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A Change of Plans

1:12 to 2:13



Here **the apostle** begins by defending **his** travel plans. The question of why **he** did not come to **Corinth** as originally planned is discussed in three phases. First, **Paul** addresses a misguided view of why **he** had a change of plans: some thought **he** was wavering back-and-forth, demonstrating a confused or indecisive character that says both “**yes**” and “**no**” at the same time (to see link click [An](#) - **God’s Seal of Approval**). Rather, **the apostle** asserted that **his** character stood as rock-solid as the Gospel **he** preached.

The second phase of this section addresses the first of two reasons why **Paul** did not travel to **Corinth** as expected. Simply put, the trip would have caused even more pain to **the Corinthians (1:23 and 2:1)**. In other words, the wound in **their** relationship, which was needed for the discipline and **test (2:9)** that **the Corinthians** needed at the time, was still open and **the apostle** didn’t want to rub spiritual salt in it. **Paul’s** mention of the sorrow caused by the **painful** visit (see [Ao](#) - **Paul’s Painful Visit**) and letter (see [Bl](#) - **The Effects of the Severe Letter**) gave rise to a discussion of a person who had evidently triggered much of the immediate friction between **Paul** and the church. The majority had played their part in discipling him and **the apostle** expressed **his** forgiveness and urged **the Corinthians** to offer comfort and forgiveness to the wrongdoer as well (see [Ap](#) - **Forgiving the Offender**).

Finally, **Paul** addressed a third reason why **he** changed **his** travel plans. **He** explains that when **he** traveled to **Troas** (see [Aq](#) - **Paul’s Anxiety in Troas**), **he** had an opportunity to go directly to **Macedonia**. **Paul** was restless in spirit because **Titus** did not meet **him** in



Troas, and **Paul** evidently felt compelled to go and find **Titus**, which is what happened (7:5-7).³⁵