



**Good Morning
Welcome to Genesis!**

Our Text:

II Corinthians 10:7-18!

Our Title:

How to Recognize a Man of God!

This morning we will be introduced to the text by the words given in verse seven:

In spite of Paul's general satisfaction with the Corinthian church, there were still some who awaited his arrival with the goal of publicly challenging his message and authority. They were convinced that Paul, because of his outward physical condition, would not be willing or able to stand boldly against their opposition.

RSV / Command – Look at what is before your eyes!

NIV / Statement – You are only looking at the surface things!

NASV / Clarification – You are looking at things as they appear outwardly!

Words of Wisdom from King Solomon: Nothing Ever Seems to Change!

Ecclesiastes 1:1-10!

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. “Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, “vanity of vanities! All is vanity.” What advantage does man have in all his work which he does under the sun? A generation goes and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. Also, the sun rises and the sun sets; and hastening to its place it rises there again. Blowing towards the south, then turning towards the north the wind continues swirling along; and on its circular courses the wind returns. All the rivers flow into the sea, yet the sea is not full. To the place where the rivers flow, there they flow again. All things are wearisome; man is not able to tell it ... So there is nothing new under the sun ... Already it has existed for ages which were before us.

Back in the year 1899, at a time when Teddy Roosevelt found himself surrounded by critics who were finding fault with just about everything he was doing, he wrote these words ...

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows in the end the triumph of the high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly. (Speech from "Citizens in a Republic" given in Paris, France, on April 23, 1910).

The apostle Paul's summary:

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Chapter 9:15!

Let's Review II Corinthian's!



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

The Best Sermons are Lived not Preached!

Let's Read the Text!
Let's Ask God to Speak to Us!



The Outline for the Final Section!

This morning, in this final section of instruction, 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 Paul gives 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!**

Building on Last Week's Sermon!

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

A. (10:1-6) His Sophistication! (Paul reports on their opinion of him)

1. (vs.1-2) Focus: Conciliation. (to win over by soothing their anger)
2. (vs.3-6) Focus: Confrontation. (to end argument by winning the battle)

a. (vs.3-5) A word of Wisdom.

- 1.) (v.3a) While Limited by this earthly body,
- 2.) (vs.3b-5) I'm Liberated by my heavenly spirit ... be wise!

b. (v.6) A word of Warning.

- 1.) When I come my Power will be seen.
- 2.) When I come my Patience will end ... be warned!

Building on Last Week's Sermon!

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

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

B. (10:7-11) His **Suggestion!**

C. (10:12-19) His **Sarcasm!**

II. (11:1-12:13) Paul's Proven **APOSTLESHIP!**

III. (12:14-13:10) Paul's Passionate **APPEAL!**

The Journey Continues!

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

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

I am aware (not ignorant) of your opinion of me. I know you view me as being humble while in your presence and harsh in the letters I addressed to you.

B. (10:7-11) His Suggestion!

After pointing out that he is not simple minded or naive about his understanding of how they view him, he points out that they are simple minded and naive in their view of him! Paul's suggestion is that they rethink their understanding of his position and power as an apostle before he arrives.

C. (10:12-19) His Sarcasm!

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

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

A. (10:1-6) The apostle's **Sophistication.**

B. (10:7-11) The apostle's **Suggestion.**

1. (vs.7-9) What the Corinthians were **doing.**

2. (v.10) What the Corinthians were **declaring.**

3. (v.11) What the Corinthians were **discounting.**

C. (10:12-18) The apostle's **Sarcasm.**

This Morning's Sermon Outline!

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

A. (10:1-6) The apostle's **Sophistication.**

B. (10:7-11) The apostle's **Suggestion.**

C. (10:12-18) The apostle's **Sarcasm.**

1. (vs.12-13) Paul's **Ridicule.**

2. (vs.14-15) Paul's **Rule.**

3. (vs.16-18) Paul's **Resolve.**

Next Week's Sermon!

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

II. (11:1-12:13) Paul's **Proven APOSTLESHIP!**

III. (12:14-13:10) Paul's **Passionate APPEAL!**

Six Principles: How to Recognize the Godly Man!

1. (v.7b) He has a relationship with Jesus!

“If anyone is confident ... that he is Christ’s.”

2. (v.8) He has an impact on the church!

Paul’s authority was

“for building up and not for destroying.”

3. (v.9) He has a compassion for people!

“I do not wish ... to terrify you by my letter.”

Six Principles: How to Recognize the Godly Man!

4. (v.10) He has a disdain for fleshly methods!

“For they say, his letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible.”

5. (v.11) He has great integrity!

“Let such a person consider this, that what we are in word by letter when absent, such persons we are also in deed when present.”

6. (vs.12-18) He has an abundance of humility!

“For we are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves”

Remember Even the Apostle Paul Received Criticism!

In chapter 10:1, he introduces the section to counter the charge that he is a hypocrite.

In verse 8, Paul counters the false claim that he is overemphasizing his authority.

In verse 10, Paul refuses to react when faced with the charge that he is unimpressive in appearance and not easy to listen to (offensive when speaking).

Criticism is a way of life! Especially for Christians!

No One is Immune to Criticism!

Criticism is an unavoidable part of living among human beings. And since there is a spiritual battle waging in the heavenly places, this is especially true for Christians. So since we can't escape it, why not expect it or do our best to get ready for it? If we prepare ourselves for its onslaught, we'll not be taken by surprise. And we will feel less likely to quit or to fight back.