2 Corinthians 13:1-14 Examine Yourselves – Test Yourselves

Examine Yourselves

This will be the third time I am coming to you. "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established." 2 I have told you before, and foretell as if I were present the second time, and now being absent I write to those who have sinned before, and to all the rest, that if I come again I will not spare-- 3 since you seek a proof of Christ speaking in me, who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you. 4 For though He was crucified in weakness, yet He lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, but we shall live with Him by the power of God toward you. 5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified. 6 But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.

Hope for the Corinthians

⁷ Now I pray to God that you do no evil, not that we should appear approved, but that you should do what is honorable, though we may seem disqualified. ⁸ For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. ⁹ For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. And this also we pray, that you may be made complete. ¹⁰ Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for edification and not for destruction.

Farewell and Salutation

11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. 13 All the saints greet you. 14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Examine Yourselves [2 Corinthians 13:1-6]

- Paul is on his third trip to Corinth, when he arrives he will confront his opponents face to face with two or three witnesses.
 - ♦ All matters of Law are established at the testimony of two or three witnesses. [Deuteronomy 19:15, Matthew 18:15-16, 2 Corinthians 13:1, 1 Timothy 5:19, Hebrews 10:28]
 - ♦ Paul promises to be severe with those found to be living in sin when he comes.
- ❖ Some seek evidence of Christ speaking in Paul.
 - ♦ Christ Who was crucified in weakness, now lives by the power of God.
 - ♦ We who are weak in Him, shall live with Him by the power of God toward you.
- Now is the time to examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith.
 - ♦ Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?
 - ♦ That is of course, unless indeed you are disqualified.
 - ♦ Paul hopes that the Corinthians will know that he and his companions are not disqualified.

Hope for the Corinthians [2 Corinthians 13:7-10]

- Paul's prayer for the Corinthians is that they do not sin, but that they should do what is honorable, no matter what their attitude is toward Paul.
 - ♦ We can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.
 - ♦ We are glad when we are weak and you are strong.
 - ♦ Paul also prays that the Corinthians be made complete (perfect).

- ♦ The letter is being written while Paul is away so he will not need to use sharpness when he arrives.
- ♦ Paul desires to use the authority given by the Lord for edification and not for destruction. Farewell and Salutation [2 Corinthians 13:11-13]
 - Paul closes the letter with a farewell and advice to the Corinthians that they should set as their goal.
 - ♦ Be complete (perfect), be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace.

Closing Blessing [2 Corinthians 13:14]

- ♦ May the God of love and peace be with you.
- ♦ Greet one another with a holy kiss.
- ♦ All the saints send their greetings to you.
- ♦ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.