

2 Corinthians 1:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in this confidence I was minded to come unto you before,
that ye might have a second benefit;

Analysis

And in this confidence I was minded to come unto you before (ταύτη τῇ πεποιθήσει)—*pepoithēsei* (πεποιθήσει, "confidence/trust") connects to v. 14. Imperfect *eboulomēn* (ἐβουλόμην, "I was wanting") indicates past unfulfilled intention.

That ye might have a second benefit (δευτέραν χάριν)—*deuteran charin* (δευτέραν χάριν, "second grace/favor") refers to repeat apostolic visit. *Charin* echoes vv. 2, 12—Paul's presence is grace-gift, not burden. The 'second benefit' implies a prior visit (the 'painful visit,' 2:1).

Historical Context

Written around AD 55-56 from Macedonia after Paul's 'painful visit' to Corinth (2:1). The Corinthian church faced challenges to Paul's apostolic authority from 'super-apostles' (11:5) who valued eloquence over cruciform ministry. Paul writes to defend his ministry, explain his changed travel plans, and restore relationship with this fractious congregation.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Have I allowed critics to make me defensive about changed plans that were wise adjustments?
2. How do I respond when people misinterpret Spirit-led flexibility as flakiness?
3. Do I view my presence in others' lives as 'grace' they receive or obligation I fulfill?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ	ταύτη	τῇ	πεποιθήσει	ἐβουλόμην	πρὸς	ὑμᾶς	ἐλθεῖν
And	G3778	G3588	confidence	I was minded	unto	you	to come
G2532			G4006	G1014	G4314	G5209	G2064
πρότερον	ἵνα	δευτέραν	χάριν	ἔχῃτε·			
before	that	a second	benefit	ye might have			
G4386	G2443	G1208	G5485	G2192			

Additional Cross-References

Romans 1:11 (Parallel theme): For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;

1 Corinthians 4:19 (Parallel theme): But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power.

Romans 15:29 (Parallel theme): And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.