

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

CHAPTER ONE

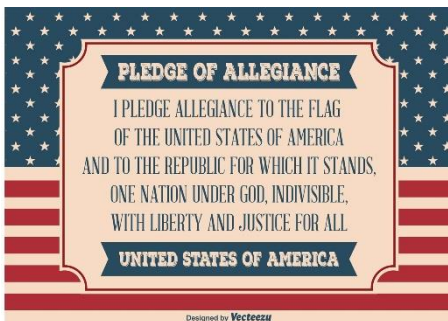
2 Corinthians 1:19-22 NIV (19) For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by me and Silas and Timothy, was not "Yes" and "No," but in him it has always been "Yes." (20) For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. (21) Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, (22) set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.



Seal = a ring, a seal that carries with it the word of the one sealing the agreement

Deposit in advance assuring us of the fulfillment.

The first church in Jerusalem had been established only 20 years or so before this letter was written. Luke begins his account in Acts in the year of Christ's death and resurrection [this was around 30AD]. Much of the known world had already been reached by the apostles. Some churches - like those in Achaia - had congregations of mostly non-Jewish people.



Some churches were being distracted from the Gospel Truth - mainly by Jewish teachers who were concerned that Moses' Law should still be kept. Other, Gentile. Teachers wanted an easier way that did not challenge the old pagan lifestyle. We can read about some of this in the Book of Acts. The Letters from Paul, Peter, James, Jude and John all address these problems.

In this second letter to the Corinthian believers, Paul brings a more personal, intimate approach about living for Jesus in the world without being spoiled by it. The emphasis is on God's grace and faithfulness. The first letter was firm, corrective, like a father disciplining young children. The second letter is more like a Father appealing to his grown up children about how their life choices.

There are many excellent encouraging statements in 2 Corinthians:

Ch's 2:14; 3:3; 4:6,7; 5:5; 5:7 (for example)

Chapter One (Summary)

A. COMFORT AND HOPE – God is with us, in trials and troubles

- a. He brings us encouragement
- b. We encourage others as we overcome by faith
- c. We encourage others with our friendship
- d. We help each other through prayers

In the battle of Hastings, Bishop Odo carried a club into battle. By this he comforted (strengthened, gave courage to his troops)



B. PROFESSION, PERMISSION AND POSSESSION

- a. Good Profession
- b. God's Permission
- c. Great Possessions

2 Peter 1:4 NIV Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.