

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 G1223	G5124	we were comforted G3870	for G1909	G3588	comfort G3874	you G5216
περισσότερως	δὲ	μᾶλλον	ἐχάρημεν	ἐπὶ	τῇ	χαρᾷ
exceedingly G4056	yea and G1161	the more G3123	joyed we G5463	for G1909	G3588	the joy G5479
Τίτου	ὅτι	ἀναπέπαυται	τὸ	πνεῦμα	αὐτοῦ	ἀπὸ
of Titus G5103	because G3754	was refreshed G373	G3588	spirit G4151	his G846	by G575
πάντων	ὑμῶν					
all G3956	you 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.