

New Testament Letters Biblical Commands

Commands from 2 Corinthians

1. II Cor 5:20 "Be reconciled to God"

2 Cor 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. (NKJ)

God's Will for the non-believer and believer alike is to be reconciled to Him. For the non-believer this involves salvation and for the believer an ongoing daily relationship with the Lord.

2. II Cor 6:12-13 Have the mind lead over the emotions

2 Cor 6:12-13 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections (emotions). 13 Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. (NKJ)

Beware that the issues of life are not approached from the emotions first rather than the reasoned Biblically tuned mind. As a childhood command the mind is to be open above the emotions.

3. II Cor 6:14 Do not be equally yoked with unbelievers in any enterprise.

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? (NKJ)

The believer is commanded against placing themselves into any equal partnership with an unbeliever. It is pictured as an unequal yoke that will be detrimental.

4. II Cor 6:17 Be separate from unbeliever practices and close binding associations.

2 Cor 6:17 Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." (NKJ)

Separation for the believer is summarized by our being in the world to witness and accomplish the Plan of God, but not to become of the world or worldly in our thinking and practices.

5. II Cor 7:2 Accept those believers called to rebuke us in thinking attitudes and actions.

2 Cor 7:2 Open your hearts to us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have cheated no one. (NKJ)

As Paul was called to point out error to the Corinthians, the command is to take the constructive criticism and accept the messenger bringing it as from the Lord.

6. II Cor 8:11 Carry through with promises and oaths made before the Lord and others.

2 Cor 8:11 but now you also must complete the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have. (NKJ)

The word of the believer should be trusted so that we carry through without promises and our oaths made to others and made before the Lord.

7. II Cor 10:7 Don't look at the outward appearance, but consider all the important factors of a matter.

2 Cor 10:7 Do you look at things according to the outward appearance? If anyone is convinced in himself that he is Christ's, let him again consider this in himself, that just as he is Christ's, even so we are Christ's. (NKJ)

Only the Lord knows all details, we are not to judge only by outward appearances, but dig out and consider fully all that can be understood about a matter.

8. II Cor 10:11 Make realistic evaluations and consider all the potential options.

2 Cor 10:11 Let such a person consider this, that what we are in word by letters when we are absent, such we will also be in deed when we are present. (NKJ)

The best course of action is to focus on all our options and realistically evaluate each one whenever we are making decisions.

9. II Cor 10:17 The true object of our boasting and glorying should be in the Lord and not focused on ourselves.

2 Cor 10:17 But "he who glories, let him glory in the Lord." (NKJ)

Believers are part of the Lord's all-encompassing plan where all things are working together for good. Therefore all the glory and boasting rightly belongs to the Lord.

10. II Cor 11:1 Sometimes it is necessary to plainly state the position, gifts, blessings, and callings given by the Lord.

2 Cor 11:1 Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly -- and indeed you do bear with me. (NKJ)

The truth about us is known by the Lord as well as by us. The glory truly belongs to the Lord, but we must sometimes be prepared to set forth these truths that may seem to be self-serving.

11. II Cor 11:16 For the sake of dialogue sometimes an untrue premise should be temporarily accepted.

2 Cor 11:16 I say again, let no one think me a fool. If otherwise, at least receive me as a fool, that I also may boast a little. (NKJ)

In dialogue when seeking to delve into truth, it is sometimes necessary to accept an untrue premise temporarily to ultimately dig out the truth.

12. II Cor 12:13 Believers are to forgive those seeking forgiveness.

2 Cor 12:13 For what is it in which you were inferior to other churches, except that I myself was not burdensome to you? Forgive me this wrong! (NKJ)

Scriptures gives guidelines for seeking forgiveness. We are to forgive those who seek forgiveness for wrongs committed against us.

13. II Cor 12:16 The Believer is to accept reality as it exists and start from there.

2 Cor 12:16 But be that as it may, I did not burden you. Nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you by cunning! (NKJ)

Reality is what it is. As such each of us must understand the realities of life and life situations and accept them before we can work towards change.

14. II Cor 13:5 We are to continually examine and test ourselves with regard to doctrinal purity.

2 Cor 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-- unless indeed you are disqualified. (NKJ)

Because it is so easy to be tempted and influenced by false teaching we are to continually be on guard examining and testing our faith against the strict guidelines of the Scriptures.

15. As believers God's Will is that we rejoice, become complete, be comforted, be like minded, and live in peace with others.

2 Cor 13:11 Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. (NAS)

Five parting commands state God's Will to include rejoicing, becoming complete in Him, comforted by the promises of Scripture, like minded by the standard of Scripture, and at peace with one another.

16. II Cor 13:12 We are to be cordial in recognizing and greeting each other as believers.

2 Cor 13:12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. (NKJ)

Believers should greet each other with the proper cultural greetings of their day and culture.

Summary

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5. Accept those believers called to rebuke us in thinking attitudes and actions
6. Carry through with promises and oaths made before the Lord and others
7. Don't look at the outward appearance, but consider all the important factors of a matter
8. Make realistic evaluations and consider all the potential options
9. The true object of our boasting and glorying should be in the Lord and not focused on ourselves
10. Sometimes it is necessary to plainly state the position, gifts, blessings, and callings given by the Lord
11. For the sake of dialog sometimes an untrue premise should be temporarily accepted
12. Believers are to forgive those seeking forgiveness
13. The Believer is to accept reality as it exists and start from there
14. We are to continually examine and test ourselves with regard to doctrinal purity
15. As believers God's Will is that we rejoice, become complete, be comforted, be like minded, and live in peace with others
16. We are to be cordial in recognizing and greeting each other as believers