

Study 10

Read 2 Corinthians Chapter 10

SUMMARY

Having concluded his discussion on the collection for the saints, Paul now returns to his own defense, especially as it pertains to his conduct and authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ. He pleads with them in the meekness and gentleness of Christ, hoping that by so doing it will not be necessary to use boldness in their presence against some who think Paul conducts himself according to the flesh (1-2). While he admits that he walks in the flesh, he does not war according to the flesh since he has weapons that are mighty in God and effective for winning arguments and bringing others to obey Christ (3-6).

He then responds directly in regards to his detractors. Some were evidently judging Paul on outward appearance, that while he sounded weighty and powerful in his writing, his physical presence was weak and contemptible. But Paul's authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ was real, and what he was in word when absent, he could be in deed when present (7-11).

We can also infer that some of Paul's detractors took pride in comparing themselves with others. Such a practice was unwise, and Paul was one who would boast only in those areas in which God had appointed him to serve. That would include the Corinthians themselves, for Paul would only go to areas where the gospel had not been preached and that is how they had come to believe. Reminding them of this, Paul had hope that they would assist him in preaching the gospel in regions beyond them. He then admonishes them to boast only in the Lord, and to remember that not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends (12-18).

Questions:

- 1) Who was reported to be base in the presence of the Corinthians but was bold when absent? (II Corinthians 10:1)

- 2) Some in Corinth thought Paul walked according to what? (II Corinthians 10:2)

- 3) Paul wrote the Corinthians "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not what after the flesh?" (II Corinthians 10:3)

- 4) A Christian's weapons are not what? (II Corinthians 10:4)

5) A Christian's weapons of warfare are mighty to the pulling down of strong holds. Through what source are our weapons mighty? (II Corinthians 10:4)

6) Name 2 things that must be cast down that is against the knowledge of God. (II Corinthians 10:5)

7) What must be captured to the obedience of Christ? (II Corinthians 10:5)

8) When the Corinthians fulfill their obedience what does Paul hold in readiness? (II Corinthians 10:6)

9) State mutual relation of Paul and the Corinthians. (II Corinthians 10:7)

10) Of what might Paul boast toward the Corinthians? (II Corinthians 10:8)

11) The Lord gave Paul authority not for the destruction of the Corinthians but for what reason? (II Corinthians 10:8)

12) Some at Corinth said Paul's letters are weighty and powerful. What did they say about his bodily presence? (II Corinthians 10:10)

13) What did some at Corinth say about Paul's speech? (II Corinthians 10:10)

14) Paul wrote the Corinthians, "such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such we will be in what when we are present?" (II Corinthians 10:11)

15) What does Paul think of those who measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves among themselves? (II Corinthians 10:12)

16) By whose rule would Paul measure? (II Corinthians 10:13)

17) What does Paul hope to do in the regions beyond Corinth when their faith is increased? (II Corinthians 10:15-16)

18) Finish this quote, "But he that gloried, let him glory _____." (II Corinthians 10:17)

19) He that commended himself is not approved. Who is approved? (II Corinthians 10:18)

20) On what commendation rests true approval? (II Corinthians 10:18)

1) What are the main points of this chapter?

2) With what two qualities of Christ-like character does Paul plead with the Corinthians? (1)

3) What does Paul hope would not be necessary when he was with them in person? (2)

4) Though Paul walks in the flesh, what does he not do? (3)

5) In what four ways are the weapons of our warfare "mighty in God"? (4-6)

6) Upon what basis were some people evidently evaluating Paul? (7)

7) What accusations were being made against Paul? (10)

8) What did Paul tell such people to consider? (11)

9) What did Paul say was an unwise practice? (12)

10) In what area was Paul willing to boast? (13-16)

11) In whom should we glory? (17)

12) In the end, who is it that is approved? (18)