



TITLE | Where to Find Assurance
SERIES | Beyond Our Strength
TEXT | 2 Corinthians 13:1-14
BY | Bob Kerrey
DATE | September 18, 2022

SERMON NOTES

2 Corinthians 13:1 This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. **2** I warned those who sinned before and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not spare them—**3** since you seek proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you. **4** For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God. **5** Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! **6** I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test. **7** But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. **8** For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. **9** For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for. **10** For this reason I write these things while I am away from you, that when I come I may not have to be severe in my use of the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down. **11** Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. **12** Greet one another with a holy kiss. **13** All the saints greet you. **14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
ESV

BIG IDEA:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Have you heard 2 Corinthians 13:5 used to support the idea that professing Christians ought to examine themselves to see if they are good enough to be true Christians and not counterfeits? If this verse did support such a view, what kind of atmosphere do you think this would foster in the church?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 13:1-14. In this text, Paul is defending the authenticity of his apostleship. In context, why is Paul encouraging the Corinthians to examine themselves? What does their salvation say about his apostleship? Is he questioning their salvation or assuming it for the sake of argument?

Wednesday:

Where do we find assurance of our eternal salvation? (Read John 6:37, 47.)

Thursday:

If we look to ourselves for assurance of salvation based on how good we are, what will likely be the result? (Read Romans 7:18-25.)

Friday:

Why is it important for believers to understand where to find assurance of our salvation? If we are assured of our salvation, will that make us complacent or more motivated to love and serve God in return? (Read 2 Corinthians 4:13-18.)

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you that I need not and should not look to myself for assurance of my eternal salvation based on how good I am, for that is shifting sand. Rather, I can and should look to the person and promise of Christ, the solid rock on which I stand. Amen.