

2 Corinthians 7:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

Analysis

Therefore we were comforted in your comfort—Dia touto parakeklēmetha (διὰ τοῦτο παρακεκλήμεθα, "therefore we have been comforted"). The perfect tense indicates ongoing comfort resulting from the Corinthians' repentance. Paul's comfort isn't self-referential but participatory—he rejoices in their spiritual restoration, not his vindication.

Yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all—Epi de tē paraklēsei hēmōn perissoteros mallon echārēmen epi tē chara Titou, hoti anapepautai to pneuma autou apo pantōn hymōn (ἐπὶ δὲ τῇ παρακλήσει ἡμῶν περισσοτέρως μᾶλλον ἐχάρημεν ἐπὶ τῇ χαρᾷ Τίτου, ὅτι ἀναπέπαυται τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ πάντων ὑμῶν, "and beyond our comfort, we rejoiced even more at Titus's joy, because his spirit has been refreshed by all of you"). Anapauō (ἀναπαύω, "to refresh/give rest") appears in Matthew 11:28 of Christ's rest. The Corinthians embodied Christ's refreshment to Titus. Apo pantōn hymōn (ἀπὸ πάντων ὑμῶν, "by all of you")—corporate unity in receiving Titus healed divisions.

Historical Context

Titus risked personal danger delivering Paul's severe letter to a volatile church that had rejected Paul's authority. His courage and diplomatic skill defused conflict and brokered reconciliation. Paul's joy at Titus's 'refreshed spirit' models healthy

ministry teams: senior leaders rejoice when younger colleagues succeed, and successful outcomes bring mutual joy, not competition.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Do I take genuine joy in the spiritual victories of ministry colleagues, or does their success trigger envy?
2. How can I 'refresh the spirit' of Christian workers who serve me or my church community?
3. What does the corporate nature ('all of you') of refreshing Titus teach about individual versus communal responsibility in pastoral care?

Interlinear Text

διὰ τοῦτο παρακεκλήμεθα ἐπὶ τῇ παρακλήσει ὑμῶν
Therefore G5124 we were comforted for G3588 comfort you G5216
G1223 G3870 G1909 G3874 G5216

περισσοτέρως δὲ μᾶλλον ἐχάρημεν ἐπὶ τῇ χαρᾷ
exceedingly yea and the more joyed we for G3588 the joy G5479
G4056 G1161 G3123 G5463 G1909 G5479

Τίτου ὅτι ἀναπέπαυται τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ¹
of Titus because was refreshed G3588 spirit his by G575
G5103 G3754 G373 G4151 G846 G575

πάντων ὑμῶν
all you
G3956 G5216

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 7:6 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

Romans 15:32 (Parallel theme): That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed.

1 Corinthians 16:13 (Parallel theme): Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

1 Corinthians 12:26 (Parallel theme): And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.