

Bible Study Guide for II Corinthians 1

Day 1 – II Corinthians 1:1

In **I Corinthians**, we had a letter written by Paul that dealt sternly with issues facing the undisciplined church in Corinth. Having had a report from Titus concerning the reception of that letter by the church, Paul felt compelled to write another letter in response to the negative feelings present in the church that questioned his authority and motives and the validity of his ministry. Thus, **II Corinthians** is largely a defense of his ministry and gives us a composite picture of the apostle Paul that is found in no other book. Use The Living Bible and read quickly through as much of **II Corinthians** as you can today and during the rest of this week to get an overview of the book and its message.

1. After greeting the church in Corinth in his usual manner, Paul desired grace and peace for them. What was Paul desiring for those who were already Christians?
 - a. Compare the *grace* of **Ephesians 2:8** with that of **Hebrews 4:16**. Explain the difference between the two uses of the word. What was Paul's desire for the Corinthians?
 - b. Compare the *peace* of **Romans 5:1** with that of **Isaiah 26:3**. Is there a difference? What was Paul's desire for the Corinthians?
 - c. Where do fresh supplies of grace and peace come from? (**II Cor. 1:2**) Are you experiencing them in your life day by day?

Day 2 – II Corinthians 1:3-7

1. Paul began his letter with a doxology... an expression of praise to God! Read and meditate on **vs. 3**. For what reasons did Paul bless God?
2. Repeated words in one form or another often highlight the significant message of a passage. What words are repeated in **vs. 3-7**?