

Welcome to Genesis!

Our Text:

II Corinthians 10:1-6!

Our Sermon Title:

**The Battle for Souls
Continues!**

II Corinthian's Overview / Let's Review



- I. (1:1-2) Paul's **INTRODUCTION!**
- II. (1:3-13:10) Paul's **INSTRUCTION!**
 - A. (1:3-5:21) Paul's Commission.
 - B. (6:1-9:15) Paul's Converts.
 - C. (10:1-13:10) Paul's Critics.
- III. (13:11-14) Paul's Closing **ISSUES!**

The Outline for the Second Section!

I. (1:3-5:21) Paul's COMMISSION!

(Ministry / Message)

II. (6:1-9:15) Paul's CONVERTS!

(Encouragement / Exhortation)

A. (Chs. 6-7) Encouragement: In their FAITHFUL Partnership!

(Saints: Saved / Separated / Sanctified / Serve)

B. (Chs. 8-9) Exhortation: In their FINANCIAL Partnership!

(Serving Begins with a Sincere and Pure Heart)

III. (10:1-13:1) Paul's CRITICS!

The Best Sermons are Lived not Preached!

Lessons Learned about Giving!

Five Positive Principles for Giving: I Cor. 16:2!

1. Giving is to be systematic – *on first day of the week!*
2. Giving is for everyone – let each one of you!
3. Giving is to be consistent – put aside and save!
4. Giving is to be proportionate – as he may prosper!
5. Giving is a private matter – no collection when I come!

Lessons Learned about Giving!

Four Negative Hindrances for Giving: II Cor. 8:10!

1. (8:10-11a) **Procrastination** – And I gave my opinion in this matter (collection), for this is to your advantage, who were the first to begin (collection) a year ago.
2. (8:11b) **Hesitation** – That just as there was the readiness to desire it, so there may be also the completion of it by your ability.
3. (8:12) **Readiness** – It is acceptable according to what a man has, not according to what a man does not have.
4. (8:13-15) **Exception** – For this is not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality.

A Summary of What We've Learned!

1. (8:1-6) The **PRINCIPLE** for Giving:
Giving is for everyone!
2. (8:7-15) The **PURPOSE** for Giving:
Is to honor Jesus by identifying with Him through giving / Jo.3:16!
3. (8:16-9:5) The **POLICIES** in Giving:
Giving is not to be coerced from without but motivated from within!
4. (9:6-15) The **PROMISE** in Giving:
You can't out give God!

This morning, in this new section now set before us, Paul will begin to end his instruction by turning our attention away from the wisdom given to his converts and to the warning now being set before his critics.

And he will make this transition by reminding all of us of a truth that we so often seem to forget:

The great spiritual battle taking place all around us!

C.S. Lewis:

There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves (demons) are equally pleased by both errors, and hail a materialist or magician with the same delight (The Screwtape Letters, page 3).

The great spiritual battle taking place all around us!

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.



Sam Claflin / Mocking Jay
“Remember who the real enemy is!”

This Morning's Outline!

This morning Paul will again pick up his pen . Only this time his focus will be on his critics and not his converts.

In this closing section his purpose is to give his critics a final warning before coming to Corinth.

- A. (10:1-18) Focus: Paul's Personal **APPEARANCE!**
- B. (11:1-12:13) Focus: Paul's Proven **APOSTLESHIP!**
- C. (12:14-13:10) Focus: Paul's Passionate **APPEAL!**

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

I. (10:1-18) Paul's Personal APPEARANCE!

A. (10:1-6) His Sophistication!

1. (vs.1-2) Focus: That of Conciliation. (to win over by soothing the anger)

a. (v.1) Paul Disarms his critics.

1.) Paul begins by quelling them. (to forcibly overcome by means of shame)

a.) Shame begins with an appeal.

b.) Shame builds on Paul's quiet approach.

2.) Paul ends by quoting them. (quote given by means of indirect discourse)

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

I. (10:1-18) Paul's Personal APPEARANCE!

A. (10:1-6) His Sophistication!

1. (vs.1-2) Focus: That of Conciliation. (to win over by soothing the anger)

a. (v.1) Paul Disarms his critics.

b. (v.2) Paul Dares his critics.

Because Paul ministered with an attitude that could easily be construed as a weakness, he was loathed by those who demanded that the letter of the Law be kept. The view of Paul here is that his “bite” lacked teeth. The assessment of Paul was that he was not worthy to hold the position of an apostle. Paul counters ...

1.) Remember I'm coming to you in person.

2.) Realize I'm coming with power.

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

I. (10:1-18) Paul's Personal APPEARANCE!

A. (10:1-6) His Sophistication!

1. (vs.1-2) Focus: That of Conciliation. (to win over by soothing the anger)
2. (vs.3-6) Focus: That of Confrontation. (to win battle / end argument)
 - a. (vs.3-5) A word of Wisdom.
 - 1.) (v.3a) While Limited in this earthly body,
 - 2.) (vs.3b-5) I'm Liberated by my spiritual belief.
 - b. (v.6) A word of Warning.
 - 1.) When I come my Power will be seen.
 - 2.) When I come my Patience will end.

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

2. (vs.3-6) Focus: That of Confrontation.
(to win battle or end argument)
 - a. (vs.3-5) A word of Wisdom.
 - 1.) (v.3a) While Limited in this earthly body,
 - 2.) (vs.3b-5) I'm Liberated by my spiritual walk.
 - a.) Reasons (Yar/For) why Paul does not want to come with a spirit of boldness:
 - * (v.3b) we do not war according to the flesh.
 - * (v.4a) our weapons of warfare are not earthly.
 - * (v.4b) our weapons are divine, thus powerful.

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

- 1.) (v.3a) While **Limited** in this earthly body,
- 2.) (vs.3b-5) I'm **Liberated** by my spiritual walk.
 - a.) (vs.3-4) **Reasons** (Yar) why Paul does not want to come with a spirit of boldness.
 - b.) (v.5) **Result** is built upon I Corinthians 1:26:
 - * When I came – not many wise / educated.
 - * When I came – not many mighty / powerful.
 - * When I came – not many noble / respected.

But I ministered without prejudice knowing (builds on “Yar/For”) that God has chosen to use the foolish to shame the wise, the weak to overcome the mighty, and the lowly to convince the noble.

- * **Opposed speculations / Noble.**
- * **Rejected superior Knowledge / Wise.**
- * **Destroyed thoughts that capture / Mighty.**

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

I. (10:1-18) Paul's Personal APPEARANCE!

A. (10:1-6) His Sophistication!

1. (vs.1-2) Focus: That of Conciliation. (to win over by soothing the anger)
2. (vs.3-6) Focus: That of Confrontation. (to win battle / end argument)
 - a. (vs.3-5) A word of Wisdom.
 - b. (v.6) A word of Warning.
 - 1.) When I come my Power will be seen.
 - 2.) When I come my Patience will end.

Lessons Learned Today!

Question. Why do so many Christians today fail to recognize the truth that there is a fierce spiritual battle waging all around them for the hearts and souls of men?



Lessons Learned Today!

Let's look at the answers!

Because of the attitude of indifference!

Once our world becomes an easy place to live in, it is easy for the Christian to forget that a spiritual battle is taking place. It is easy to forget that millions of souls in this world are in the grasp of Satan. And it is easy to forget that Satan always takes full advantage of those who grow lethargic and/or spiritually stagnant in their fulfillment of God's great commission and their calling to be ambassadors of Christ.

Let's Continue

This attitude of indifference is seen today in two ways:

1. By holding up in a sanctified environment instead of engaging fully in the spiritual battle. The goal here is to avoid being around both sin and the sinner. The hope is to remove ourselves so that we might forget our God given commission. The idea: Out of sight! Out of mind!
2. By forsaking the assembling of the brethren on the Lord's Day so that we might avoid being confronted and convicted by God's Word. If we can avoid hearing God's truth, perhaps we will not be responsible for not heeding God's truth.

Lessons Learned Today!

Let's look at the answers!

Because of an incorrect understanding of grace!

Like the Corinthians then, so we today, want to believe that the most wonderful thing about the Christian life is that we can do basically whatever we want (or not what we don't want to do) and that it's alright. Such thinking reveals an incorrect view (even abuse) of God's grace. As believers we have not been handed a "free pass" to do whatever we want. Rather, we are called, even commanded, to live a life of obedience. By avoiding obedience, we become a poor testimony and bring shame upon the name of our Lord. Thus, we become useless!