

An open book with a cross on top, set against a brick wall background. The book is open, showing its pages, and is placed on a wooden surface. The background is a brick wall with a warm, golden light. The text is centered over the book.

2 Corinthians 2:12-17
“Keeping the Eternal Perspective”

Pastor Karl Payne
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2 CORINTHIANS 2:12-14 (NASB)

¹² Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door was opened for me in the Lord, ¹³ I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.

14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:15-17 (NASB)

¹⁵ For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;
¹⁶ to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?
¹⁷ For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:12 (NASB)

¹² Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ
and when a door was opened for me in the Lord,



2 CORINTHIANS 2:12 (NASB)

Who opened the door for Paul to preach in Troas?



2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-12 (NASB)

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; ⁸ we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death works in us, but life in you.



2 CORINTHIANS 11:16-21 (NASB)

¹⁶ Again I say, let no one think me foolish; but if *you do*, receive me even as foolish, so that I also may boast a little.

¹⁷ What I am saying, I am not saying as the Lord would, but as in foolishness, in this confidence of boasting. ¹⁸ Since many boast according to the flesh, I will boast also. ¹⁹ For you, being so wise, tolerate the foolish gladly. ²⁰ For you tolerate it if anyone enslaves you, anyone devours you, anyone takes advantage of you, anyone exalts himself, anyone hits you in the face. ²¹ To *my shame* I *must* say that we have been weak *by comparison*.



2 CORINTHIANS 11:21-26 (NASB)

But in whatever respect anyone *else* is bold—I speak in foolishness—I am just as bold myself. ²² Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. ²³ Are they servants of Christ?—I speak as if insane—I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. ²⁶ *I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren;*



2 CORINTHIANS 11:27-32 (NASB)

²⁷ *I have been* in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

²⁸ Apart from *such* external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches. ²⁹ Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern?

³⁰ If I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness.

³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. ³² In Damascus the ethnarch under Aretas the king was guarding the city of the Damascenes in order to seize me, ³³ and I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and so escaped his hands.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:13 (NASB)

¹³ I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:13 (NASB)

Why did Paul have no peace of mind about preaching in Troas and what did he do?



2 CORINTHIANS 2:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:14 (NASB)

Attitude is often the key to determining whether we view a challenge as positive or negative:

Thanks be to God

Who always leads us in His triumph

And manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him

In every place



2 CORINTHIANS 2:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;



2 CORINTHIANS 2:15 (NASB)

For we are a fragrance of Christ to God
Among those who are being saved
And among those who are perishing;



2 CORINTHIANS 2:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?



2 CORINTHIANS 2:16 (NASB)

To one an aroma from death to death,
To the other an aroma from life to life
Who is adequate for these things?



2 CORINTHIANS 3:4-6 (NASB)

⁴ Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, ⁶ who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.



2 CORINTHIANS 2:17 (NASB)

For we are not like many, peddling the word of God,
But as from sincerity, (no cracks)
but as from God, (His messengers)
We speak in Christ (His message)
In the sight of God. (accountable for every deed, word
and motive of the heart in His service and to His glory)



Remember, everything counts, so keep the eternal perspective regardless of circumstances.

