### 2 Corinthians

## Chapter 10

1Now, I Paul (whose appearance is considered lowly among you) am pleading with you [in the same] mild and obedient ways as did the Anointed One. And although I’m not there, I hope that I can be so bold as to say this to you:  
  
2Please don’t be upset by what I intend to do when I arrive. For I’m going to say what I really think about those ones who reckon that we’re [just] walking in the flesh.  
  
3Yes, even though we are, in fact, only flesh, we don’t fight in fleshly ways 4because our weapons aren’t fleshly… They’re from the power of God and we can [use them to] tear down mighty fortifications!  
  
5So, this is what we’ll use to tear down their ideas and all the high-minded things that they’re raising against the knowledge of God... Yes, we can capture all of their thoughts and then force them to obey the Anointed One!  
  
6We’re also ready to avenge any disobedience (whenever there’s disobedience) 7of those who are just looking at our faces!  
  
Therefore, let those who are trusting that they belong to the Anointed One remember this:  
  
As they belong to the Anointed One, so do we!  
  
8And even if I do boast a little too much about the power that the Lord gave me to build you up (not to tear you down), 9I won’t be ashamed if I also give you the impression that I want to terrify you with my letters.  
  
10For it’s a fact that some of you are saying:  
  
 ‘His letters are heavy and forceful, but when he’s here, he looks weak and what he says has little value!’  
  
11So, may they be reminded that what we write about in letters when we’re away, is what we’re going to do when we get there!  
  
12Notice that we don’t dare to make any comparisons…  
  
We aren’t comparing ourselves with those who think too much of themselves, because when they measure themselves (when they compare themselves against themselves), they aren’t reaching the right conclusions.  
  
13However, we don’t have to brag about how we measure up, for we gauge everything by the yard stick that God gave us… And that stick reaches as far as you!  
  
14Therefore, we aren’t just stretching ourselves out far enough that we can’t reach you, because we were the first to come all the way to you [when we] preached the good news to you about the Anointed One. 15And those braggarts can’t really measure [themselves against] the efforts of others.  
  
What we’re hoping is that as your faith grows, we’ll be recognized as great among you when you measure us by this same ruler; for then we’ll [see more results] 16as we go out preaching the good news to regions that are far beyond you, and there’ll be no more boasting over how we measure up by someone else’s stick.  
  
 17‘Let those who boast, boast in Jehovah.’ [Jeremiah 9:23]  
  
18So understand that those who think of themselves as being important aren’t necessarily the ones who’ll be approved…  
  
Just those who are recommended by our Lord!