Letter To The Church 2Corinthians 13:1-10

History

Unsound teaching and practice brought a separation from Wilson St in mid 80's 1987 building built - (church already existed)

Only 5 of that original group still here; Only those 5 still here from the early 90's Preached here in 95-96, 2012-now; Only 14 here from 2012

Counting self - 3 preachers from time here

Such is the history lesson. Now the letter

Jesus Wrote To 7 Churches

Purpose was to prepare them for coming persecution - **Revelation 1:8-11** In addition to His glory, John describes Him in the midst of the churches - **Revelation 1:12–20**

Each letter gives additional - Revelation 2-3

Jesus is all of these things to us

Should never forget who watches and will judge - John 12:48; Romans 14:10; 2Corinthians 5:10 Consider letters in light of own congregation; Where do we succeed? Where might we fail?

Jesus Knows Our Strength

You are steadfast and have not faltered - 1Corinthians 15:58

Remain committed to serving; Continue even when times are not easy

You will not compromise the Truth - Matthew 7:15

Do not allow false teachers to continue - 2Peter 2:1; 1John 4:1

Study to prove own beliefs are founded in Scripture - 2Timothy 2:15

Study to increase faith and teach others

Shine in the midst of darkness - Philippians 2:15

Families from Benton, Bryant, Jesseville, Arkadelphia saw our light from afar

Christians move to area can see difference between us and others

Work together for common cause; Our love for one another and God is evident

Communicate to help with needs - Philippians 4:14-16

Jesus Knows Our Weakness

There are some attitudes that we must constantly guard against

These are seen in some of the letters of Revelation

Comfortable - 1a: affording or enjoying contentment and security; b: affording or enjoying physical comfort; free from vexation or doubt; b: free from stress or tension

Things are ok so let's not rock the boat - Acts 19:9-10;20

No controversy, Sound teaching/discussion in classes

Satisfied - 3a: to make happy; b: to gratify to the full

We have a nice building, are known in the community - Acts 19:10 Most of our members attend regularly - Hebrews 10:25 Regularly have visitors

Complacent - 1: self-satisfied; 3: unconcerned

Keep doing as we have things will stay same and we will be ok

Push too hard things may change and that might not be good

Feed The Fire

These things stifle growth - Hebrews 5:12-14

Growth will not come among this kind of attitude

What are we teaching with this attitude? Almost is good enough? Stopping before the end is rewarding? Israel in Canaan - Judges 1:19-21

We know this is not true! - Matthew 12:30; John 9:4-5; 2:10-11

Correct the problem

Study will show can never be fully satisfied with service to God Follow our first Love - **Revelation 2:4; Acts 19:10;17-20**

Growth is necessary for the Christian and Church! - **1Peter 2:2** Improvement will only come as individuals Each must correct own faults. Each must stretch own limits Must step out of our comfortable shell and grow.

Here We Are

Maybe you have other thoughts regarding our condition. Speak Up!! Hear what Christ said to the church in first century. Give attention to what He can see today. ACT!!!

DLH