

# Studies In Second Corinthians

## (II Corinthians 6:11-18)

1. Did Paul and Timothy speak freely, with open hearts, to the saints in Corinth?

Yes: *"O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged"* (II Corinthians 6:11).

- A willingness was there to speak to the Corinthians (I Corinthians 2:13 and II Corinthians 12:19; cf. Job 33:2-3).
- Their hearts were opened to the Corinthians (II Corinthians 2:4 and II Corinthians 7:3-4).

2. Who straitened [restricted] the Corinthians?

They did so to themselves: *"Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels"* (II Corinthians 6:12).

- Their own bowels [affections] were preventing them from spiritual things. Their affections were carnal (I Corinthians 3:1-3).
- Carnal affections are not conducive to spiritual things (Galatians 5:24, Philippians 3:17-21, and Colossians 3:1-10).

3. Did Paul expect the Corinthians to enlarge their hearts in the same manner he had toward them?

Yes: *"Now for a recompence in the same, (I speak as unto my children,) be ye also enlarged"* (II Corinthians 6:13).

- Paul wants to be treated as he has treated them (Matthew 7:12 and James 2:8-16).
- Paul entreated them as though they were his children (I Corinthians 4:14-15, Galatians 4:19, I Thessalonians 2:11, I Timothy 1:2, and Titus 1:4).

4. What two rhetorical questions show that we should not have fellowship with the unrighteous?

*"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness"* (II Corinthians 6:14)?

- Unequally yoked [yoked; attached up differently] (James 4:4).
- Righteous with the unrighteous (Psalms 26:4-5, Psalms 26:9-10, Psalms 101:3-5, Psalms 139:21-22, Proverbs 29:27, and I Timothy 6:3-5).
- Communion [fellowship] light with darkness (Isaiah 5:20, Acts 26:18-20, I Corinthians 10:21, and Ephesians 5:6-11).
- Yet, we cannot leave the world and have zero associations with such people (John 17:14-17 and I Corinthians 5:9-13).

5. What part should Christians share with unbelievers and idolatry?

None: *“And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (II Corinthians 6:15-16).*

- Belial [worthlessness] (**Deuteronomy 13:13, I Samuel 2:12, and II Chronicles 13:7**).
- With unbelievers seeing that they are enemies of the Lord (**Matthew 12:30**).
- Us with idolatry (**I Kings 18:21**).
- Seeing that the Lord dwells with us (**Ephesians 3:17 and I John 4:15**).

6. Does the Lord want Christians to remain in fellowship with the unrighteous?

No: *“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (II Corinthians 6:17).*

- Come out from among them and be separate (**Numbers 16:26, Ezra 10:11 [not that a Christian may depart from unbelieving spouse; I Corinthians 7:10-16]**, **Psalms 1:1-2, Acts 2:40, I Timothy 5:22, I Timothy 6:3-5, and II John 9-11**).

7. What type of relationship does God have with Christians when we separate ourselves from the unrighteous?

A Father – child relationship: *“And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” (II Corinthians 6:18).*

- **John 1:11-12, Galatians 3:26, and I John 3:1-2.**