

**Chinese Martyrs Catholic Church**  
**Bible Sharing Program 2011-12**  
**2 Corinthians #3: God's Slaves – A Comparison Between**  
**OT and NT**

*PFE = Paul for Everyone 2 Corinthians*  
*NJBC = New Jerome Biblical Commentary*  
*CSB = Ignatius Catholic Study Bible*  
*HO = Special handout*  
*SK = Sze Go Chinese Bible*

<p><b>A</b></p>	<p><b><u>Introduction of Related Passages</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.”</li> <li>• If Paul’s letter only contained 2:14-3:18, that will be worth our while!</li> </ul>	<p>2Cor 2:14-3:18  1Sam 3:9</p>
<p><b>B</b></p>	<p><b><u>The Apostles’ Work is Like “Aroma of Christ to God”</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work of the apostles makes them martyrs, Paul wrote, “in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession”. Here, Paul compares the missionary work of the apostles to the battles against the Romans. When the Roman soldiers defeated their enemies, they would parade their prisoners of war in a procession before killing them. In other words, Paul believes that the missionary work of the apostles is similar to that of a martyr’s.</li> <li>• The “aroma of Christ” –, Christians are commissioned at Confirmation to bring the fragrance of Christ to others. This image originates from the tradition of OT: Gen 8:21, Num 15:3, Si 24:21ff, etc. =&gt; sacrifice to spread God’s wisdom.</li> <li>• This mission breathes new life into the missionary and leads one beyond life and death.</li> </ul>	<p>2Cor 2:14-16  2:14 CSB  2Cor 1:15 CCC 1294, CSB  SK Note 3</p>
<p><b>C</b></p>	<p><b><u>Apostles are not “Peddlers of God’s Word” but are Sent by God</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The “recommendation letter” (see Acts 18:27, Rm 16:1, etc.): Paul differs from his enemies in that the recommendation is not from himself or filled with lies, but is witnessed to the growth and conversion of the Church in Corinth. It is from God (2:17). One cannot fulfill anything by him/herself. (3:5)</li> <li>• Paul discusses the preaching of the apostles: the content is very similar to John’s teaching about the prayer of the High Priest (Jn 17:14-20).</li> <li>• “As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world” (Jn 17:18). Only those who are sent may preach (Rm 10:15). The teaching “is not mine but his who sent me” (Jn 7:16).</li> <li>• This commission is “sacramental” – Sacraments and Magisterium are tangible. This is how the early Church established the succession of the apostles.</li> </ul>	<p>2Cor 2:17-3:1-5  CSB, SK  BXVI, Jesus of Nazareth 11, pp 96-98  Ibid., p. 98; BXVI General Audience, Dec. 10, 08, HO1 Ibid. pp. 93-96, 98</p>
<p><b>D</b></p>	<p><b><u>OT V.S. The New Covenant that Gives Life and Fulfils All</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Letters” (the law carved on stone tablets) bring death; but the Spirit (Holy Spirit is carved on the human heart) gives life. Therefore, OT and the law belong to the ministry of death while NT and the Holy Spirit is the ministry of the Spirit that is righteous.</li> <li>• While Moses had to cover his face, those who follow God radiate God’s glory on their faces. This reveals that God and humanity are separated in the time of OT but in NT, Christ reconciled humanity to God so they become one (The conclusion of the Bible: Apokalypsis). God’s glory is covered in OT while “everyone will be unveiled to reveal the glory of God ... become the image of God” (transfiguration).</li> </ul>	<p>2Cor 3:6-18  CSB, Ex 31:18 Jer 31:31, Ezek 36:35ff  Ex. 34:29-35 CSB 3:16 Eph 2:14-16 Mt 27:50 IS 25:7</p>

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	NJBC 42:10
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**SPECIAL HANDOUT**

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HO1 – “[The Church] explains to them the message of which she herself is the depository...she sends them out to preach. To preach not their own selves or their personal ideas, but a Gospel of which neither she nor they are the absolute masters and owners...but a Gospel of which they are the ministers, in order to pass it on with complete fidelity” (Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* 15).