CONVINCED BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST - 2 Cor 5:14

022022P INTRODUCTION

- 1. <u>2C 5:13</u> Paul fends off accusation that he is crazy.
- 2. A26:24-25 Festus thot Paul was mad but words of sober truth: v10-11

i. *knowing* reality of final judgment - Paul wld *persuade;* inform mind, target *conscience* -> life lived.

II.Wants Cors to participate in ministry/word of reconciliation [v18f]

3. $\underline{v14a}$ Jesus' love for us controls us - explains life we live.

1st: The Character of Paul's Conviction

1. Paul informs Cors of his mental thot process - truth embraced by conscience leads to conclusion & resolve to act. Forensic, legal aspect.

2. Because Christ's love is what it is, Paul's conviction was what it was.

2nd: The Content of Paul's Conviction

1. *concluded:* act accomplished in past wh/ has ongoing, present implications. Met risen Christ & interpreted by OT, concluded *that One died for all, therefore all died & He died for all that they should live.*

i. The death & res of Christ is the content of Paul's convictions

ii. He no longer *recognized according to the flesh* [v16] but according to Christ & the *new creation* [v17]

iii. The *all* is a limited group. The Grk definite article [*the*] is not translated in the NASB: *therefore* <u>the</u> *all died* (14) *so that they who live* [v15]. Therefore, <u>*the*</u> *ones who are living* are the ones *on whose behalf* Jesus died & rose again: substitution for a specific *all*

2. Paul's resolute judgment informed by objective truth of the gospel.

Applic #1: What Do People Do Who Are Convinced That The Gospel is True?

1. Jordan Peterson: "The Bible is the precondition for the manifestation of truth wh/ makes it way more true that just "true"... "it's too terrifying a reality to fully believe. I don't know what wld happen to you if you fully believed it... There's no limit to what wld happen if you acted like God existed."

2. Are there people, like Paul, whose lives are controlled by Christ's love?

3. May we live so as to be answers to Peterson's question. We are what happens when people believe & live like God existed & loves them.