

1 **Helen Roseveare**

He Gave Us a Valley
Living Sacrifice
Living Holiness
Living Faith

2 **II Cor (end of 2) & 3**

Avon Park Holiness Campmeeting
Feb. 8, 2012

3 **II Cor 2 paragraph titles**

1:23-2:11 Paul's Joyful Rel. w. Cor.
2:1-4 Previous Painful Visit
2:5-11 Call to "comfort" Brother
2:12-13 "Uncomfortable" Ministry
2:14-17 Victory Aroma

4 **2:14-17 Victory Aroma**

- Notice what he thanks (*charis*) God for (2:14)
God in Christ always leads us in triumph
- 2 words for Victory
 - *Thriambeuo*, here and Col 2:15
 - *Nike* 5 times, 3 in I Cor 15:54,55,57
- Dealing with our 'triumphalism'
 - Ten different translations of *thriambeuo*
 - Put on display, exhibit, win victory over, etc.
 - This form never used to include celebration of subjects
 - Focus is always on the Victor

5

6 **What does Paul have in mind?**

Soldiers
slave holding crown
Victor/Triumphator "leads"

Representative Captives/trophies
(Incense) Oxen for sacrifice
Flutes
(Incense) Trumpets
Senators

7

8 **How willing are we to join the parade?**

- What we expect - ?
- Me and Diary of Jim Eliot –
enter his gates.... previous verse
- What Paul means:
 - A defeated enemy – being led as a captive
 - A testimony to His disarming power
 - Willing, joyful, vocal witnesses

9

10

11 **Does *lead* mean literally to *lead*?**

12 **The Paradoxical Love of Christ**

Triumph of a Tyrant Triumph of a Savior
■Triumphal Arrival Bethlehem of Judea
■Degradation Incarnation
■Cursing Blessing
■Slavery/Death Freedom/Life
■Abject Power Restorative Power
■Aroma of Victory Acceptable Savor of
Love

Self-giving

13 **The Aroma of Victorious Love**

- Victory only in Christ
- Always – on-going reality
- Deliverance of those held in bondage

- Aroma tied to divine life – spirit
- Aroma challenges all emptiness, death

OT examples:

Exod 13 – 14

Num 16

14 **Where do I need victory?**

- Immediate context
Strained, concerned relationship (1-4)
Re-incorporating a sinner into the Body
(5-11)
Disconcerted by ‘options’ for ministry
Concern about being alone (12-13)

15 **Paul’s “law” of application**

Theme -> Specific Instance

- Comfort -> Burden/Sentence of Death (1:8-9)
holiness and godly sincerity
- Yes -> No “lording” over you (2:24)
- Aroma -> No “peddling” of the Word (3: 17)

16 **The Fragrance which divides**

- What is unique about an aroma?
 - Unseen – sensed rather than defined
 - Permeative – remains after source is gone
- Aroma which saves or destroys – confirms or undermines, affirms or convicts
- Manifested – emphasis here is spoken
- Swindling vs. Sincerity:
here and in 1:12, I Cor 5:8, Phil 1:10, 2 Pet 3:1 Purity of motive ,
godly integrity

17

Chapter Titles

1. Comfort

2. Aroma
3. Veiled Faces
4. Tested Vessels
5. Compelling Love
6. Trials and Temple
7. Godly Sorrow
8. Call to Give
9. Godlike Giving
10. Proper Perceptions
11. Apostle's Defense
12. Vision and Thorn
13. Test Yourselfes

18 **Relation of 2:14-17
to rest of the book**

Section lasts until 7:4 (at least)

A sustained defense of "pure" apostle-ship

So at the 'frontispiece' Paul says

1. First and last, always and everywhere the Lamb/King is leading His *willing captives* in his victory pageant disseminating the knowledge of Christ through them

19 **continued**

2. The focal point in this action
is Jesus Christ

- the privilege to participate is 'in Christ'

- and the knowledge of Christ is the sweet aroma diffused
by the procession that lives in and through Him.

This victory is on-going, universal, without temporal or
geographical boundaries

20 **"Placing" ch. 3**

- Chap. 1 Preparation – Implicit theology
Comfort through sincerity
- Chap. 2 Paul's relationship with Corinth

Comfort through consistency
based upon victory

- Chap. 3 Corinth's relationship with Paul
The reality of transformation

21 **Chapter Three: Paragraph Titles**

The Boldness of Ministering/Living
in the New Covenant

3:1-3 Commendation

3:4-6 Competence

3:7-18 Covenant

22 **Recurrences**

■ Confidence (4) or Adequacy (5,6) Bold (12)

■ Contrasts:

–Letters of ink:: Letters of the Spirit

–Tablets of stone :: Tablets of the Heart etc.

■ Hearts (2,3,15)

■ Glory 11t

■ Unique terms: face, mirror, image, reflection

23 **3:1-3 - Commendation**

• (v.1) Gentle corrective – an echo of problem?

• (v.2-3) Divinely written epistles

Written in our hearts

known and read by all men (always manifested)

a letter of Christ

cared (served) for by us

written

not with ink (which fades)

but with the Spirit of the living God

not on tablets of stone

but on tablets of hearts of flesh

24 **Letters not written with ink**

25 **3:4-6 - Competence**

- Divinely competent apostles
 - Adequacy is from Spirit of God (v. 3 and here)
 - Letter theme continues
 - Moses and old Covenant now new Covenant
- Contrast: letter which kills vs.
Spirit which gives life

Torah written on stone is now written on hearts

26 **Only Competence is in God**

- Comfort of God (1)
- Yes of God (Jesus) (1)
- Seal/Pledge of God (Holy Spirit) (1)
- Triumph in Christ (2)
- Fragrance of Christ to God (2)
- Letters of the Spirit (3)
- Confidence through Christ toward God (3)
- Adequacy from God (3)

27

28 **Covenant:
The “Torah” written upon the heart**

29 **3:7-18 - Covenant**

- Divine Covenants contrasted:
 - Old Covenant :: New Covenant
 - Letters of ink:: Letters of the Spirit
 - Tablets of stone :: Tablets of the Heart
 - Ministry of death :: Ministry of the Spirit
 - Condemnation :: Righteousness
 - Fading glory :: Surpassing glory
 - Unlifted Veil :: Unveiled face

30 **Moses and the Glory of God**

31

32

33

34 **Glory and the Holy Spirit**

- References to the Third Person of the Trinity
 - 1:22
 - 2:13
 - 3:3,6,8,17,18
 - 4:13
 - 5:5
 - 6:6
 - 7:1,13
 - 11:4 ; 12:18; 13:14

35 **Another Way of looking at the flow of the thought chaps 1-3**

- 1. Sharing God's Comfort
- 2. Manifesting God's Faithfulness/Victory
- 3. Reflecting God's Glory

36 **The Face of Glory**

"In the end that Face which is the delight or terror of the universe must be turned upon each of us either with one expression or with the other, either conferring glory inexpressible or inflicting shame that can never be cured or disguised."

C.S. Lewis