HOLY MAN IN UNHOLY SOCIETY: A study in I and II Corinthians

AMEN Bible Study 2013-2014

Faithful Reception of the Gospel II Corinthians 6:1-7:1 April 3, 2014

6:1-2 I. Receive the grace of the gospel.

"Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation"

:3-13 II. Receive the messengers of the gospel.

"We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ..."

- :4-10 A. They are commendable.
 - "...but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: ..."
- :4. 5 1. For their endurance
 - "...by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ..."
- :6, 7 2. For their character
 - "...by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ..."
- :8-10 3. For their confidence
 - "... through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as imposters, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything."
- :16b B. They are loving.

"We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also."

:14-7:1 III. Receive the obligations of the gospel.

- :14-18 A. Our worship must be pure.
 - "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers."
- :14b, 15 1. Sacred and unclean don't mix.

"For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols?"

- :16-18 2. We are sacred.
 - "For we are the temple of the living God; ..."
- :16b a. God is among us.
 - "...as God said, 'I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
- b. God calls us to separate ourselves.

Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, ...

- :18 c. God is our Father.
 - ...and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.'"

7:1 B. Our conduct must be pure.

- 1. Our motives.
 - gratitude for His promises

"Since we have these promises, beloved..."

- ♦ reverence for His holiness
 - "...in the fear of God..."
- 2. Our action.

"...let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit..."

3. Our destiny.

"...bringing holiness to completion."