

What We Really Think

and

How to Boast



4/22/18

What we really think about rebellion, lying and slander

2 Corinthians 10:1-11:15

10. our motive is each the church's purity and devotion to Christ

2 Corinthians 11:1 I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me.

² For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

11. our fear is that some may be lead astray from Christ

³ But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

12. our consternation is that we don't understand the church's lack of discernment

⁴ For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.

13. we value knowledge over oratory

⁵ For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.

⁶ But even if I am unskilled in speech, yet I am not so in knowledge; in fact, in every way we have made *this* evident to you in all things.

14. we are aware some sacrifices will be taken the wrong way

⁷ Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I preached the gospel of God to you without charge?

⁸ I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to serve you;

⁹ and when I was present with you and was in need, I was not a burden to anyone; for when the brethren came from Macedonia, they fully supplied my need, and in everything I kept myself from being a burden to you, and will continue to do so.

¹⁰ As the truth of Christ is in me, this boasting of mine will not be stopped in the regions of Achaia.

¹¹ Why? Because I do not love you? God knows *I do!*

15. we try to protect the church from false teachers

¹² But what I am doing, I will continue to do, that I may cut off opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the matter about which they are boasting.

¹³ For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

16. we are aware of satanic schemes

¹⁴ And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

¹⁵ Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their deeds.

How to Boast

2 Corinthians 11:16-12:13

1. Boast about my L_____

2 Corinthians 10:17 But he who boasts, let him boast in the Lord.

2. Boast about my w_____

2 Corinthians 11:16 Again I say, let no one think me foolish; but if *you do*, receive me even as foolish, that I also may boast a little.

¹⁷ That which I am speaking, I am not speaking 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, bear with the foolish gladly.

²⁰ For you bear with anyone if he enslaves you, if he devours you, if he takes advantage of you, if he exalts himself, if he hits you in the face.

²¹ To *my* shame I *must* say that we have been weak *by comparison*. 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;

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 upon 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.

12:1 Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago-- whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- such a man was caught up to the third heaven.

³ And I know how such a man-- whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows--

⁴ was caught up into Paradise, and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

⁵ On behalf of such a man will I boast; but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in regard to *my* weaknesses.

⁶ For if I do wish to boast I shall not be foolish, for I shall be speaking the truth; but I refrain *from this*, so that no one may credit me with more than he sees *in* me or hears from me.

⁷ And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me-- to keep me from exalting myself!

⁸ Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me.

⁹ And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

¹⁰ Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

¹¹ I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually I should have been commended by you, for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I am a nobody.

¹² The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

¹³ For in what respect were you treated as inferior to the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not become a burden to you? Forgive me this wrong!