

2 Corinthians Chapter 10

Lenny D'Ambrosia

Points in 2 Corinthians Chapter 10

Paul's Compassion and Courage (10:1-2)

Spiritual Warfare (10:3-6)

Paul's Apostolic Authority (10:7-8)

Forceful by Letter and in Person (10:9-12)

Paul's work in the Lord (10:13-18)

1. What was Paul's demeanor towards the Corinthians?

2 Corinthians 10:1

¹ Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!

1. Meekness of Christ

Meekness is a gentle and humble attitude that expresses itself in patient endurance of unfair treatment.

2. Gentleness of Christ

Gentleness applied to a person in a position of authority refers to kindness and leniency.

3. Bold when absent

Bold is a willingness to take risks and act innovatively and with confidence or courage.

2. What will Paul say to the false teachers in Corinth?

2 Corinthians 10:2

² I ask that when I am present I *need* not be bold with the confidence with which I propose to be courageous against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh.

1. I *need* not be bold with the confidence

2. I propose to be courageous against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh

3. What does Paul want to avoid while walking in the flesh?

2 Corinthians 10:3

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,

We do not war according to the flesh

3. What does Paul want to avoid while walking in the flesh?

Ephesians 6:13-17 ¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, **HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH**, and **HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**,

¹⁵ and having **shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE**;

¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil *one*.

¹⁷ And take **THE HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**.

3. What does Paul want to avoid while walking in the flesh?

Full armor of God

GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF
THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

Shield of Faith

THE HELMET OF SALVATION

Sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

5. What four ways are the weapons of our warfare "mighty in God"?

2 Corinthians 10:4-6

⁴ for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

⁵ We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

⁶ and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

5. What four ways are the weapons of our warfare "mighty in God"?

1. Not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses

2. *We are* destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God

3. *We are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ

4. We are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete

Paul's Character

Paul is **Compassionate** (vs. 1)

Paul is **Courageous** (vs. 2)

Paul is **Competent** (vs. 3-5)

Paul is **Capable** to confront all disobedience (vs. 6)

5. How did some people evaluate Paul?

2 Corinthians 10:7

⁷ You are looking at things as they are outwardly. If anyone is confident in himself that he is Christ's, let him consider this again within himself, that just as he is Christ's, so also are we.

Looking at things as they are outwardly

5. How did some people evaluate Paul?

Outwardly

Paul's past sinful life as the persecutor and murderer of early believers.

Other ministers and teachers appeared to have stronger and more appealing gifts.

Other ministers and teachers had more charisma and were stronger speakers.

5. How did some people evaluate Paul?

Paul had confident in himself that he is Christ's

Acts 9:15

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "**Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;**

Acts 15:25-26

²⁵ **it seemed good to us, having become of one mind,** to select men to send to you with our beloved **Barnabas and Paul,**
²⁶ **men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

5. How did some people evaluate Paul?

Galatians 2:9-10

⁹ and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

¹⁰ *They* only asked us to remember the poor—the very thing I also was eager to do.

6. Who gave Paul his authority?

2 Corinthians 10:8

⁸ For even if I boast somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not be put to shame,

The Lord gave Paul his authority to edify and strengthen the church and not destroy it.

7. What accusations were being made against Paul?

2 Corinthians 10:9-10

⁹ for I do not wish to seem as if I would terrify you by my letters.

¹⁰ For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible."

1. His letters are weighty and strong
2. His personal presence is unimpressive
3. His speech is contemptible

8. What did Paul tell the accusers to consider?

2 Corinthians 10:11

¹¹ Let such a person consider this, that what we are in word by letters when absent, such persons we are also in deed when present.

1. What we are in word by letters when absent

2. What we are in deed when present

9. What did Paul say was an unwise practice?

2 Corinthians 10:12

¹² For we are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding.

Paul did not want to compare himself to others.

10. In what area was Paul willing to boast?

2 Corinthians 10:13-16

¹³ But we will not boast beyond *our* measure, but within **the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us** as a measure, to reach even as far as you.

¹⁴ For we are not overextending ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we were the first to come even as far as you in the gospel of Christ;

¹⁵ **not boasting beyond our measure, that is, in other men's labors**, but with **the hope that as your faith grows**, we will be, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you,

¹⁶ so as **to preach the gospel even to the regions beyond** you, *and* not to boast in what has been accomplished in the sphere of another.

10. In what area was Paul willing to boast?

- 1. God had appointed Paul to preach the Gospel.**
- 2. Paul did not boast in other men's labors.**
- 3. Paul hoped that the faith of the saints at Corinth will grow.**
- 4. Paul wanted to preach the Gospel to others in regions beyond.**

11. Who should we give glory?

2 Corinthians 10:17

¹⁷ But HE WHO BOASTS IS TO BOAST IN THE LORD.

The LORD

Galatians 6:14

¹⁴ But may it never be that I would boast,
except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
through which the world has been crucified to
me, and I to the world.

12. Who gives the approval to Paul?

2 Corinthians 10:18

¹⁸ For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

1. Self-commendation is both meaningless and foolish
2. The only true, meaningful commendation comes from God.

Romans 15:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God.

¹⁸ For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, **resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed,**

Charges of the false teachers and Paul's response

False Teachers

Vs. 7 Outwardly

Paul's past sinful life as the persecutor and murderer of early believers.

Other ministers and teachers appeared to have stronger and more appealing gifts.

Other ministers and teachers had more charisma and were stronger speakers.

Paul's Response

Vs. 7

Paul is confident in himself that he is Christ's

Charges of the false teachers and Paul's response

False Teachers

Vs. 8

Paul claiming to be a minister of Christ when in fact he was not.

Paul was preaching his own ideas and philosophy.

Paul was seeking to secure a personal following.

Paul's Response

Vs. 8

Paul's wants to encourage and not destroy the saints

Paul can boast about his authority and in his faithfulness to God.

Charges of the false teachers and Paul's response

False Teachers

Vs. 9-12

1. His letters are weighty and strong
2. His personal presence is unimpressive
3. His speech is contemptible

Paul's Response

Vs. 9-12

1. We are in word by letters when absent (**Bold**)
2. We are **in deed** when present

Charges of the false teachers and Paul's response

False Teachers

Vs. 13-16

Paul was that he was weak in appearance and a poor preacher; therefore, he could not possibly be called of God nor possess the authority of God.

Paul's Response

Vs. 13-16

Paul continued preaching the gospel.

He was building up the faith of the saints.

Paul wanted to share the gospel to other regions in the world.

Charges of the false teachers and Paul's response

False Teachers

Vs. 17-18

False teachers are totally focused on the here and now, as they pursue fame, accolades, notoriety, prestige, wealth, and power.

Paul's Response

Vs. 17-18

Paul does not commend himself. He seeks only to **glorify** the Lord Jesus Christ.