

2 Corinthians 13:1-10

English Standard Version

13

This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 2 I warned those who sinned before and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not spare them— 3 since you seek proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you.

4 For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God.

5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test. 7 But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. 8 For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth.

9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for. 10 For this reason I write these things while I am away from you, that when I come I may not have to be severe in my use of the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.

Week Twelve

II Corinthians 13:1-10: Test Yourselves

This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 2 I warned those who sinned before and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not spare them— 3 since you seek proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you.

Paul lays it on the line, It is time to take care of these issues. It's time for _____ action to be taken. The Apostle states plainly that he is coming in the power of God to put an end to conflict, confusion and _____ that those false teachers have inserted in the church. This brings about good teaching for us to know when its time to take decisive action.

It's time to take decisive action when you have.....

1. Spoken to the person(s) _____ on _____
2. Based your issues on the Word of God_
3. Given a clear _____ of the reason for the warning
4. Established the warning with _____
5. Concluded that if decisive, disciplinary action is not taken the kingdom work of Jesus will suffer
6. Determined you can carry out the discipline in the power and _____ of _____
7. No selfish reason for the outcome to be in your favor

5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

The fact that the Apostle has to come and take such action causes him to demand that people examine themselves to see if they're in the faith. This test should affirm they are saved and that the saved are in the will of God. All of us should be certain of our salvation along with striving to _____ in step with the Lord. Once we are certain of our relationship with Jesus we don't need to look back. Once it's settled it's settled. Then we move on to make sure we are not grieving the Spirit through not walking in line with the will of God. This passage is more concerned about the Christians in the church walking in line with the will of God. Let's take a deeper look at both tests.

The Test of Salvation

1. Are you filled with the reality that Jesus abides within your life?
(Romans 8:16)

2. Does your testimony align with the truth of the Gospel?

1 Timothy 2

4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

3. Has your salvation experienced left with a change in your desires and actions? (2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 2:2)

6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test. 7 But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. 8 For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. 9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for. 10 For this reason I write these things while I am away from you, that when I come I may not have to be severe in my use of the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.

The Test of Walking in the Will of God

1. How is your _____ life?

2. Is there any conviction of doing wrong?

3. Is there any area of your life not in line with the truth of God?

4. Are there _____ where you have not done your part in seeking _____?

5. What about your _____?

6. Has anyone in _____ spoken to you or have you submitted to proper _____?

7. Are you a part of the work of Jesus impacting others?

