

The Ministry: An Overview

2 Corinthians 02: 12–17

1 *The minister is gripped with a passion*

- a. The passion to preach
- b. The passion to help churches

2 *The minister always triumphs in Christ*

- a. Wrought by God
- b. Wrought by spreading the knowledge of God

3 *The minister is a sweet fragrance to God*

- a. He is the fragrance of life to the saved
- b. He is the fragrance of death to the perishing

4 *The minister has stern demands laid upon him*

- a. Not to corrupt God's Word
- b. To speak in Christ
- c. To live in God's sight
- d. To be sincere
- e. To be of God

12 Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me,

13 I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said good-bye to them and went on to Macedonia.

14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.

15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

16 To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task?

17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.