



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 26

Name: _____

Read II Corinthians 10

1. In chapter 10, Paul defends his ministry. This ministry is not a carnal or fleshly ministry. By the power of Christ, it pulls down _____, and casts down every _____ and every high thing that exalts itself against the _____ of God, and brings into captivity every thought to the _____ of Christ (II Cor. 10: 5) This is war of the gospel within the heart of man. When the gospel comes, the defenses go up against this gospel. The wicked human heart fights against it...but by God's power is brought as a captive, not to the devil that "old serpent" as previously, but to Christ, the meek Lamb of God. He takes captive **every** thought ... think about that.
2. When Paul speaks about his ministry, he reminds the Corinthians what they said about him. They said Paul's letters were weighty and _____, but his bodily presence was _____, and his speech _____ (II Cor. 10: 10). This did not matter to Paul, because he that glorieth, let him glory in the _____ (10:17).

Read II Corinthians 11

3. In Chapter 11, Paul desired that their minds would not be _____ from the simplicity which is in Christ (II Cor 11: 3). The gospel is so simple, yet man likes to make it complicated, making it like a train station, first you have to stop here, then there, and after that you have to wait here, and then if you do this, then... NO! This is the scheming of man, but not from the Lord. Paul warns in verse 14, that Satan himself is transformed into an angel of _____. This is the most dangerous devil. For the devil can quote the scriptures like no other, but remember, they are all twisted or deceitfully taken out of context.
4. The false leaders will try to discredit God's chosen leaders. Paul compares some of their claims to leadership with his own qualifications (II Corinthians 11:22) "Are they _____? So am I. Are they the seed of _____? So am I."

5. Luke 9:23-24 gives the terms of discipleship: “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.” Paul speaks about his suffering as an apostle (11:24-25).
 - a. Five times he received 39 _____.
 - b. Three times he was beaten with _____.
 - c. Once he was _____.
 - d. Three times he suffered _____.
 - e. A day and a night he was in the _____ (referring to floating in the sea). Many times we read books about missionaries and tend to think about them with a bit of a romantic view. There is nothing romantic about it. It is often dangerous work.
6. There are many perils. Peril = danger. What types of perils did he have? (v. 26)

7. But Paul who said he glories only in the _____ (Gal. 6: 14), here glories in his _____, that the power of Christ might rest upon him. (II Cor. 11: 30).
8. Paul then at the end of this chapter mentions one more peril he had in the city of _____. He escaped for his life over the wall in a _____.

Read II Corinthians 12

In Chapter 12, Paul speaks of the visions he had and of the thorn in the flesh. Paul seems to have had an “out of the body” experience. When we

speak of the first heaven, we are referring to the heavens where the birds are flying. When we speak of the second heaven, we are referring to the heavens where the planets and the stars are. When we speak of the third heaven, we are referring to the heavens where God dwells.

9. Paul writes that this vision caught him up into the _____ heaven. Paul calls it _____ where he heard unspeakable things (12:2-4).
10. Paul would not and could not glory in this. For as a man he would have, had not God sent the _____ in the flesh, called here the messenger of _____ to buffet him. We don’t know specifically what this was, but we know that God has all means at his disposal. We know this became a burden for Paul, and he prayed _____ times that it would be removed (II Cor. 12: 7-8). Yet, God knew that Paul needed to have this affliction. Affliction = a cause of continued pain of body or mind.
11. During the writing of this book, Christ has ascended, yet the Bible records Christ speaking directly to Paul (note: the following words are in red if you have a red-letter edition), “My grace is _____ for thee for my strength is made perfect in _____.”

12. For this reason Paul took pleasure in these infirmities and afflictions, because when he was weak, then he was _____. This is the Christian paradox. The world hears this, and it makes no sense to them, but Paul emphasizes that when he was weak, the _____ of Christ rested upon him (II Cor 12:9).
13. Paul as a real missionary was willing to _____ and be _____ for the Corinthians (12:15). Souls were at stake and Paul spent all his strength winning souls, as Proverbs states, “He that winneth souls is _____” (Prov. 11:30).

Read II Corinthians 13

II Corinthians 13 includes an important admonition to self-examination. Self-examination can be compared to taking a final school exam – have you made progress? Self-examination is also like preparing for an inspection by the sergeant major or being cross-examined by a lawyer, or looking at a map by a traveler to see where we have been and where we are going. Self-examination in the spiritual sense exposes sin. We all have a love of ease and become sluggish. Some of the reasons given to avoid self-examination include:

- A controversy with others draws our attention away from ourselves
- We don't feel the necessity
- We are afraid that it would lead to depression
- We don't want to trouble our inward presumed peace
- It might raise some doubts

If we were to go to a store to buy a 25 cent piece of candy and give a \$100 bill, the cashier would likely examine the bill to confirm that it was not counterfeit. In a similar way, self-examination is necessary to evaluate our spiritual state before God. We have only one soul to gain or lose.

14. Self-examination is an important practice (II Cor. 13:5). Paul tells us all to examine ourselves whether we be in the _____. We must make our calling and election sure. Eternity is directly in front of us.
15. In his final farewell, Paul directs the Corinthians to be perfect, be of good _____, be of one _____, live in _____, and the God

What are the marks of spiritual life?

- A new attitude to sin; a grief over sin that nailed Jesus to the cross
- A new attitude to Christ, a believer doesn't want to simply know about the “ark” but he must be in the ark. All is lost outside of the ark.
- A new attitude to the means of grace (Bible, prayer, Sabbath, public worship, sacraments)
- A new attitude to life – living different from the world, desires to live according to the will of God
- A new attitude to good works: Lord, make me useful.
- A new attitude to holiness –we are weak and the devil is busy. Holiness is maintained through spiritual warfare.

of love and peace shall be with you (13:11).
16. Paul then uses the familiar benediction: “The _____ of the
Lord Jesus Christ, the _____ of God, and the
_____ of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen.”

Evaluator: _____

Meditation:

The pride of nature is wonderful (astounding or beyond comprehension). A natural man is proud of anything. Proud of his person, although he did not make it; yet he prides himself upon his looks. Proud of his dress, although a block of wood might have the same cause for pride, if you would put the clothes on it. Proud of riches, as if there were some merit in having more gold than others. Proud of rank, as if there were some merit in having noble blood. Alas, pride flows in the veins; yet there is a pride more wonderful than that of nature – *pride of grace*. You would think a man never could be proud who had once seen himself lost; yet, alas, Scripture and experience show that a man may be proud of his measure of grace; proud of forgiveness; proud of humility; proud of knowing more of God than others. It was this that was springing up in Paul’s heart when God sent him the thorn in the flesh.

Taken from: “Gems of R.M. McCheyne”