

Restoring the Rebellious Child

An Introduction to 2 Corinthians

Jeff Coleman, 4 September 2022

PAUL'S CORINTHIAN CONTACTS

<i>Paul's first visit</i>	His former letter	Their letter to him	1 Corinthians	<i>Paul's painful visit</i>	His severe letter	2 Corinthians	<i>Paul's future visit</i>
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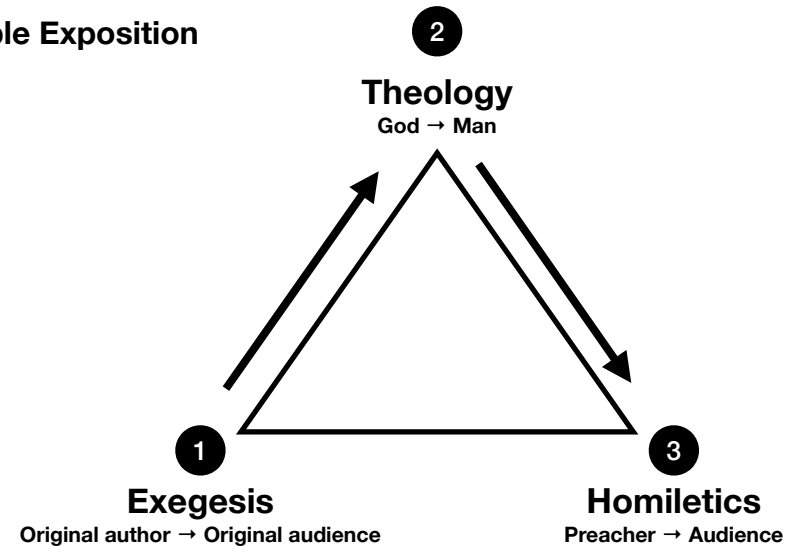
Paul's Purposes in Writing 2 Corinthians

- Encourage the repentant majority (1:3-5).
- Explain his changed travel plans (1:16-17).
- Complete the financial collection for the saints in Judea (8:7).
- Vindicate his apostleship in view of criticisms (11:5).
- Prepare for this third visit to Corinth (13:10).
- Promote restoration of the rebellious minority (13:9-11).

2 Corinthians at a Glance

Ch.	Section	Sub-Section	Sub-Sub Section	Ch. Themes
1	Repentant Majority	Explanation: Paul's Account of His Ministry	Paul's Motive	
2				
3				
4			Paul's Message	
5		Exhortation: Paul's Appeal to His Converts		
6				
7			On Things Spiritual	
8				
9			On Things Material	
10	Rebellious Minority	Vindication: Paul's Answer to His Critics	The Critics and Their Pretensions	
11				
12			The Apostle and His Credentials	
13				

Bible Exposition

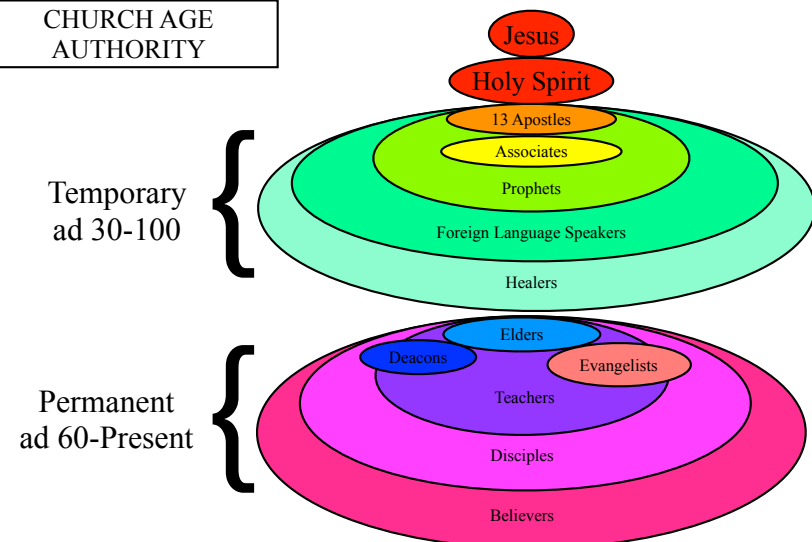


The Nature of Christian Ministry

Its Authority

- The authority of Christian ministry begins with the Lord Jesus Christ and passes down through the apostles and Scripture to the local church, governed by a team of elders.
- Those in authority:
 - Must not be ashamed of their authority.
 - Must be servant leaders who die for those they lead.
 - Must at times act with boldness.
 - Must be respected by all.

CHURCH AGE AUTHORITY



The Nature of Christian Ministry

Its Resources and Experience

- The resources of ministry are:
 - God's encouragement (1:3-7; 4:1, 16)
 - God's power (12:9; 13:4)
 - Prayer (13:9)
- The experience of ministry involves:
 - Affliction (1:3-7; 4:8-12; 6:4-10)
 - Friction (2:1; 7:8; 10:10)
 - Confident hope (1:14; 3:12; 4:14, 17)

The Practice of Christian Ministry

Its Message and Character

- The message of ministry is one of reconciliation to God through Christ (3:6; 4:5-6; 5:17-19).
- The character of Christian ministry requires:
 - Integrity (4:2; 5:11; 7:2; 11:7)
 - Authenticity and transparency (6:11-13; 7:2)

The Practice of Christian Ministry

Its Exercise

- The exercise of Christian ministry involves:
 - Restoration of the rebellious (2:7; 7:9-11; 13:9-11)
 - Teamwork for the spread of the gospel (10:16)
 - Financial giving to needy Christians (8:7, 10, 24)

Some Applications

2 Corinthians

- Run towards problems you need to deal with, not away from them.
- Don't give up on your rebellious children.
- Give space for one another to be authentic, real, and transparent. Open wide your hearts.
- Don't put up with "super-apostles"

