

Know ye not? Your Own Selves

"Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

- 2 Corinthians 13:5

1. A behavior problem

- a. Paul has written several letters to the Corinthians about their behavior. (1 Cor 5:9)
- b. Behavior is important, but it is not evidence of your salvation. Whether or not Christ is in you is the answer to salvation. Walking accordingly is a separate topic. (1 Cor 6:11)
- c. Paul has not questioned their salvation. Rather, he has affirmed their position in Christ, with the goal of changing their behavior via rebuke, reproof, correction. (2 Cor 12:7, 2 Tim 3:16)
- d. The Corinthians' behavior is wrong. Paul will rebuke them in person. (2 Cor 13:2)

2. Paul the reprobate?

- a. The Corinthians accused Paul of wrongdoing or selfish motivations. (2 Cor 13:6)
- b. The Corinthians deny that Christ is in Paul. (2 Cor 13:3)
- c. Paul was the one who "fathered" the Corinthians. Have they forgotten? (1 Cor 4:15-16)
- d. The Corinthians heard and received the truth (the faith) from Paul! (1 Cor 15:1-4)
- e. Evidently the challenge was put forth to Paul, that He ought to be examined for proof that Christ is in him. Perhaps Paul is a reprobate?
- f. Maybe they are the reprobates. Paul is being somewhat sarcastic towards them.

3. Know ye not your own selves...

- a. **"Examine yourselves"**, "prove yourselves" - how do they have a standing with God? They need to stop accusing Paul and consider who they are.
- b. **"Whether ye be in the faith"** - walking in the faith, the truth of God. (Col 2:6, Col 2:7-8, Gal 5:25)
- c. We should have obedience to the faith, holding it in good conscience. (Rom 1:5, 1 Tim 3:9)
- d. **"Jesus Christ is in you..."** if Jesus Christ is not in you, you are reprobate.
 - i. Paul delivered to the Corinthians that Christ is in them because of the truth of God.
 - ii. If they deny Christ is in Paul, then perhaps Christ is not in them either.
- e. **"Except ye be reprobate"** Reprobate: Abandoned in sin, Abandoned to error
- f. Unbelievers are reprobate: "In every good work, reprobate" (Titus 1:16), "Reprobate concerning the faith" (2 Tim 3:8)

4. We are not reprobates

- a. Paul's challenge is to get them to rethink their position against him. Against the truth.
- b. He is asking them to recall how they know Christ in them by the knowledge that they have.
- c. Nevertheless even if Paul is reprobate, it cannot null the truth of Christ. (2 Cor 3:7-8)
- d. Do you know if Christ is in you? Are you walking in accordance to the faith? If Christ is not in you, you are reprobate.