

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 10:1-6

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

S.W.A.T.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

Part 4

**SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Service, Dedication, Maturity, Discipleship**

Introduction to the Text; 2nd Corinthians 10:1-6

2 Corinthians 2:11

Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for **we are not ignorant** of his **devices**.

devices νόημα **noema**, *no'-ay-mah*; intellect, plan, process, thoughts, mind, intent.

1 Pet. 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil **walks about** like a roaring lion, **seeking** whom he may devour. **9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith,**

The church in modern times has fallen victim to its own desires. There is a false Gospel out there – a contemporary, user-friendly Christianity that has invented a Jesus that can easily fit in to everyone's particular lifestyle.

The Jesus of the 21st Century is a Convenient Jesus,

one who is **tolerant** of all, loving to a **fault** and is **willing** to let things be graded on a curve.

For the Record Church: The Bible nowhere offers up such a Jesus.

The Jesus of the Bible is Jesus Christ;

The Eternal God Incarnate. The Alpha and the Omega, The Almighty God, The Resurrection and the Life, The Saviour, The Lamb of God, The Captain of the LORD's Armies, The Judge, The KING of KINGS and LORD of LORDS

Revelation 19:15

Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

2 Cor. 10:1-6

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 **(1) pulling down strongholds**, **5 (2) casting down arguments** and **(3) every high thing** that exalts itself **against** the knowledge of God, **(4) bringing every thought** into **captivity** to the **obedience** of Christ, **6** and **(5) being ready to punish** all **disobedience** when your **obedience** is **fulfilled**.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

1.) Is not predicated upon you

v. 1-2

1a.) We are not **empowered by us** v. 1

1b.) We are not **in this for ourselves** v. 2a

1c.) We are not **under our own authority** v. 2b

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

2.) You are engaged in a **supernatural war** v. 3-4a

2a.) We battle **in our humanity** v. 3a

2b.) But we battle **with our new nature** v. 3b

2c.) Because we battle **from the victory** v. 4

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

3.) **Only divine protection can save you** v. 4b-6

3a.) Against **internal struggles** v. 4b

:4b for (1) **pulling down strongholds**

OUR SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS Only Divine Protection Can Save Us

3b.) Against **external arguments** v. 5a

:5 (2) **casting down arguments**

arguments λογισμός **log'is'mos**, *log-is-mos'*; ill computations, ill reasonings, ill science, ill logic. ill wisdom

James 3:15

This **wisdom** does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, **demonic**.

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that **call evil good**, and good evil; that put **darkness for light**, and light for darkness;

casting down καθαιρέω **kath'ai're'o**, *kath-ahee-reh'-o*;

to pick apart, piece by piece until there is nothing left. to systematically attack until the opposition is demolished.

!!! Attention Church !!!

Paul is Not Attacking **Intelligence** – He's Attacking **Intellectualism**.
(*the teaching that - knowledge is derived from self-reason and is the final conclusion*)

do you know what you know because **you learned it** = Intelligence.

or do you know what you know because **you thought it up** = Intellectualism.

2 Tim. 2:14-16 NIV

Keep reminding God's people of these things. **Warn** them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. **15 Do your best** to present yourself to God as one approved, a **worker** who does not need to be ashamed and who **correctly** handles the word of truth. **16 Avoid** godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.

The Bible is Rebuking ill Conclusion's when it Says;
"Pick apart and demolish wrong thinking until it's a pile of rubble."

Psa. 14:1

The fool has said **in his heart**, "There is no God."

(note: not his mind. His mind argues with his heart that - there very well could be a God but that thought is unacceptable to me)

? what kind of things fuel ill, faulty, wrong arguments/reasoning ?

What are some of these "arguments"?

They are **thoughts**, **opinions** and **views** that go against what is **loving**, **responsible**, **honorable**, **sensible**, **practical**, **helpful**, **healthy**, **safe**, **liberating**, **natural**, **godly**.

Phil. 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy** - - **meditate on these things**.

Rom. 6:12-18

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. **13** And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. **14** For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. **15** What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! **16** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? **17** But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. **18** And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

2 Cor. 13:5

Examine (*pi'rad'zo - acid wash*) yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. **Test** (*stand face to face with the mark*) yourselves. Do you not **know** yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? (*an experiential fact*) unless indeed you are **disqualified** (*to fail the exam. To be rejected*)

OUR SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS
Only Divine Protection Can Save Us

3c.) Against outside assaults

v. 5b

and (3) every **high thing** that **exalts** itself **against** the **knowledge** of God,

TO TAKE THE PLACE OF GOD OR TO BE INSTEAD OF GOD

high thing

ὑψωμα hupsoma, *hoop'-so-mah*; pride, prideful - something "held up or elevated". things that seek to influence or sway you away from the doctrines of scripture. - a thing such as an idol (be it material or otherwise) to put in the place of God.

1 John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

In this age of Christianity, what Christians know verses what they do are often disconnected.

For example – Recreational Christians believe that Modern Christianity should be confined to church property, church activities, church hours - - outside of that, **Christianity has no place in public or in the public square.**
(and this is coming from its pulpiteers)

“we never talk about religion or politics or everyday issues”
(willful ignorance & neglect is no excuse)

AMERICA IS ALMOST GODLESS BECAUSE AMERICA’S PULPITS ARE ALMOST DEAD.

against the **knowledge** of God

against

κατά *kata*, *kat-ah´*; an intense or relentless struggle to oppose, to stand in obstruction to. to overthrow and replace.

Isn't it interesting that the **Socialist** demands
that government must be void of God.
(yet God is the one who invented government)
(socialism cannot compete with Biblical Christianity)

Isn't it interesting that the **Atheist** demands
that nothing of God should be allowed period.
(yet an individual's desire for liberty is part of man's nature and natures God)
(atheism cannot compete with Biblical Christianity)

Isn't it interesting that the **Evolutionists** demands
that the idea of a Creator God should be outlawed.
(yet science shouts with every discovery “amazingly brilliant”
(Evolution cannot compete with Biblical Christianity)

Revisionists and Deconstructionists Abound Within The Church

These things have been born out of a post-modernism, worldview.

>> to them there is no absolute truth. Rather Intellect and emotion interprets what the Bible really means. It's rooted in arrogance and it ends in death <<

the revisionist and deconstructionist says

“absolute truth cannot be known. nothing can be certain because the prevailing winds of the day determine what is true for the moment. Truth is evolving - The Bible must be interpreted in light of current-culture-awareness. – it's situational theology – situational “faith” in God.

OUR SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

Only Divine Protection Can Save Us

3d.) Against inward temptations

v. 5c

(4) bringing every thought into captivity to the **obedience** of Christ

Notice; It's **“into captivity”** Taking your every thought - - through the **TSA** scanner

THE SIN ANALYZER

(what is this that's trying to get into my mind?)

Gal. 5:16-20 NLT

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. **17** The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. **18** But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. **19** When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, **21** envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. **22** But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

bringing every thought into Captivity

here is perhaps the most important reason(s) why

(1) there is no substitute for personal bible study. (2) for memorizing key scriptures. (3) for engaging the spiritual life as a Christian. (4) using the practical powers of the bible.

Eph. 6:10-18a

Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord** and **in the power of His might**. **11 Put on the whole armor of God, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE to stand against the wiles of the devil.** **12** For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood**, but **against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** **13 Therefore** take up the whole armor of God, **THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE** to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **14** Stand therefore, having **(#1)** girded your waist with truth, having **(#2)** put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15** and **(#3)** having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; **16 (#4) above all**, taking the shield of **faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. **17** And **(#5)** take the helmet of salvation, and **(#6) the SWORD of the Spirit, which is the word of God;** **18 (#7) praying always...**

The Resilient Effect – Freedom !!!

Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

to the obedience of Christ

(**Jesus Christ** is the Word. The **Word** is the **Sword** of the Spirit)

Col. 3:16-17a

Let the **Word of Christ (the Sword)** dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **17** And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...

(Implication: Hold Everything Up Before Jesus for His Approval)

OUR SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

Only Divine Protection Can Save Us

3e.) Against coming evils

v. 6

:6 and **(5) being ready to punish** all **disobedience** when your **obedience** is **fulfilled**. *(faithfully waiting until the end)*

ready ἔτοιμος **hetoimos**, *het-oy'-mos*; a greek a term used in the Greek Olympic games for “fitness” or being prepared and conditioned * to be ready. * to stand in wait. * to be on watch.

punish ἐκδικέω **ekdikeo**, *ek-dik-eh'-o*; to retaliate against a threat. to break or terminate an approaching threat.

To expose all disobedience by being the Light in the Darkness

Disobedience παρακοή **parakoe**, *par-ak-o-ay'*; inactivity, inattention,

2 Tim. 3:1

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

1 Tim. 4:1

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

Question: How did David Defeat Goliath ?

1 Sam. 17:45

Then David **said** to the Goliath, the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. **But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.**

Rock & Sling - Goliath’s Own Sword - The “Authority” of the LORD

There Is a Day Coming That Will Shock The World

Rev. 19:11-16, 19, 21

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called FAITHFUL AND TRUE, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. **12** His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. **13** He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called THE WORD OF GOD. **14** And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. **15** Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of ALMIGHTY GOD. **16** And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.... **19** And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.... **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse.

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ, The Call** <<<<

End of Study

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