

“WHAT IS THAT FRAGRANCE?”

(2 Corinthians 2:12 -17)

Expository Sermon of II Corinthians - Sermon 4

Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam

Date: July 7, 2017

Place: Hope Community Baptist Church



INTRODUCTION:

I remember how he smells.



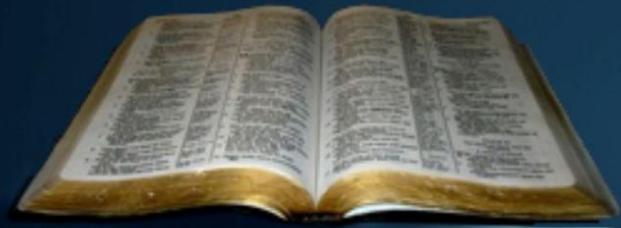
**\$ 500 = \$250 in coins
+ \$250 in \$1**

**\$ 500 = \$250 in coins
+ \$25,000 in \$100**



INTRODUCTION:

For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.



2 Corinthians 2:15

What Fragrance
Are You Wearing?

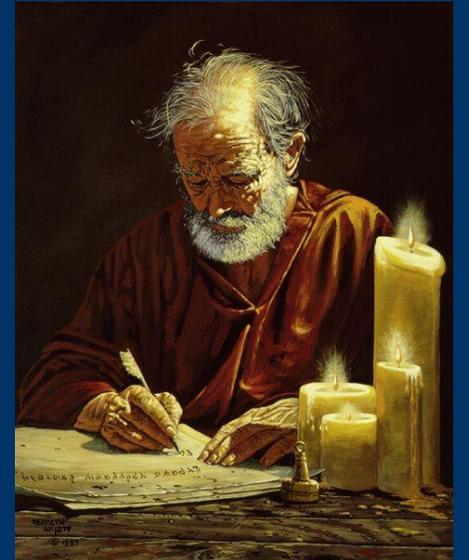


I. PAUL'S LIFE AS AN OPEN BOOK

A) *He immediately expresses himself*



2 Cor. 1:8 *We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself.*



I. PAUL'S LIFE AS AN OPEN BOOK

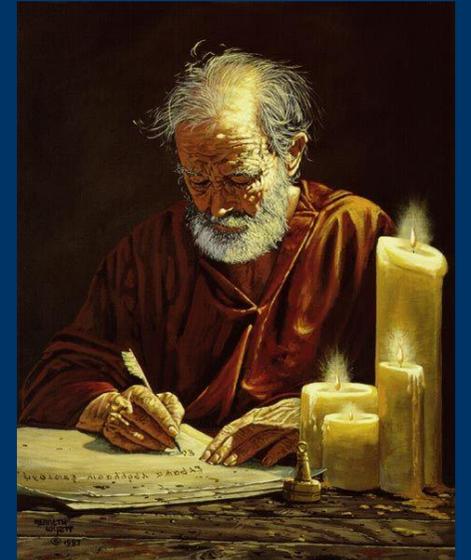
B) He continues to open up



2 Cor. 2:4 *For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you.*

1) He wrote with many tears

2) He used the word love

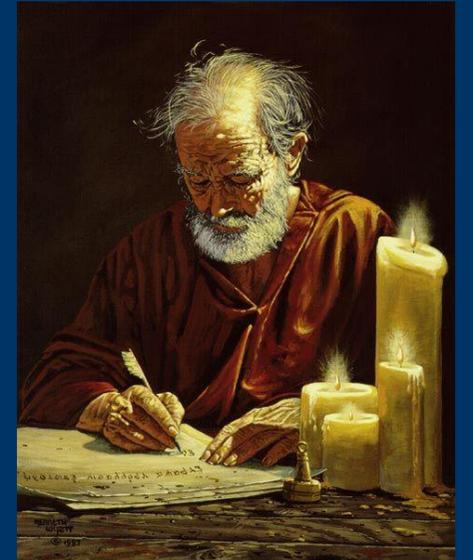


I. PAUL'S LIFE AS AN OPEN BOOK

C) *He speak the truth in love*



2 Cor. 2:6 *The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. **7** Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. **8** I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him.*

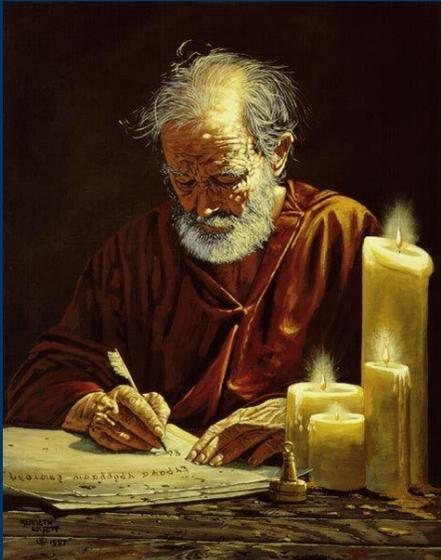


I. PAUL'S LIFE AS AN OPEN BOOK

D) He makes himself extremely vulnerable



2 Cor. 7:2 *Make room for us in your hearts. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have exploited no one. ³ I do not say this to condemn you; I have said before that you have such a place in our hearts that we would live or die with you. ⁴ I have spoken to you with great frankness; I take great pride in you. I am greatly encouraged; in all our troubles my joy knows no bounds.*

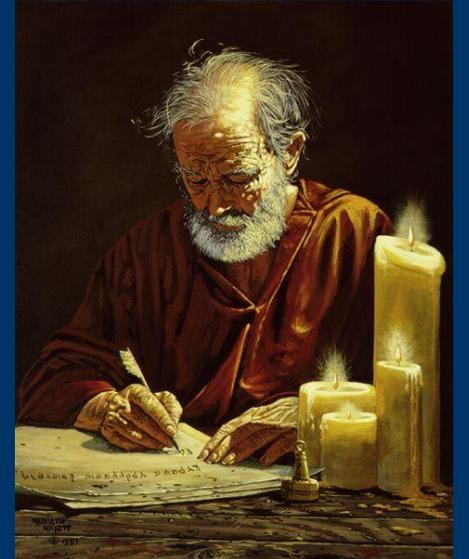


II. PAUL'S PERSONAL STRUGGLE AT TROAS

A) Paul's Personal Struggle at Troas



2 Cor. 2:12 *Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me,*

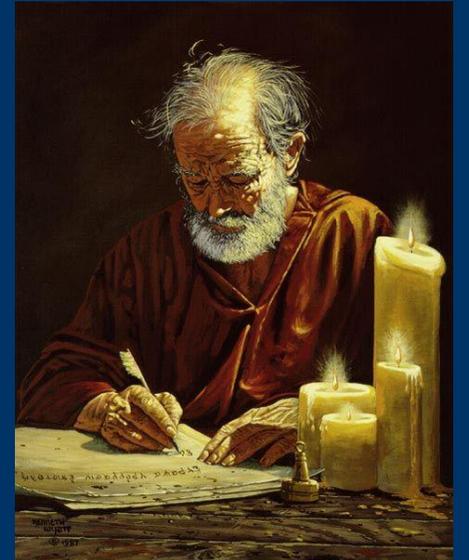


II. PAUL'S PERSONAL STRUGGLE AT TROAS

B) Paul's Reason of leaving Troas



2 Cor. 2:13 *I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said goodbye to them and went on to Macedonia.*



III. PAUL'S GENERAL STATEMENT OF MINISTRY

A) *Ministry is following the Shepherd*

2 Cor. 2:14a *But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession*



III. PAUL'S GENERAL STATEMENT OF MINISTRY

B) Ministry is emitting a pleasing fragrance to God.

*2 Cor. 2:14b and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. **15** For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. **16a** To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life.*



III. PAUL'S GENERAL STATEMENT OF MINISTRY

C) Ministry is modeling the truth though inadequate.

2 Cor. 2:16b *And who is equal to such a task?*

17 *Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.*



CONCLUSION:



Let's look at our lives and evaluate our ministry by answering the following questions.

A) Are you really depending upon God?



Faith
Is to put your trust in God.
Believing on His holy word and promises.

FULLY RELY ON
GOD

CONCLUSION:



Let's look at our lives and evaluate our ministry by answering the following questions.

B) Is your life truly triumphant in Christ?



CONCLUSION:



Let's look at our lives and evaluate our ministry by answering the following questions.

C) How's your fragrance?



For we are to God
the pleasing aroma
of Christ among
those who are
being saved
and those who are
perishing



CONCLUSION:



Let's look at our lives and evaluate our ministry by answering the following questions.

D) Do you sincerely model authenticity?





CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How do people tell the difference between disciples of Jesus from the rest who are not? What are some trademarks of a disciple?*
- 2. How was Paul's fragrance reflected in his life?*
- 3. Why was Titus so important to him that he left ministry opportunity in Troas and sailed to Macedonia to find him?*
- 4. Why is it so important to follow a godly leader whom God appoint to lead than to do it ourselves?*
- 5. In serving our God, why should we not be overly concerned with the response of other?*
- 6. What does Paul means by not peddling the Word of God?*



Scripture References:

2 Corinthians 2:12-17