

L23: 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 - Bringing Every Thought into Captivity Pt. 2

Sermon Review: Review/Summarize

- Meekness & Gentleness of Christ
- Accusation - "walked according to the flesh"
- **War** - strive, struggle, contest, hostility, invade or attack
 - **Weapons** - instruments of offense; any things used or designed to destroy;
 - **Warfare** - military life; carry on continual wars;
 - **Mighty** - strength, power, valiant, great
 - **Pulling Down** - demolition, destruction
 - **Strong holds** - fortification, castle, holding safely
 - **Casting Down** - to lower, to destroy
 - **Captivity** - a prisoner, in the power of an enemy by force, being under control,
 - **Revenge** - to inflict pain or injury in return for an injury received,

Sermon Preview:

- Weapons and Kind of War
- The Objective of the Warfare
- Revenge All Disobedience

Sermon:

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

(3) For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

- **"For though we walk in the flesh"**
 - In this body, in this world
- **"we do not war after the flesh"**
 - **"not war after the flesh"** - not same kind of war as fleshly war
 - Eph. 6:12 - "not against flesh and blood" - not against the fleshly person

(4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

- **"(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal"**
 - Not carnal because the war is "not...after the flesh"

- **"weapons"** - not a denial of use of weapons, but the kind of weapons
 - Not guns, not swords, not bombs
 - Our weapons are "spiritual" and they are "the things of the Spirit"
- Assumption is these weapons are not powerful, that they are not strong
 - Evidence is they look at is they are suffering, not that they are prosperous
- **"warfare"** - 1 Tim. 1:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:1-5
 - 2 Tim. 1:8-11, 4:1-4, 7-8
- **"but mighty through God"**
 - The weapons are from God thus are mighty in the war we are in
 - **Ps. 24:8** - "Who is the King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle."
 - **Ps. 50:1** - "The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof."
 - **Isa. 9:6** - "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
 - **Isa. 10:21** - "remnant return....unto the mighty God"
 - **Isa. 42:13** - "The LORD...as a mighty man"
 - **Rev. 7:12** - "Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."
 - **Col. 1:11** - "strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;"
 - **"to the pulling down of strong holds;)"**
 - "pulling down" - demolition, the destruction
 - "strong holds" - manifest in walls in the Old Testament
 - Places of fortification in the mind, thoughts contrary and against God .

(5) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

- **"casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God"**

- **"imaginations"**

- The power or faculty of the mind which conceives and forms ideas of things communicated to it; Image in the mind
- We are made in the "image of God" - not so much being, but purpose
 - We are His representatives not simply in form, but in what we are to represent
 - Represent by knowledge
 - Gen. 11:6 - "imagined to do"
 - Pro. 6:18 - "an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations..."

- 2 Cor. 4:1-18

- **"and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God"**

- Not simply of His existence, but His thoughts, His reasons, His purposes, etc.

- **"and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"**

- A further step of the warfare - not simply pulling down and casting down, but "bringing into captivity"
- **"captivity"** - prisoner, in power of an enemy by force; having control
- **"every thought"** - thoughts, intents, imaginations, understanding
- **"to the obedience of Christ"**
 - Link to "the meekness and gentleness of Christ"
 - We must not forget that obedience brought suffering and persecution to Christ and He did not fight a carnal fight - but He fought the spiritual fight and His obedience brought outward persecution, which did not look mighty, it looked weak, but it was in His weakness, in His poverty that the provision of justification was paid for.
 - 1 Cor. 4:8-13

(6) And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is

fulfilled.

- **"readiness"** - watching, quickness, freedom from hinderance or obstruction, prepared
- **"to revenge all disobedience"** - disobedience would indicate fighting on the wrong side, possessing thoughts contrary to the knowledge of God in Christ
 - Return of an injury; the deliberate infliction of pain or injury in return for an injury received from him.
 - **"when your obedience is fulfilled."**
 - Return the injury by fighting it, warring against it, pulling it down, casting it down, not indifferent and bring it as your captive.

A Little More about the Battle

- Romans 8:31-37 - introduction to the warfare
 - Romans 12:14-21 - expectation of godliness producing persecution
 - Romans 13:11-14 - armor of light
 - Romans 16:17-20 - doctrine...bruise Satan under your feet
 - Ephesians 6:10-18 - armor and the sword (weapon - two-edged sword (Heb. 4:12)

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize