

2 Corinthians

Historical World of 2 Corinthians

- Probable Date(s) – 54-56
 - After 1 Cor; Paul's not in prison
 - Paul is writing from Macedonia? (1:15 ff. 7:5, 9:1-2,4)
- Relationship to 1 Corinthians – written after another letter (2:1-4)
 - Letter A – (mentioned in 1 Cor 5:9)
 - Letter B – 1 Cor
 - Painful visit (2 Cor 2:1)
 - Letter C – “tearful letter” (maybe 2 Cor 10-13?)
 - Letter D – 2 Cor. 1-9
 - Letter E – 2 Cor 10-13 (if it is not Letter C)

Literary World

- Editorial Evidence – editors had put together more than one letter
- Organization/Structure – Salutation; Body (1- 9; 10-13); Closing & Benediction 13:11-13
- “seam” in text 6:14-7:1

Themes

■ 2 Cor 1-9

- 2:5-11 – forgiveness of an offending brother
- Asking money for church in Judea (famine in Jerusalem – creating better ties between gentile and Jewish Christians)

■ 2 Cor 10-13

- Problem of false “super apostles” – preaching a different gospel
- Defending his authority as an apostle over the super apostles (note how he defends himself - - return to the theme of weakness)
