- † God's grace, love, and Spirit continue to be with the church in its fulfilled reality.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

- † Deuteronomy 19:15 - two or three witnesses confirm a matter
- † Augustine, On the Spirit and the Letter 31 - self-examination in grace
- † Jeremiah 9:24 - boasting only in the Lord
- † Early church tradition - unity expressed through holy greeting

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.