

This week's reading:

June 25: 1 Corinthians 10 – 12

June 26: 1 Corinthians 13 – 16

June 27: 2 Corinthians 1 – 3

June 28: 2 Corinthians 4 – 6

June 29: 2 Corinthians 7 – 10

June 30: 2 Corinthians 11 – 13

July 1: Galatians 1 – 3

July 2: Galatians 4 – 6

Summary:

June 25: 1 Corinthians 10 – 12

1 Corinthians 10 warns against sin by reminding of the stubborn sinfulness of Israel.

(Note: This is one of the reasons God tolerated Israel for so long. He demonstrated His mercy and love; but He also gave us a litany of examples of how not to respond to God and easy it is to receive great blessing, and still fall into sin.)

1 Corinthians 11 gives practical teaching on the meeting of the church and the path of discipleship. **(Note:** When “self” is the end-all-be-all, sin will be present. In life and worship, the glory of God is to be our focus.)

1 Corinthians 12 recounts the function of the church through the gifts given to her members by the Holy Spirit. **(Note:** The Church is not assembled willy-nilly; neither is the local church. All believers have a gifting and function in the Kingdom as given by God. Each one of us is necessary for the work to be done; there are no lowly jobs, just as there are not lowly body parts.)

June 26: 1 Corinthians 13 – 16

1 Corinthians 13 reminds the body of believers of 1 Corinthians 12 to continue in love for one another. **(Note:** While used in weddings galore; this chapter is really a continuation of the explanations of the church from the previous two chapters. Our motivation to use our gifts and glorify God, should be our love in action.)

1 Corinthians 14 exhorts the church to mature in faith by not looking to signs but to the teaching of the Word. **(Note:** As with everything, the Word is supreme. It is the only objective standard for: faith, life, and practice. What God has commanded, we are given in Scripture; and we must stand firm in clinging to those things.)

1 Corinthians 15 details the resurrection and its implications for believers.

1 Corinthians 16 contains Paul's final instructions for the church.

June 27: 2 Corinthians 1 – 3

2 Corinthians 1 reminds the readers of Paul's ministry, both afflictions and consistency.

(Note: This letter may seem out of place when compared to 1 Corinthians. Realize, that 1 Corinthians is actually Paul's 2nd letter to this church; the first is lost to history. 2 Corinthians follows also a “severe letter” that is also lost. In reality, 2 Corinthians is Paul's fourth correspondence with this group.)

2 Corinthians 2 tells of Paul's love for the church during his visit. **(Note:** Paul's heart for these churches can be seen here. No matter their sin, Paul's desire is for their repentance and restoration to Godliness. This should be our attitude toward a sinful world.)

2 Corinthians 3 encourages the church to holy living as living testimonies to God's grace. **(Note:** In line with Paul's hope, he continues to exhort them in sound teaching.)

June 28: 2 Corinthians 4 – 6

2 Corinthians 4 points to Paul's reliance upon God in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5 reminds the Corinthians they are new in Christ and no longer slaves to the flesh. **(Note:** The knowledge of the work of God, and how it was accomplished and what it does accomplish, should be the catalyst to holy living. Paul hammers this point because the Corinthians are in need of discipline and the Gospel is what will spur them to action.)

2 Corinthians 6 encourages the church to grow in the knowledge of God's grace and flee from immorality.

June 29: 2 Corinthians 7 – 10

2 Corinthians 7 reminds of Paul's caring for the church and relationship with her. **(Note:** Even in rebuke, Paul's "heart" is for repentance and reconciliation. Regardless of the discipline issue, our goal should be reunion with the troubled believer as they are restored to fellowship with God's people.)

2 Corinthians 8 boasts of the generosity of churches in the area.

2 Corinthians 9 reminds of the gifts of God and uses that as an illustration of Christian giving.

2 Corinthians 10 warns the church to examine the "inner man" as opposed to the appearance of Godliness. **(Note:** Just as Saul was the ideal king, from a human perspective and failed; and David was a terrible king, from a human perspective and succeeded; as Christians, we should look to Godly character and evaluate the "heart" of a person.)

June 30: 2 Corinthians 11 – 13

2 Corinthians 11 commends Paul's authority as a faithful follower of Christ. **(Note:** Paul is an Apostle because he is called by God. The conversion of Paul in Acts 9 is the kickoff of his apostolic role and ministry. Here Paul defends that.)

2 Corinthians 12 recounts Paul's vision of heaven and the "pruning" God has done in his life. **(Note:** Lest Paul boast in the greatness of what God has done for him, he rejoices in the discipline of God as it sanctifies him day by day.)

2 Corinthians 13 exhorts the Corinthians to check their hearts and rejoice in Christ.

(Note: The daily walk of the Christian is repentance. Paul closes with that exhortation to the Corinthians. That they do the work of daily walking with Christ as they rejoice in His salvation.)

July 1: Galatians 1 – 3

Galatians 1 points to the true Gospel given by the true Apostles, of which, Paul is one.

(Note: Paul's language is strong here, it should be. There is only one message of salvation throughout both the Old and New Testaments; and any perversion of that message will lead people to hell.)

Galatians 2 recounts the Jerusalem Council and Paul's admonition of Peter's sin among the Judaizers.

Galatians 3 expounds justification by faith and the purpose of the Law. **(Note:** Paul returns to the subject of chapter 1 and expounds the Gospel and her effects. The relationship of the Law to the Gospel is important to understand and Paul connects the dots here.)

