

Sermon Outline

NOBC

#38 2 Corinthians 13:1-14 (page 859)

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Confronting Heresy in the Church: Part 10

Paul concluded his letter to the Corinthian church by focusing on something very important that is constantly being emphasized in the Word of God, i.e., the critical importance of a person knowing of a certainty that he is a child of God, that he truly has been saved.

The church at Corinth apparently had a number of members who had never been saved. In the sixth chapter of the letter, Paul had offered an invitation to salvation to the unsaved who were in the church and who were recipients of his letter. Paul could not close this letter without focusing on this urgent and most important matter. Even though there were many other issues in the church that needed to be dealt with, none of them were as important as this one. Jesus, during His earthly ministry was constantly focusing on this issue. It is likely that in the churches of today, there also are many church members who have not been saved.

When Paul reached the end of his letter he appealed to the unsaved people in the church to be saved.

I. THE REASON THIS NEED EXISTS

A. Satan's Deceitful Activity Mat. 13:24-30

1. Satan's ministers often seem to be ministers of Christ 2 Cor . 1 1:13-15
2. Satan's ministers present a false gospel message 2 Cor . 1 1:4

B. The Choices People Make When They Hear the Gospel Matt. 13:3-9, 18-23

The seeds that were planted were all the same with the same potential. The difference was the reception of those who heard.

1. Seeds of the Gospel that fell on "the wayside"
2. Seeds of the Gospel that fell on "stony ground"
3. Seeds of the Gospel that fell "among thorns"

C. Form Without Substance

1. Religious profession may be empty Mat. 7:21-23
2. Close association mistaken, substituted for relationship Luke 13:23-30

II. THE URGENCY OF THE NEED

- A. The Time is Sure and Certain — It WILL happen
- B. The Time is Sudden — It will happen so quickly no one can do anything
- C. When It Happens, It Cannot Be Reversed

III. THE BURDEN OF THE NEED

- A. Jesus Wept Over The Need Matt. 23:37
- B. Paul's Heart Was Broken Over the Need Rom. 9:1-6

IV. EACH PERSON IS RESPONSIBLE — NO ONE CAN BLAME ANOTHER

- A. Each Person is Given an Invitation To Choose and Must Choose 2 Cor . 6:1-2; Deut. 30:15-20; Joshua 24:15
- B. Each Person Can and Must Examine Himself 2 Cor . 13:5
- C. God Wants Each Person to Choose To Be Saved 1 Tim. 2:1-6; 2 Peter 3:9
- D. Each Person's Destiny Will Be What He Has Chosen