

This Way Up

Pembroke Bible Chapel
D Axford – Apr 25, 2010
Series No. DA-2COR-33

Crucified, Yet Alive 2 Corinthians 13:1-10

I. THE THREAT OF ACTION (Verses 1,2, 10)

- There were continuing problems in the church at Corinth which Paul had addressed previously but which had not been corrected: disputes, immorality, false doctrine, and false teachers.
- Paul threatened to come to them again and deal decisively with the sinners and with those who had ignored the sin.

II. THE TRUTH OF AUTHORITY (Verses 3,4,9)

- The Corinthians questioned Paul's apostolic authority which came directly from Christ. He defended his authority by the evidence of Christ's saving work in the Corinthian's through his ministry.
- The principle of delegated authority is that all authority comes from a higher authority and in order to properly represent this higher authority we must become weak so that He can act through us for His own purpose.
- All legitimate authority that comes from God is on the basis of "not I but Christ".

III. THE TEST OF AUTHENTICITY (Verses 5-8)

- Paul commands the Corinthians to test themselves, to examine themselves, so as to verify the basis of their professed faith in Christ. This must be based on the truth of God's word.

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Application

Lessons for us today:

1. Examine the motives and activities of your life
2. Leaders – take action when circumstances dictate
3. Progressive discipline is necessary
4. Sometimes it is better to address a problem in writing first before confrontation to give the offender opportunity to consider his actions

The Test of Authenticity:

Can you answer yes to all of these statements? If you are uncertain about any, or have doubts please discuss.

1. Jesus Christ is the almighty eternal God
2. In His incarnation He was fully man and fully God
3. He had no sin nature and had no sin of His own
4. He died on the cross and was raised bodily to life
5. His death completely satisfied God concerning my sin – past, present and future
6. I am saved/forgiven by faith alone in Christ's sacrificial substitutionary death
7. I have eternal life now which can never be lost
8. I know I will be in Heaven with Christ based on His work on the cross
9. Christian growth/service only occurs as I acknowledge my own weakness and allow God to empower and direct me