2 Corinthians.

A translation.

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2 Corinthians.

Paul greets the church (1:1-24).

Paul writes to Corinth (1:1-2).

¹ I am Paul. I am a representative of the messiah, Jesus. That is by the will of God. Also, this is Timothy the brother.

To the church of God in Corinth, together with all the holy people living in Achaia.

² May God the father and the lord, Jesus the messiah, grant you favor and peace.

Paul experiences suffering (1:3-11).

³ God is blessed. He is the father of our lord, Jesus the messiah. He is the father of mercy. He is the God of complete comfort. ⁴ He is comforting us because of all our troubles. We can be comforted during these troubles because God has comforted us directly.

⁵ The suffering of the messiah is increasing against us. Our comfort also increases through the messiah. ⁶ If we are troubled, it is for your comfort and salvation. If we are comforted, it is to effect your comfort. Then you can be patient during the same kind of suffering which we also experienced. ⁷ Our hope is steady for you. Be certain: If you share our suffering, then you will also share our comfort.

⁸ We do not want you to be ignorant, brothers: We experience suffering in Asia. We were nearly burdened beyond what we could take. We almost lost hope for life. ⁹ We ourselves received a sentence of death. This was so that we would not trust in ourselves. Instead, we had to trust in God, who can raise people from the dead. ¹⁰ He rescued us and will rescue us from a terrible death. We have hoped in him so that he will still rescue us.

¹¹ Both you and we are together helped by prayer. Then many people can give thanks for us. Many people gave us this gift.

Paul's visit is delayed (1:12-1:24).

- This is our boast, which is the testimony of our conscience. It is by the holiness and sincerity from God. It is not from worldly wisdom. It is from the favor of God. This is how we behaved in the world. It is even more so toward you. ¹³ We did not write anything to you except for what you can read and understand. I hope that you will fully understand. ¹⁴ You already understood us, in part. We give you a reason to brag, just like you give us on the Day of our lord Jesus.
- ¹⁵ Since I had this confidence, I was planning to visit you first. Then secondly, you could benefit. ¹⁶ After visiting you, we could travel to Macedonia. Then we would come back to you again after Macedonia. Then you could sent us on to Judea. ¹⁷ When I planned this, I was not taking you lightly, was I? Did I plan this to satisfy myself? Was my Yes a Yes and at the same time my No a No? ¹⁸ God is faithful. Our message toyou was not both Yes and No. ¹⁹ The son of God is Jesus the messiah. This is what we proclaimed to you. That includes me, Silvanus, and Timothy. We were not both Yes and No. He was just a Yes. ²⁰ All of God's promises are Yes in him. This is why we say Truly through him to God. This is how we give honor to him.
- We have confidence with you in the messiah. God has anointed us. He sealed us. He gave us a deposit of the spirit in our hearts.
- ²³ I appeal on my life, with God as my witness: To spare you, I did not visit Corinth. ²⁴ We did not want to exercise control over your faith. We are just coworkers in your joy. You must stand firm by faith.

Forgive the brother (2:1-13).

- ² I determined this by myself: I was not to visit you and cause any more grief. ² If I did cause you grief, then who could make me happy other than the one who caused me grief? ³ I wrote the same thing so that when I visited I would not have any grief. I have to be happy since I am happy with you all.
- ⁴With great distress and a heavy heart, I wrote to you with many tears. It was not to cause you grief. It was out of love. You know that I greatly

love you. ⁵ If anyone is upset, he did not make me upset. He has harmed you all at least in part. I am not exaggerating.

⁶ The majority punished him. That fits the crime. ⁷ Instead, you should forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, he might be ruined by extreme grief. ⁸ I urge you to confirm your love for him.

⁹ This is why I have written: I know you have been tested, if you are completely obedient. ¹⁰ If you forgive him for anything, so do I. I have also forgiven. If I have forgiven, it was for you before the messiah. ¹¹ Satan did not swindle us. We are not fooled by his tricks.

¹² I arrived at Troas because of the good news of the messiah. The door opened for me in the lord. ¹³ My spirit had no opportunity for rest because I could not find my brother Titus. I said farewell to them. I went to Macedonia.

We are a sweet smell (2:14-17).

¹⁴ Thanks to God. He always leads us to a victory in the messiah. In every place, he releases the smell of knowing him. ¹⁵ We are the sweet smell of the messiah, both to those who are saved and those who are destroyed. ¹⁶ It is a dead smell to those who are dead. It is the smell of life to those who are alive. Who is ready for these things?

¹⁷ We are not like those who sell the word of God. We are sincere. We speak in the messiah from God about God.