



# 2ND CORINTHIANS



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Inward/Outward,  
Tearing Down/Building Up

2nd Corinthians 10:7-11



## Recap:

- Worldly
- Unimpressed With Paul
- Confused about ministry and purpose

**2 Corinthians** = A Call to be a  
Counter-Cultural-Cruciform Community



## 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV

[1] Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you.

## **2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV**

[2] But I beg you that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

## 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV

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

[4] For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,



## 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV

[5] casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

## 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV

[6] and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

## 2 Corinthians 10:7-18 NKJV

[7] Do you look at things according to the outward appearance? If anyone is convinced in himself that he is Christ's, let him again consider this in himself, that just as he is Christ's, even so we are Christ's.

## 2 Corinthians 10:7-18 NKJV

[8] For even if I should boast somewhat more about our authority, which the Lord gave us for edification and not for your destruction, I shall not be ashamed—

[9] lest I seem to terrify you by letters.

## 2 Corinthians 10:7-18 NKJV

[10] "For his letters," they say, "are weighty and powerful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible."

## 2 Corinthians 10:7-18 NKJV

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



# Five Accusations Against Paul [Fisher]

(1) Bully and Coward (10:1, 9, 10)

(2) Worldly (10:2; 11:11; 12:16)

(3) Bragger (10:8)

(4) Inferior apostle (11:5; 12:11; 13:3)

(5) Unskilled and Ugly (11:6; 10:10)



# v1 - Christ's Example

**Humble and Meek** (Matt. 5:5; 11:29; 21:5; John 1:29; Ps. 45:4; Isa. 40:11; 42:3; 53:7; Zech. 9:9)

**Bold and Direct** (Matt. 15:1–2; 23:13–33; Mark 11:15–17; John 2:13–16)

**v2-4 - How do you fight?**

Spiritual/godly vs.

fleshly/human Weapons

**Moses - Acts 7:20-26**

**Spiritual Warfare = Acts 6:4; Eph.**

**6:10-20**

v5 - every arrogant **obstacle**,  
every **thought** captive

Renew you **HEART** (James 1:14)

Renew you **MIND** (Rom. 12:2; Phil. 4:8)

Also see (Psalm 139:23-24; Col. 3:5;  
Rom. 8:13; 1 Cor. 2:16; 2 Cor 5:17)

**v6 - Join me in the fight**

**Renew you ACTIONS**

**(Mat. 3:8; Rom. 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9-15;  
2 Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9)**

# v7 - Outward vs Inward

Dauids Anointing - 1 Samuel 16:7

(Mat. 3:8; Rom. 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9-15;  
2 Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9)

## V8-9 - Tear down/Build up

They were oriented to worldly wisdom

- 1 Cor. 3:1

To root out and to pull down, To  
destroy and to throw down, To build  
and to plant... - Jer. 1:10

**v10 - Unskilled and Ugly (... and disingenuous)**

Not a commanding appearance (**Acts 14:12**)

A physical defect of the eyes? (**Gal. 4:14**) and a thorn in the flesh? (**2 Cor. 12:7**)

# v8-11 - Spiritual Authority

Lord over or Please people (Mark  
10:35–45)

“Gifting” and “Success” (1 Kings 19:11)

Legalism / self-centeredness (Matt. 6:2,  
15–16; 23:5–7)



## Micah 6:8 NKJV

“He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”



## Resources/ bibliography

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