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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, October 25, 2026

2 Corinthians 12:19-13:4

Title: Unwilling to spare anyone

What we'll hear today:

- **Paul's apostolic authority**
- **Two or three witnesses?**
- **Christ was weak, and we are, but He will be vindicated**

**Paul's fear (2 Corinthians 12:19-20) was
that those at Corinth would show
qualities that he did not want to see
when he showed up. For someone in
authority, that's embarrassing.**

Of particular concern to Paul were those among the church at Corinth who were in rampant sin and would not repent (2 Corinthians 12:21). In short, their behavior would require him to discipline them.

**Recall that some in Corinth
unfortunately reveled in their sin. A
couple reminders: 1 Corinthians
1:11-17, 1 Corinthians 5:1-5**

**Paul mentions repentance, and those
who sinned in the past and refused to
repent for their sin. That should sound
familiar given his concerns: Luke
13:1-10**

Paul brings up this point about two or three witnesses (2 Corinthians 13:1) because he wants to communicate that he would deal appropriately — biblically — with whatever sin abounded among the people.

**There's some precedent to that concept
among those in ancient Israel:**

**Deuteronomy 19:15-19, Matthew
18:15-17, John 8:12-20, Hebrews
10:26-31**

**In verses 2-4, Paul declares 1) he won't spare anyone who refuses to fall in line
2) the Christ in him would show.**

**Remember how some called him weak
and unremarkable in speech? They'd
see God's power in him shortly.**

Christ was crucified because of His weakness, and He will be vindicated. Similarly, God will confirm Paul is who he says he is to those at Corinth who are skeptical.

**In 2 Corinthians 13:4, it's true that
Jesus Christ is alive because of the
power of God (and we live because of
Him). Remember who raised up Jesus
Christ: Acts 5:1-12**

**Remember that we will be raised up too,
having believed in that very Christ who
rose from the dead: Hosea 6:1-3, John
6:30-40, 2 Timothy 2:8-11**

**Again, our God sees and knows all.
There will be a day of reckoning and
judgment coming, too: 2 Corinthians
5:6-10**

Paul's authority necessitated that he respond to sin in the Corinth camp appropriately. Pray that we are never cavalier about sin, even in the dark world we inhabit.

**As an apostle of Jesus Christ, Paul was
willing to address sin directly as it
related to those at Corinth. Pray that
leadership in any context does that in
their churches, and that they do so
biblically.**

We're weak, point blank period. Christ died that we might live, and even He was killed for his weakness. Consider how the power of God shows up even in our weakness, and thank God for the vindication of His Son.