

## CHAPTER 1

**P**AUL, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:

2 Grace *be* to you and peace from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

6 And whether we be afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation.

7. And our hope of you *is* sted-

fast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so *shall ye be* also of the consolation.

8 For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:

9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver *us*;

11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift *bestowed* upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

12. For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.

13 For we write none other things unto you, than what ye read or acknowledge; and I trust ye shall acknowledge even to the end;

14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also *are* ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

15. And in this confidence I was minded to come unto you before, that ye might have a second benefit;

16 And to pass by you into Macedonia, and to come again out of Macedonia unto you, and of you to be brought on my way toward Judaea.

17 When I therefore was thus minded, did I use lightness? or the things that I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, that with me there should be yea yea, and nay nay?

18 But *as* God *is* true, our word toward you was not yea and nay.

19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, *even* by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in him was yea.

20 For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

21 Now he which stablisheth us

with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, *is* God;

22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

23 Moreover I call God for a record upon my soul, that to spare you I came not as yet unto Corinth.

24 Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

## CHAPTER 2

**B**UT I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.

2 For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?

3 And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is *the* joy of you all.

4 For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

5. But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all.

6 Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was inflicted* of many.

7 So that contrariwise ye *ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.

8 Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm *your* love toward him.

9 For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.

10 To whom ye forgive any thing, I *forgive* also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave *it*, for your sakes *forgave I it* in the person of Christ;

11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

12. Furthermore, when I came to Troas to *preach* Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord,

13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.

14 Now thanks *be* unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh mani-

fest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:

16 To the one *we are* the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who *is* sufficient for these things?

17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

### CHAPTER 3

**D**O we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some *others*, epistles of commendation to you, or *letters* of commendation from you?

2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

3 *Forasmuch as ye are* manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

4 And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:

5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency *is* of

God;

6. Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

7 But if the ministration of death, written *and* engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which *glory* was to be done away:

8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious?

9 For if the ministration of condemnation *be* glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.

10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth.

11 For if that which is done away *was* glorious, much more that which remaineth *is* glorious.

12. Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

13 And not as Moses, *which* put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which *vail* is done away in Christ.

15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.

17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.

18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

### 2 CORINTHIANS 1--3

The Apostle Paul also wrote the Book of II Corinthians. It was probably written from Philippi in about a.d. 60. Paul had many purposes in mind when he wrote this letter. He wanted to commend the church for disciplining those who had been guilty of sin within the church, and encourage them to forgive and receive that one back into the church. He also answered those in the church who were questioning his apostolic authority, and those who accused him of wrong motives. He was also encouraging the church to share in the offerings for the Jerusalem saints, and preparing them for his planned visit. This letter differs from Paul's first letter to the Corinthian church in that it is filled with the emotions of Paul. It also shows us the love and concern Paul had for the work of the Lord. In his first letter Paul is shown as the instructor, answering questions and setting matters right; while in the second letter he is the pastor pouring out his heart so that his spiritual children might be perfected in the faith.

Chapter 1 reveals the heart of Paul as does none other of his writings. The great apostle admits his fears and feelings, as he gives an account of his personal sufferings and experiences. He then gives three reasons why God permits His own to suffer: (1) That we might comfort others (verses 1-7); (2) that we might have confidence in God alone and not depend upon ourselves (verses 8-11); and, (3) that we might claim the promises of God (verses 12-24).

In chapters 2 and 3 Paul is shedding tears over the church, with the theme of his message being abundant love. How often do pastors today weep over wayward Christians? Perhaps not as many as should be are that concerned, but Paul's tears were honored by God and the sin of the church was put away.

Chapter 3 is the key chapter, because it shows the relationship between the Old Testament ministry of the Law and the New Testament ministry of the Gospel. There are many religious groups today who mix law and grace. Christ was the fulfillment of the law. A person is saved today by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and no other way. God's Word tells us that all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and that "by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: It is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

### PROVERB FOR TODAY

"The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the

heart of the foolish doeth not so" (Proverbs 15:7).

## TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 29 (found on page 7).

## HYMN FOR THE DAY

### COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

*Charles Wesley, 1707-1788*

Anticipation is a necessary and important part of every believer's life. In Old Testament times the people anxiously awaited a Messianic Kingdom. Today we should be waiting with the same urgent expectancy as did the Israelites of old. But our anticipation is the Lord's second advent—the piercing of the clouds and the sound of the trumpet—when victory over sin and death will be complete and final.

Not only looking, but longing the blessed Lord's return to greet;

*Our crowns of glory to gather and cast them with joy at  
His feet,*

*Not only waiting, but watching, wistfully scanning the  
skies;*

*Anticipating that daybreak when the world's true Sun  
shall arise.*

-Unknown

The Old Testament prophecies were very specific concerning our Lord's first advent. The prophets gave the exact location of His birth (Micah 5:2) as well as the sign that He would be virgin born (Isaiah 7:14). Likewise the New Testament gives clear instructions regarding the second advent: "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations . . . and when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:25-28).

"Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus" is another of the more than 6,500 hymns written by Charles Wesley. It was first published in 1744 in a small collection of 18 poems titled Hymns for the Nativity of Our Lord. The vibrant "Hyfrydol" tune was composed by a 20-year-old Welshman, Rowland H. Prichard, in about 1830. The tune means "good cheer." It has been used with many of our popular hymns.

Just as Christ's birth 2,000 years ago dramatically changed the course of human history, so will the return of our Lord as the King of kings. With the saints of the ages we pray, "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus."



*Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us: Let us find our rest in Thee;  
Israel's Strength and Consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear Desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King;  
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

## **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**1902**

### **THE BIRTHDAY OF MITSUO FUCHIDA.**

He was born at Kashiwara-Shi, Japan. Fuchida was the leader of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. He flew the lead plane. He was gloriously converted through the Pocket Testament League on April 14, 1950. It is said that Glen Wagoner led Fuchida to Jesus Christ in a hotel room. He was supposed to have been brought under conviction previously by reading a tract of the testimony of Jacob DeShazzer.

Fuchida was the sole surviving officer of the seven commanders and thirty-two squadron leaders whom he led in the Pearl Harbor raid. He had had six crashes at sea. Shortly before the battle of Midway, he underwent an appendectomy on board ship. A bomb hit the ship and broke both of his legs and hurled him into the sea again. He was rescued.

While pastoring in Garland, Texas, Jack Hyles invited Mr. Fuchida to come to speak to the people of the Miller Road Baptist Church. This he did. One of the most exciting and thrilling experiences of Dr. Hyles' life took place that night. In the church in Garland that night was a man who was at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. This man remembered the first plane coming over. He too had been saved. These two men who had been enemies shook hands because of Calvary.

**1856**

### **ARTHUR J. BROWN WAS BORN.**

Brown served as secretary on the foreign missionary society of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. from 1895 until 1929. He died in 1963 at the age of 106.

### **WILLIAM DILLON WAS BORN.**

He became the superintendent of the Main Sunshine Gospel Mission of Chicago. His wife, Mildred, wrote many famous choruses. Among them is "Safe Am I." Sing it now.

## **SAFE AM I**

*Safe am I, safe am I  
In the hollow of His hand.  
Sheltered o'er,  
Sheltered o'er  
With His love forevermore.  
No ill can harm me,  
No foe alarm me;  
For He keeps both day and night.  
Safe am I, safe am I,  
In the hollow of His hand.*

**1818**

### **ILLINOIS WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.**

There are many faithful preachers and Christians in this state. Let us pray God's blessings to rest upon them.

## **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1847**

Frederick Douglass published the first issue of his newspaper, the *North Star*.

**1864**

Twenty-fifth Corps, largest all-black unit in history of U.S. Army, established in Army of the James.

**1867**

Virginia constitutional convention (twenty-five blacks, eighty whites) met in Richmond. Because of Political and legal complications, the Virginia constitution was not adopted until July 6, 1869.

**1883**

Forty-eighth Congress (1883-85) convened, Two black representatives, James E. O'Hara, North Carolina; Robert Smalls, South Carolina.

George L. Ruffin appointed city judge in Boston.

Fifty-three blacks reported lynched in 1883.

**1951**

President Truman named committee to monitor compliance with antidiscrimination provisions in U.S. government contracts and sub-contracts.

**1964**

J. Raymond Jones elected leader of New York Democratic organization (Tammany Hall).

Nobel Peace Prize awarded (December 10) to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at ceremonies in Oslo, Norway.

He was the third black and the youngest person to receive the award.

Academy Award for best actor of the year presented (April 13) to Sidney Poitier for his performance in *Lilies of the Field*.

Spingarn Medal presented to NAACP executive secretary Roy Wilkins for his contribution to "the advancement of the American people and the national purpose."

Independence Bank of Chicago organized.

## **MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT 29 (for review):**

Please spend time reviewing these memory verses. If you have been completing the assignments in the TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, then you already have spent a week memorizing the Scriptures below. Now it's time to review!

### **EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: PROPHETIC DETAILS OF CHRIST'S DEATH**

#### **Identified with a rich man in His death** (712 B.C.)

( ) Isaiah 53:9

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence neither was any deceit in his mouth. (Fulfilled—Matthew 27:57-60)

#### **Beaten and spit upon** (700 B.C.)

( ) Isaiah 50:6

I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. (Fulfilled—Matthew 26:67)

#### **Silent in His own defense** (712 B.C.)

( ) Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (Fulfilled—Matthew 27:12-14)

#### **Condemned on the basis of a false testimony** (1000 B.C.)

( ) Psalms 35:11

False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not. (Fulfilled—Matthew 26:59)

#### **His Body resurrected and saw no corruption** (1000 B.C.)

( ) Psalms 16:10

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (Fulfilled—Acts 2:27-32)