

2 Corinthians 2:3-11

CORINTHIANS

THE *Second Letter* OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Our Attitude Towards
The Penitent Sinner

Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

2 CORINTHIANS 2:3-11 (NKJV)

³ And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, 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 to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

2 CORINTHIANS 2:3-11 (NKJV)

⁵ But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent—not to be too severe. ⁶ This punishment which was inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, ⁷ so that, on the contrary, you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow.

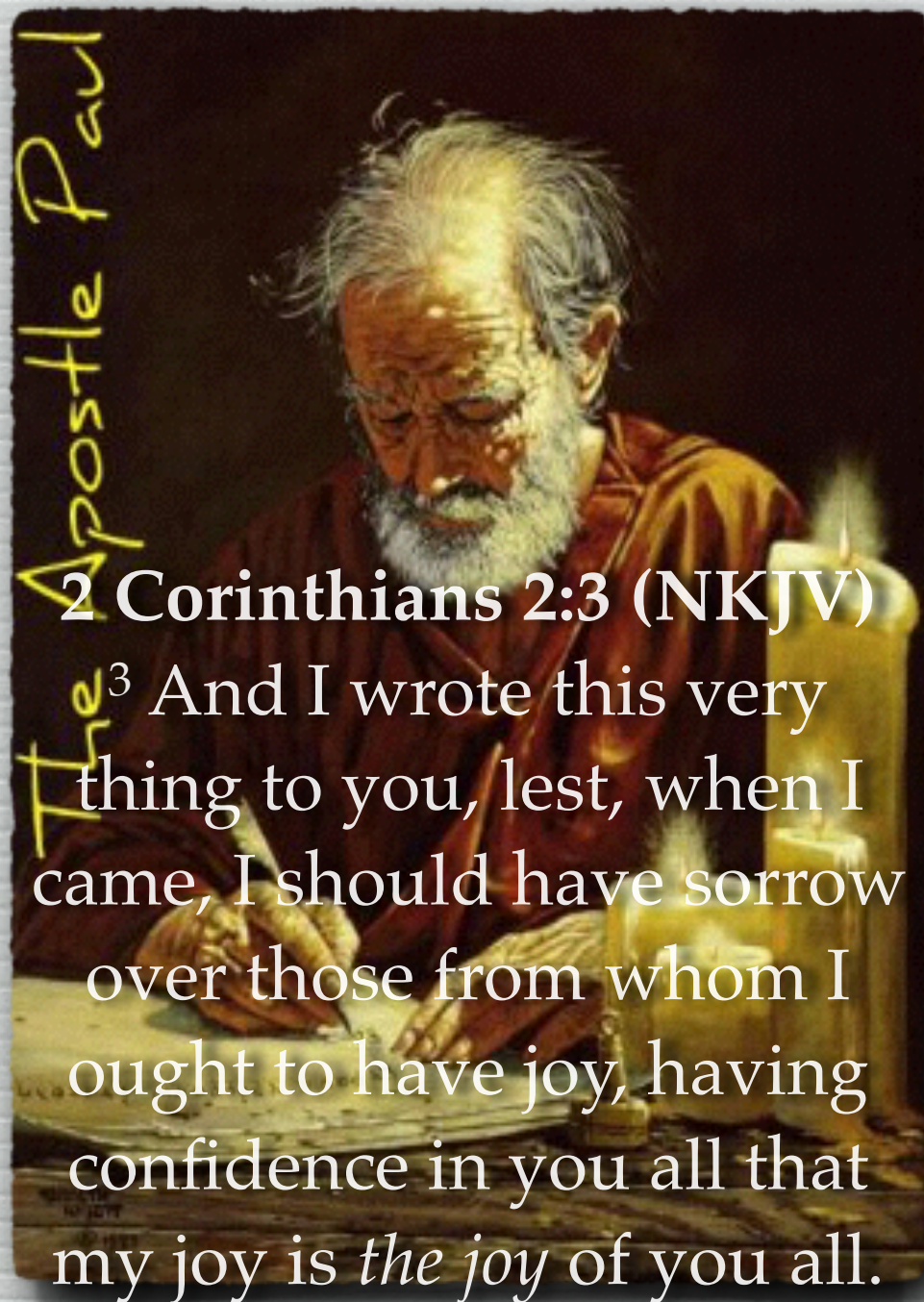
Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

2 CORINTHIANS 2:3-11 (NKJV)

⁸ Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. ⁹ For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. ¹⁰ Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, ¹¹ lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

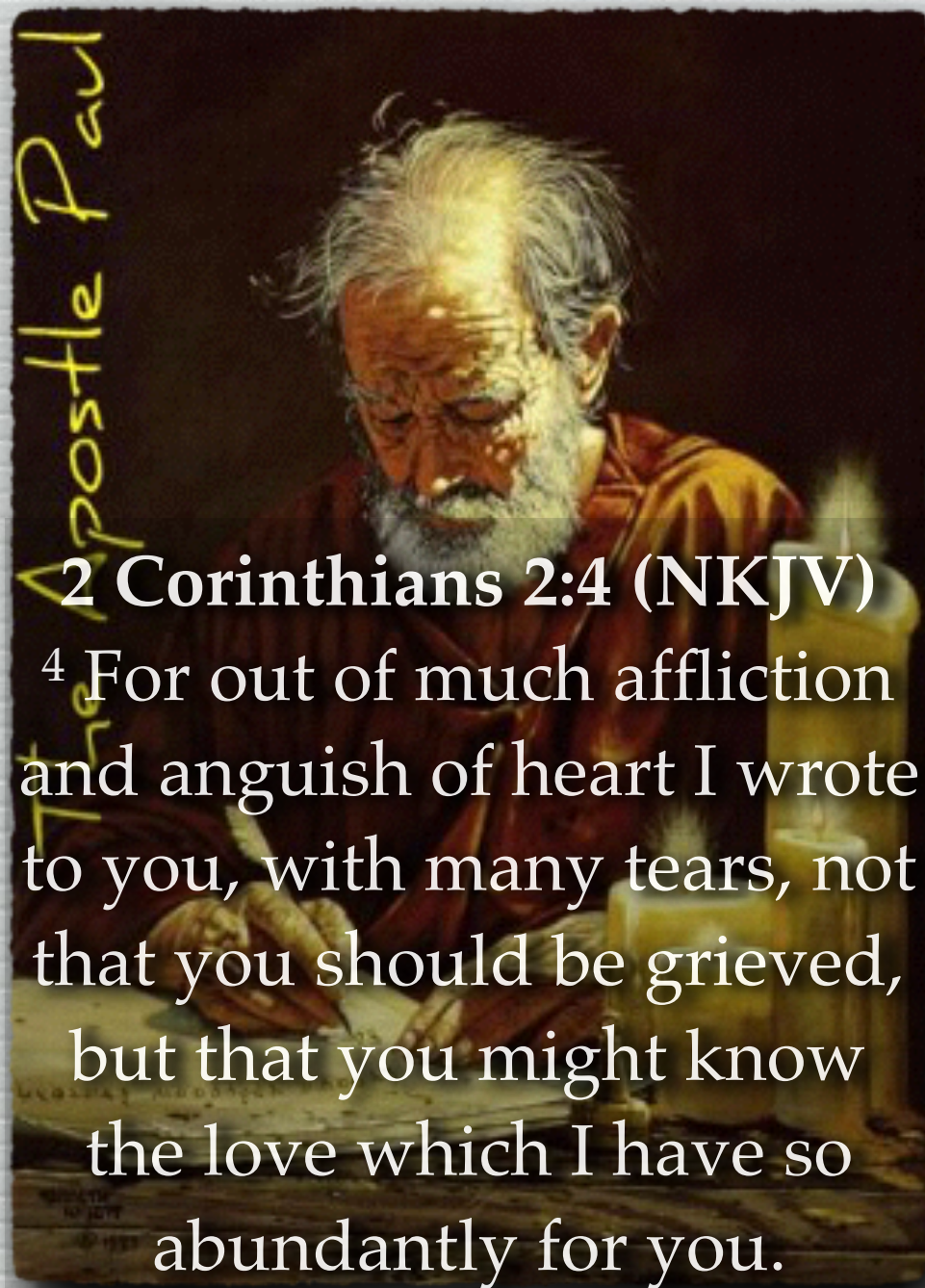
REASON FOR THE FIRST LETTER - (2:3,4)



- ♦ Paul's writing was to cause pain so pain could be avoided when he came in person. (cf 2:1)
- ♦ Paul hoped the guilty would abandon their sin. (1 Cor. 5; 2 Cor. 12:21 etc)
- ♦ He ought to rejoice in them - his rejoicing is to see them '*walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they were called*' (Eph 4:1; cf. 1 Cor 3:12-17; 1 Thes 3:8; Phil 4:1)

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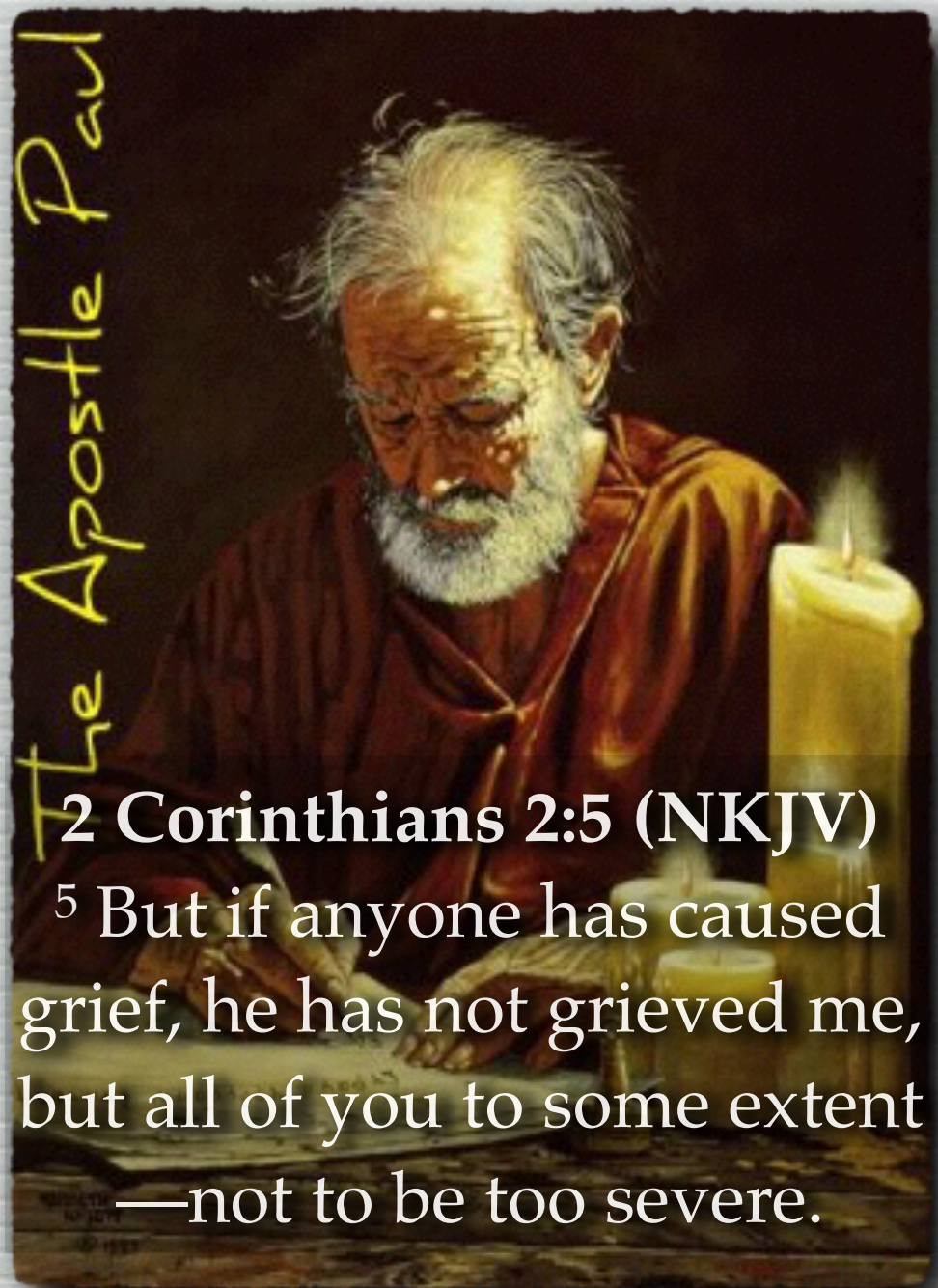
REASON FOR THE FIRST LETTER - (2:3,4)



- ♦ Paul wanted them to know his genuine and deep concern, (*love*) for them - (*rebuking someone you love is NEVER EASY!*)
- ♦ Paul had this same concern for all the churches - (11:28; Acts 20:19; Acts 20:31; 2 Timothy 1:4).
- ♦ Paul's fears and anguish of heart was relieved when Titus gave him the report of how the Corinthians received the letter - (7:5-8; cf. 1 Thes 3:6,7; 3 Jno. 2-4.)

Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

FORGIVE & ENCOURAGE THE PENITENT - 2:5-11



- ✦ We do not sin in a vacuum - our sins hurt most those who love us most - who are closest to us.
- ✦ Paul is not denying experiencing any grief - but the Corinthian brethren bore the largest part of it because the sinner had brought shame upon them - (1 Cor 5:1-8)
- ✦ Paul expresses his concern for the penitent man in that he does not desire the grief he caused to be a greater burden for him to carry.

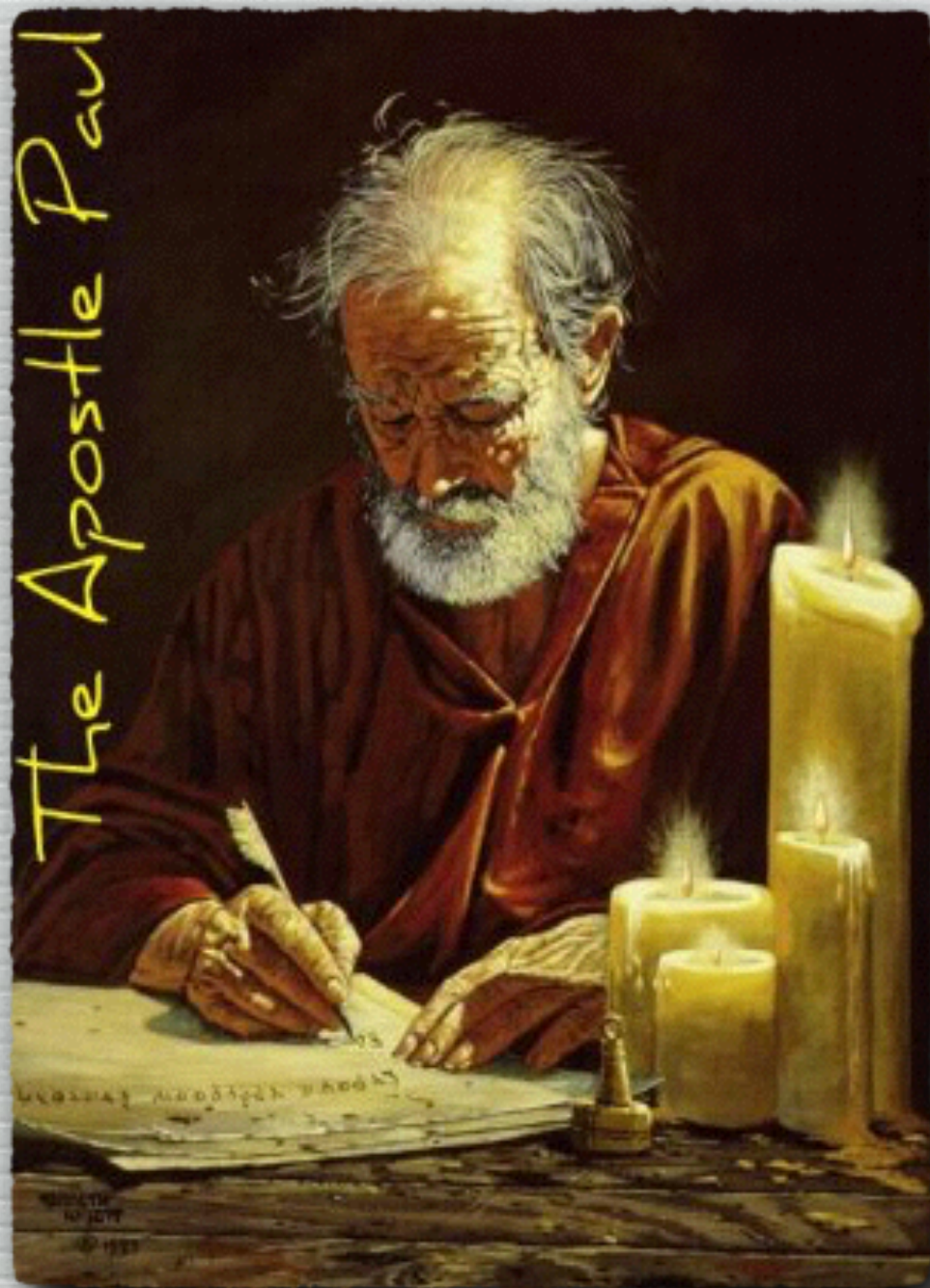
Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

FORGIVE & ENCOURAGE THE PENITENT - 2:5-11

2 Corinthians 2:6–8 (NKJV)

⁶ This punishment which *was* inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, ⁷ so that, on the contrary, you *ought* rather to forgive and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow. ⁸ Therefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love to him.

1 Co. 5:4,5; Luke 15:4-7; 22,31



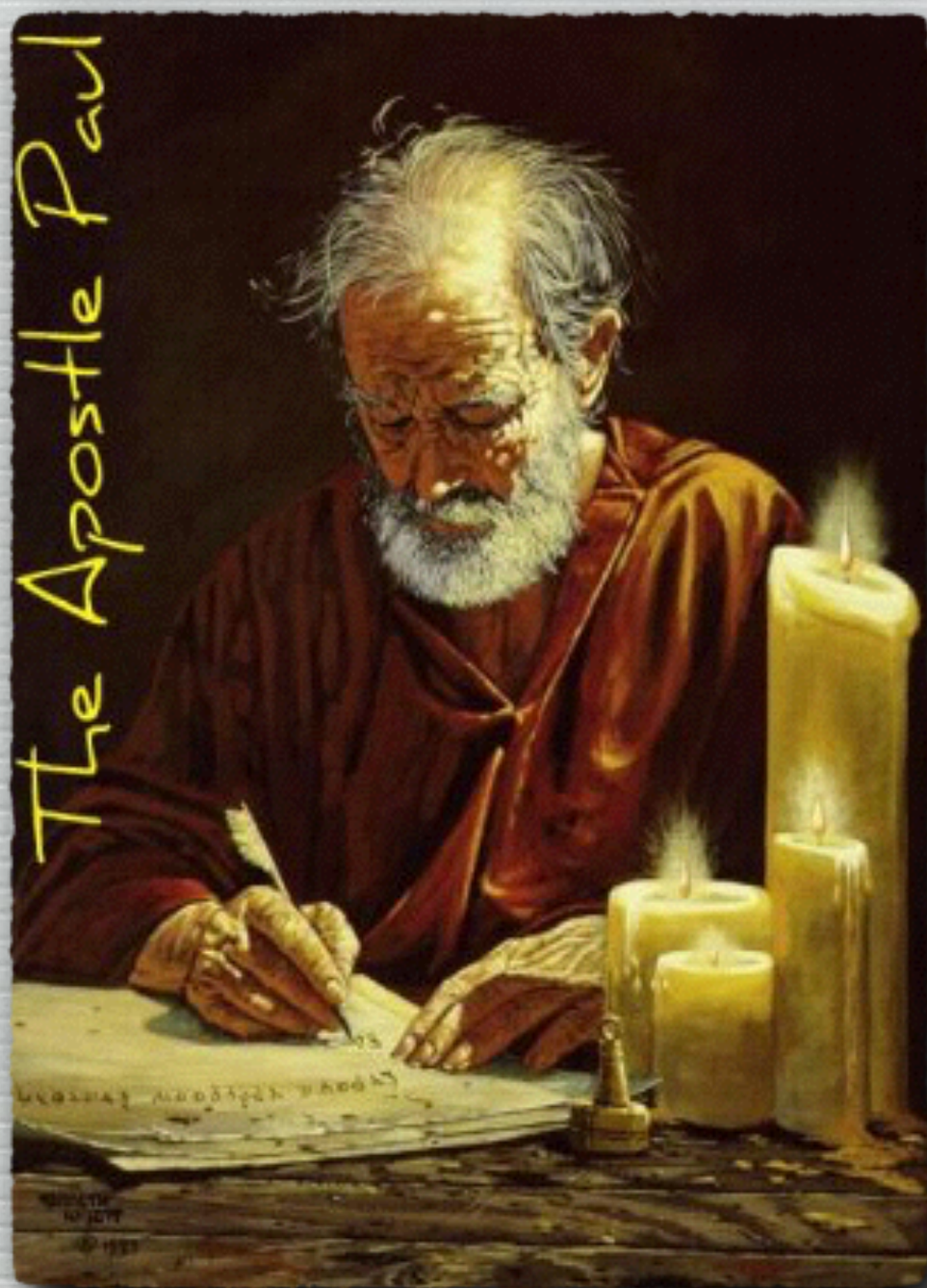
Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

FORGIVE & ENCOURAGE THE PENITENT - 2:5-11

2 Corinthians 2:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. ¹⁰ Now whom you forgive anything, I also *forgive*. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

ch. 7:15; 10:6; 1 Cor 14:37; 2 Th. 3:14; Phili. 2:12; Phile. 21



Our Attitude Towards The Penitent Sinner

FORGIVE & ENCOURAGE THE PENITENT - 2:5-11



- ◆ Fellowship between Paul, the Corinthians, and the repentant offender needed to be FULLY restored so that the incident not become an occasion for Satan to use against them ... (11:13,14)
- ◆ We are at war with Satan & souls of men are at stake. (Eph 6:10-18; 1 Tim 1:18-20; etc)
- ◆ Any deviation from Paul's instructions would give Satan an opportunity. (1 Pet 5:8)

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FORGIVE & ENCOURAGE THE PENITENT - 2:5-11



- ◆ We need to be aware of Satan's tactics and be fully armed at all times - (faith, obedience, diligence) - Eph 6:10-18
- ◆ Our failure to trust & obey the Lord in any matter opens the door for Satan to destroy us! - 2 Cor 11:3,14

2 Corinthians 1:12-2:2

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Charts by Don McClain

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West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 /

501-568-1062 / Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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LUKE 15:20–32 (NKJV)

²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

LUKE 15:20–32 (NKJV)

²³ And bring the fattened calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry. ²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

LUKE 15:20–32 (NKJV)

²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ ²⁸ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends.’

LUKE 15:20–32 (NKJV)

³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’ ³¹ “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”