A Study of the Epistles of Paul
NT Survey Lesson 130—2 Corinthians 1

Introduction: Paul's second letter to the Corinthians was written to them from Macedonia. Paul's letter may be divided into three sections: 1) In chapters 1-7 Paul discusses his own motivations and work as an evangelist working with Corinth; 2) In chapters 8-9 Paul urges the Corinthians to fulfill their pledge to participate in the great collection for the needy in Jerusalem; 3) In chapter 10-12 Paul defends his apostleship against those in Corinth who sought to undermine his influence.

Lesson aim: To show why God allows His people to suffer in this life

Paul praises God for the comfort He gives—2 Cor. 1:1-11

1. Who are the co-writers of this epistle? To whom is the letter written?

2. How did Paul describe God in v. 3? What did He say God did? Why did Paul say God comforts His people?

3. What did Paul say was abundant through Christ? (v. 5)

4. Paul said if He and Timothy were afflicted, it was for what purpose? (v. 6) If they were comforted, it was for what? What would this comfort enable the Corinthians to do?

5. Describe the suffering Paul experienced in Asia (v. 8).

6. Paul said he had the sentence of death for what purpose? (v. 9)

7. What did Paul affirm God could and would do? (v. 9-10)

8. How did Paul say the Corinthians could help in bringing about Paul's deliverance from death? (v. 11)

Paul affirms his integrity in dealing with the Corinthians—2 Cor. 1:15-22

1. In what three things had Paul and Timothy conducted themselves in the world and toward the Corinthians? (v. 12)

2. What did Paul say about things he had written to the Corinthians? (v. 13)

3. What had been Paul original travel plans? (v. 15-16) Did this indicate that Paul couldn't make up his mind or that his word was unreliable? (v. 17-18)

4. Paul said his word to the Corinthians was not ____ and ____. What do you think this means? (v. 18-20)

5. What did Paul affirm about the promises of God? (v. 20)

6. What did God do to assure His people that His promises would be fulfilled? (v. 21-22)