

## Assignment for next week is Romans

Last week's question...based on 1 Cor 15:4 Where does it say in Scripture, read OT that He would be raised on the third day? 2 places are possible and perhaps probable...what are they. See Mt 12 :38ff for one reference...is this sign a preview of judgment or blessing? The other Scripture is a picture of the opposite future for God's people.

## 2 Corinthians Author

*Paul is the author and this is not widely disputed. What is disputed is how to understand 2 Corinthians in light of the numerous communications mentioned. Some believe that 2 Cor 10-13 represent the 'Tearful Letter' mentioned in 2:3; 12:14; 13:1,2. I do not share that view but would see the letter as a unity and the 'Tearful Letter' as lost to us.*

## Date

*Probably AD 56 written from Macedonia.*

## Occasion:

*Paul's letter to the Corinthians, known to us as 1 Corinthians did not resolve the problems or reunite the factions. Instead of peace and unity was plunged into greater controversy, and a full fledged revolt was raised against Paul. It seems that some Jewish Christian leaders came, claiming to represent the Jerusalem Apostles, and they undercut Paul's ministry and credibility and authority 11:4,5,12,13,20-23. It seems there was one member of the congregation who led the revolt 2:5-8, and a large part of the church repudiated Paul's leadership and authority.*

*Paul then made a quick trip from Ephesus to Corinth, hoping to settle the situation. It did not go well and he returned to Ephesus, see 2:1; 12:14; 13:1,2. As a result of this painful visit,*

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***Paul wrote to the church again...his third letter...in severe terms. He referred to this letter in 2:3,4,9; 7:8,12.***

***Paul sent the "Tearful Letter" to the church probably by way***

***of Titus see 7:6-8, with instructions for him to return with news from Corinth. After Titus left, Paul couldn't stand it and he traveled to Troas hoping to meet Titus there. When Titus wasn't there, Paul traveled on to Macedonia, perhaps to Philippi. He connected with Titus there and received good news that the crisis had passed and the church was reconciled to Paul. With great joy and heartfelt emotion Paul wrote the letter we know as 2 Corinthians.***

***A bit later, perhaps in the same year, Paul traveled to Corinth, spending three months there Acts 20:1-3, during which time he wrote the letter to the church at Rome.***

## **Themes**

***The ministry of Reconciliation***

***Generosity and Stewardship***

***Defense of Paul's authority as an Apostle***

## **Structure**

***1:1,2 Introduction***

***1:3-11 Thanksgiving or Baracha***

***1:12-7:16 Paul's explanation of his conduct and Apostolic Ministry***

***1:12-2:4 Paul's integrity***

***2:5-11 The need for forgiveness***

***2:12-17 Ministers of the New Covenant***

***3:1-11 Ministers made competent by the Spirit***

***3:12-4:6 Transformed into His likeness***

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**4:7-16a Treasure in Clay Pots**

**4:16b-5:10 The Prospects of our Heavenly Dwelling**

**5:11-6:10 Ministry of Reconciliation**

**6:11-7:4 Paul's appeal to the Corinthians**

**7:5-16 Titus' Good Report**

***8-9 The Collection for the Christians of Jerusalem***

***10-13 Paul's vindication of his Apostolic Ministry***

**10 Defense of his Ministry**

**11-12 Paul compared to the False Apostles**

**13:1-10 Final Warnings**

**13:11-14 Conclusion**