

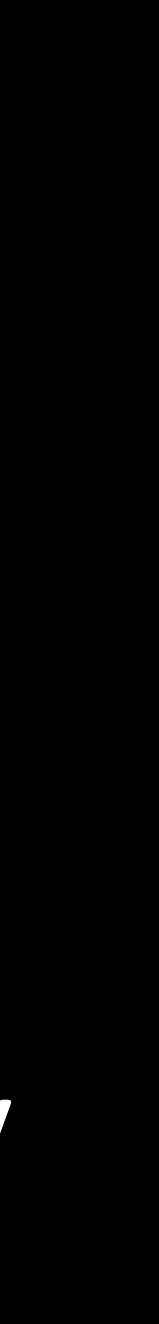
The Throne anc the Thorn pt. 1 2nd Corinthians 12:1-7

Recap: -Worldly -Unimpressed With Paul

**2** Corinthians = A Call to be a

# -Confused about ministry and purpose

# Counter-Cultural-Cruciform Community



2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord:

# (1) It is doubtless not profitable for me

2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV (2) I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows-such a one was caught up to the third neaven.

2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV (3) And I know such a man--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-(4) how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.



2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV (5) Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities.

2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV will not be a fool; for I will speak the be or hears from me.

# (6) For though I might desire to boast, I truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to

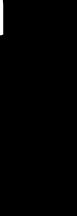
2 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV (7) And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.

v. 32-33 - what a let down... A Basket Case- (Acts 9:19-25) 2 Cor. 12:10 NKJV Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.



v. 1 - Visions and Revelations of the Lord There is a supernatural world God often speaks through visions, revelations, and dreams Paul had received 6 visions Acts 9:3; 16:9; 18:9; 22:17; 23:11; 27:23

- **1.** Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, had a vision of an angel (Luke 1:8-23).
- 2. Jesus' transfiguration is described as a vision for the disciples (Matthew 17:9).
- 3. The women who came to visit Jesus' tomb had a vision of angels (Luke 24:22-24).
- 4. Stephen saw a vision of Jesus at his death (Acts 7:55-56).
- 5. Ananias experienced a vision telling him to go to Saul (Acts 9:10).
- 6. Peter had a vision of the clean and unclean animals (Acts 10:17-19 and 11:5). 15





7. Peter had a vision of an angel at his release from prison (Acts 12:9). 8. John had many visions on Patmos (Revelation 1:1). (Acts 22:6-11 and 26:12-20). **10.**Paul had a vision of a man from Macedonia, asking 18:9-11). **12.**Paul had a vision of an angel on the ship that was about to be wrecked (Acts 27:23-25). - Guzik

- 9. Paul had a revelation of Jesus on the road to Damascus
- him to come to that region to help (Acts 16:9-10). **11.**Paul had an encouraging vision while in Corinth (Acts

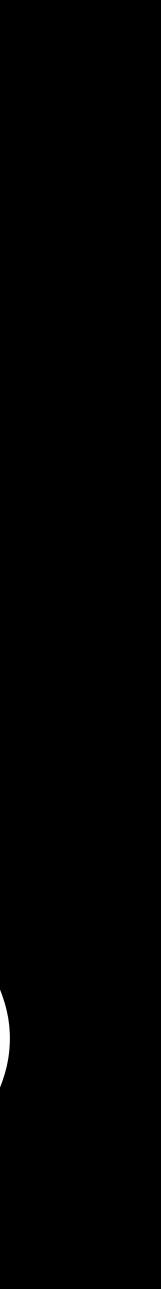


v. 1 - Visions and Revelations These are often prone to misunderstanding, misapplication Are never to be used to validate somebody's ministry, to supersede the importance of the word, or gauge spirituality or maturity



v. 2 - I know a man in Christ... What is required to see Heaven? Fourteen years ago: Stoning in Lystra (Acts 14:9-10) His return to Tarsus (Acts 9:30) time in Antioch (Acts 13:1-3)

# 10yrs. in Syria and Cilicia (Gal. 1:21-2:1)



v. 2 - caught up to the third heaven The first is the atmosphere... The second, the starry heaven... And, thirdly, the place of the blessed, or the throne of the Divine glory." (Clarke)

### (See Isa. 6:1; Rev. 4:1-2)



## NOTES 55:10 "second heaven" (Psa. 8:3; Isa. 13:10) "third heaven" (Psa. 33:13-14; Isa. 66:1; Matt. 6:9; Heb. 7:26; Rev. 11:19

- https://www.gotquestions.org/Paul-third-heaven.html
- https://www.gotquestions.org/out-of-body-experience.html

"first heaven" (Deut. 11:11; Psa.104:12; Isa.

# v. 2-3 -I do not know...God knows (x2) What is important?, what can we trust? Not experience, but the Word John 17:17 NKJV "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."





v. 4 - Paradise Inexpressible Paradise is a reference to Heaven and the Garden of Eden, the completion and restoration of all things Gen. 2:8-9; Isa. 51:3; Ezek 36:35; Luke 23:43; Rev. 2:7; 22



v. 5-7 - of myself I will not boast Where is your focus? What are you living for? By who's standard do you live? 1 Cor 13; 2Ti 2:15; 2 Pt. 1:19

"What is important are not the transcendent moments when he has become spiritually airborne, but his obedience in the daily chore of preaching the gospel faithfully despite "weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and difficulties" (12:10)." - Garland

"The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26 NKJV





### **Resources/ bibliography**

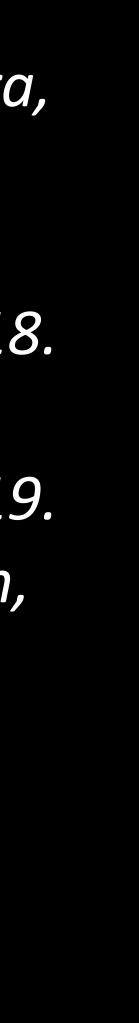
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