

THE MOTIVE AND THE RESULTS  
II COR. 7:12-16

Introduction:

A. Why would Paul expose himself to the possible anger and hostility of the Corinthians?

1. Not for the joy of a fight.
2. Not for the money.
3. Strangely, Paul did it to prove his love for them.

B. Explanations are often misinterpreted.

[cynical attitude]

1. "Our friends don't need it and our enemies won't accept it."
2. Attempts at justifying oneself, excuse making.
3. It is very difficult to know the difference.

I. THE MOTIVE FOR WRITING THE LETTER. V12

A. "that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you."

1. care = spoude - zeal, pains, trouble, an earnest serious purpose.
2. appear = phaneroo - to make clear.

B. The reasons he did not write the letter.

1. "I did not for his cause that had done the wrong."
  - a. cause = eneken - for the sake of.
  - b. wrong = adikeo - to wrong someone.
  - c. The party who was guilty and did the wrong.
2. "nor for his cause that suffered wrong."
  1. adikethentos - the one who was wronged.

C. Paul did not write to punish the guilty or to vindicate the righteous, but to help the body.

II. THE RESULTS OF THE LETTER. V13-16

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- A. Paul was comforted. v13a
  - 1. "Therefore we were comforted in your comfort."
  - 2. comfort = paraklesis - a calling near.
  
- B. Titus was refreshed. v13b
  - 1. "Yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all."
  - 2. refreshed = anapauo - to cause to rest.
  
- C. Paul's boasting of them was confirmed, [justified] v14
  - 1. boasting = kauchaomai - to speak loud, to vaunt.
  - 2. ashamed = kataischuno - to disgrace, dishonor.
  - 3. You made what I said the truth.
  
- D. The love of Titus grew. v15
  - 1. Titus loved the more deeply than ever because they had done right.
  
- E. Paul's confidence in them was justified [vindicated] v16
  - 1. confidence = pepoithesis - persuasion, trust, assurance.
  - 2. Our obedience to God is a great confidence builder.

### III. LESSONS FOR YOU AND ME.

- A. Do things for the churches sake.
  
- B. Our obedience can affect others.