

High Point Bible Study
March 11, 2015
“Engaging in Spiritual Warfare”
2 Corinthians 10

- I. **Be a Good Soldier (10:1-11)**
 - A. **Attitudes “by the gentleness and graciousness of Christ-I who am humble among you” (1)**
 - B. **Actions “For though we live in the body, we do not wage war in an unspiritual way” (3)**
 - 1. **Spiritual Warfare Requires Spiritual Weapons “since the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but are powerful through God.” (4)**
 - a. **Worldly weapons** include the desire for **control**, the tendency to **compare** with others and the tendency to **complain**.
 - b. **Spiritual weapons** are listed by Bruce Wilkinson of **Walk Thru the Bible**:
 - 1) Surrender (Rom. 6:13)
 - 2) Supplication (Jer. 33:3)
 - 3) Spirit (John 14:26)
 - 4) Scripture (Heb. 4:12) (Eph. 6:17 “Sword of the Spirit”)
 - 5) Speaking the Truth (Eph. 4:15)
 - 2. **Spiritual Warfare Requires Spiritual Soldiers**
 - a. **Aggressive “demolishing strongholds” (4)**
 - b. **Champion of truth “We demolish arguments and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God.” (5)**
 - c. **Disciplined “taking every thought into captivity to obey Christ” (5)**
 - d. **Mission Oriented “And we are ready to punish any disobedience, once your obedience has been confirmed.” (6)**
 - C. **Appearance “For it is said, ‘His letters are weighty and powerful, but his physical appearance is weak, and his public speaking is despicable.’” (11)**
- II. **Win a Medal (10:12-18)**
 - A. **Comparisons “For we don’t dare classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. But in measuring themselves by themselves and comparing themselves to themselves, they lack understanding” (12)**
 - B. **Calling “We, however, will not boast beyond measure but according to the measure of the area of ministry that God has assigned to us” (13)**
 - C. **Cause “But we have the hope that as your faith increases, our area of ministry will be greatly enlarged, so that we may proclaim the good news to the regions beyond you...” (16)**

D. Commendation “For it is not the one commending himself who is approved, but the one the Lord commends” (18)

2Co 10:1-18 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) 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. (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, (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, (6) and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. (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. (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. (10) "For *his* letters," they say, "*are* weighty and powerful, but *his* bodily presence *is* weak, and *his* speech contemptible." (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. (12) For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. (13) We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—a sphere which especially includes you. (14) For we are not overextending ourselves (as though *our authority* did not extend to you), for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; (15) not boasting of things beyond measure, *that is*, in other men's labors, but having hope, *that* as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our sphere, (16) to preach the gospel in the *regions* beyond you, *and* not to boast in another man's sphere of accomplishment. (17) But "HE WHO GLORIES, LET HIM GLORY IN THE LORD." (18) For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.

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