



# Scripture

**II Corinthians 10:1-6**

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# Foxhole Christianity

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# **I. Paul's Appeal to the Corinthians: Confront the Rebellious**

## **I Cor. 2:1-5 -**

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

“At present a small unrepentant minority of such detractors and interlopers opposed Paul in Corinth. Guided by their inverted values, they judged Paul’s ministry to be fleshly. His unimpressive persona, his lack of rhetorical skills, his meek and humble demeanor, his poverty, his working with his hands, the absence of ecstatic experiences and visions, his incessant trials and difficulties (rather than “success”) were, to his opponents, incontrovertible evidence that his ministry was of the flesh and not of the Spirit.”

**~Kent Hughes, II Corinthians**

## **II. Understanding Paul's Appeal**

### **A. Necessity of the Appeal: The Gospel is at Stake!**

## **II. Understanding Paul's Appeal**

### **B. The Ground of the Appeal: The Meekness and Gentleness of Christ**

#### **II Corinthians 6:3-6 -**

We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love.

“The lure of power can separate the most resolute of Christians from the true nature of Christian leadership, which is service to others. It is difficult to stand on a pedestal and wash the feet of those below...Nothing distinguishes the kingdoms of man from the kingdom of God more than their diametrically opposed view of the exercise of power. One seeks to control people, the other to serve people; one promotes self, the other prostrates self; one seeks prestige and position, the other lifts up the lowly and despised.”

**~Chuck Colson, Kingdoms in Conflict**

## **II. Understanding Paul's Appeal**

### **C. The Content of the Appeal:**

#### **The Weapons of Our Warfare are Spiritual**

### **II Corinthians 6:4-7 -**

As servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left.



## **II. Understanding Paul's Appeal**

### **C. The Content of the Appeal:**

#### **The Weapons of Our Warfare are Spiritual**

### **II Corinthians 4:2 -**

By the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

“Argue a skeptic into a corner, and you will not take his mind captive for Christ, but pray for him, proclaim the gospel to him, live out the gospel of peace, walk righteously by faith until he senses your ultimate allegiance and citizenship are vastly different from his own, and you may discover that the power of truth, the convicting and regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and the glories of Christ Jesus shatter his reasons and demolish his arguments until you take captive his mind and heart to make them obedient to Christ. The result will be a life transformed.”

**~D.A. Carson, A Model of Christian Maturity**

# **III. Applying Paul's Appeal**

## **II Corinthians 12:9-10 -**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

# **III. Applying Paul's Appeal**

## **I Corinthians 4:12-13 -**

When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.