

This Way Up

Pembroke Bible Chapel
D Axford – Jul 12, 2009
Series No. DA-2COR-04

Certainties **2 Corinthians 1:17-22**

I. A CHANGE OF PLAN (Verses 15-18)

1. While at Ephesus, Paul initially intended to make two short visits to Corinth; however, problems at Corinth caused him to change his plan to make one longer visit at the end of his 3rd missionary journey.
2. Paul was sharply criticized by false prophets at Corinth for this change in plan.
3. Paul affirms the certainty of God's leading.

II. A CHANGELESS PROMISE (Verses 19-20)

1. Paul reminds them of the certainty of the gospel message preached by him and received by them.
2. Paul also reminds them that all of the promises of God are fulfilled in Christ and that they are certain and changeless.
3. God has placed His 'Amen' on the ministry of Paul; thus their false charges are baseless.

III. A CERTAIN POSITION (Verses 21-22)

1. The believer's progressive position in Christian service is a continuing action on God's part.
2. Paul's permanent position as God's Apostle was established by God's past action of anointing, sealing, and the giving of His pledge of the Holy Spirit to Paul; thus vindicating Paul's plan.

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Application

1. Make sure that every aspect of your plans are in accordance with the leading of the Holy Spirit and not from some fleshly desire (Galatians 5:16, 25). This includes not only the major events in your life but also the everyday mundane plans.
2. Once you are decided on a course of action do not vacillate but continue in that direction with all of your energy until directed otherwise (Acts 16:6-10).
3. Be prepared to be redirected in your plans should circumstances change and the Lord direct that change.
4. Know that the gospel message which you believed is certain and unchanging and that your eternal destiny is also certain.
5. Do not forget God's purpose for you and the reason He called you to Himself.