Strength in Suffering May 19-20, 2012

LIVING LETTERS

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2 Corinthians 3:1 — Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you?
2 Corinthians 3:2-3 — You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spiri of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.
2 Corinthians 2:16b-17 — Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's Word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.
2 Corinthians 3:4-6 — Such is the confidence that we have through Christoward God. Not that <u>we</u> are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
We are ministers of the new covenant!
Acts 8:3 — But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.
Acts 9:26-27 — And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join

the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he

was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.
2 Corinthians 12:9 — But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
2 Corinthians 3:7-11 — Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.
2 Corinthians 3:12-18 — Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
Philippians 1:6 (NLT) — And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.